



# Annual Report 2011

RIWAQ Center For Architectural Conservation

RIWAQ

**Center For Architectural Conservation**

P. O. Box 212, Ramallah, Palestine

Tel: +972 2 2406887

Fax: +972 2 2406986

E-mail: [info@riwaq.org](mailto:info@riwaq.org)

[www.riwaq.org](http://www.riwaq.org)





## » A word from the executive

**“A pioneering nonprofit NGO, that works on reviving and protecting cultural and natural heritage in Palestine through implementing effective programs and projects, contributing to building a conducive institutional and legal environment along with supporting partnerships that seek to advance knowledge and national awareness.”**

This is our vision as discussed and agreed upon in our strategic planning workshop in 2011. This vision encapsulates Riwaq's dream of a living and protected natural and cultural heritage in Palestine, a heritage that contributes to sustainable development, reinforces our national identity and provides Palestine its rightful place in the global cultural context.

2011 proved a wonderful year for Riwaq; we were able to build our strategic plan for 2012-2015 and are proud to have it ready and in place. This plan, which is accessible on our website, will help us achieve our goals in a more systematic manner that is easily evaluated and monitored. In 2011, Riwaq published 20 tenders in local newspapers, meaning that Riwaq was able to implement 20 restoration projects. Such projects ranged from single building conservation to preventive conservation of buildings and neighborhoods. This number is an indicator of Riwaq's extensive work towards the rehabilitation and protection of our built heritage. We were able to restore 12 single buildings, a record number for a single year in all our 21 years of work. We were also engaged with five communities for the regeneration of historic centers: Birzeit, Hajjah, Jamma'in, Abwein, and Adh Dhahiriya.

In addition to restoration, our cultural activities and training programs witnessed a considerable boost this year with the building of stronger partnerships with local and international organizations, thereby allowing us to forge a stronger link between heritage and development. Of special mention, and although financially Riwaq's contribution was modest, Riwaq is proud of two partnerships that we see as opening new frontiers for Riwaq's work. First is the work with Art Territories on “Designing Civic Encounter” and, second, with Birzeit University's Ethnographic and Art Museum on the “Cities Exhibition: Between Ebal & Gerzim.” We are very proud of two of our staff members, Iyad Issa and Sahar Qawasmi, who, in the latter project, presented their art installation “Palestine Connected,” which investigated the Ottoman railway system connecting Nablus to Jerusalem.

As we present our work for 2011, we look forward to 2012 with a new, and we hopewonderful, partnership in the works that will connect local cultural organizations to organize a joint platform event for cultural activities in Palestine. Tentatively called “Qalandia International – QI,” this event began through a bilateral agreement between Riwaq and Al Ma'mal Foundation to jointly organize the Riwaq Biennale & the Jerusalem Show for 2012. Such a partnership attracted others, such as the A.M.Qattan Foundation, Birzeit University, Al Housh Gallery, and PACA to join.

Finally, as a new management team we would like to thank all of our colleagues—Riwaq's staff—whose infinite dedication and commitment are the bedrock of our continuity and creativity. So thank you all, and we look forward to many fun and productive years ahead.

# Outline:

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## Abbreviations:

4CHO	The Four Cultural Heritage Organizations in Palestine
AFESD	Arab Fund for Economic & Social development
CCHP	Center for Cultural Heritage Conservation-Bethlehem
HRC	Hebron Rehabilitation Committee
IPW	Institut du Patrimoine Wallon
MH	Mutual Heritage Project
OCJRP-WA	Old City of Jerusalem Revitalization Project-Welfare Association
PACA	The Palestinian Association for Contemporary Art
Sida	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
WBI	Wallonie-Bruxelles International

## » Revitalizing Palestine: the regeneration of Birzeit, Hajjah, Jamma'in, Abwein & Adh Dhahiriya's old towns

Riwaq continued to work in Birzeit for the fifth and final year as its pilot for regeneration. Through a new grant from the Arab Fund for Social and Economic Development, Riwaq has been able to initiate work and build new partnerships in four new locations: Hajjah (Qalqilya), Jamma'in (Nablus), Abwein (Ramallah) & Adh Dhahiriya (Hebron).

Regeneration is the process of bringing life back to historic centers. It is important to stress the word process as regeneration is not a magical formula that is applied to historic centers and, voila, it is alive again! Riwaq sees regeneration as a process that joins together three main pillars: on the ground physical interventions; research & planning; and, finally, partnership building & community involvement. All three components should go hand in hand and to maximize benefits and build consensus.

Birzeit has served as a useful and constructive experience for Riwaq, evidencing that too great a focus on research prior to restoration work is not an effective tool. Consequently, when the four new sites were approached, preventative conservation, community awareness & partnerships along with targeted research, were equally pursued.

### **Birzeit (Ramallah)**

2011 marked the last year of direct interventions in the historic center. The fourth and final phase of preventive conservation was implemented for \$30,000, creating 447 working days. The strategic plan for the historic center was prepared in cooperation with the municipal council, while

the community garden was finalized with the municipality recently tendering the equipment. Also the classification of houses has been completed and now the municipality is working on protection bylaws for such houses. Riwaq also worked on securing a grant and building cooperation with the Institute for Walloon Heritage (IPW) in Belgium for the restoration of Hosh el Etem to become the residency for Birzeit University. Finally, Riwaq participated in and supported Heritage Week, a festival organized by Al Rozana. We are proud to report that the Municipality has allocated 200,000 NIS from its 2012 annual budget for the historic center, demonstrating its commitment and ownership of the project.

### **Hajjah (Qalqilya)**

Cooperation with Hajjah started in 2010 for the regeneration of the historic center through a survey of residents and economic/agricultural activities in Hajjah. The town suffers from a shortage of housing and is distinct for its agricultural produce. Riwaq's





strategy was to upgrade the living environment by providing suitable public spaces, upgrading people's homes and gardens, and working with the community and school children on the promotion of agricultural produce through public awareness and other means, along with providing needed public services. Works began with the rehabilitation of a building, now used as the Red Crescent Center, to provide a medical center, fitness hall for women and a day care facility, all for around \$87,500 and creating 1,264 direct working days (funded by the Netherlands Representative Office). This was followed by the rehabilitation of the Madafah public space and plaza for \$50,000, creating 480 direct working days (funded by Sida). Riwaq later tendered two preventive conservation projects that targeted alleys, facades, small gardens and interiors of houses, so far \$190,793 has been spent and 940 working days created (funded by the AFSED). In both projects, interior upgrading works were done with the direct contribution of home owners, whether through labor, in kind or cash. Both projects are ongoing and are expected to be completed by the first quarter of 2012. In addition to restoration works, Riwaq organized an oral history recording day along with a volunteer cleanup and planting day in the town as part of awareness and consensus building in the community. A stone carving and cutting workshop was also organized in which artist and sculptor Jawwad Ibrahim trained 23 young men and women from Hajjah, along with An Najah University and the Palestine Institute of Technology, on the art and tradition of stone carving. The training included discussion of local stone types, traditional stone shaping techniques, examples of symbols and ornaments traditionally used in Palestine and the



production of stone ornaments that were later used in the Madafah public plaza in Hajjah.

### Jamma'in (Nablus)

Jamma'in was the location of a previous single building restoration project (Khalil Palace). In 2011 Riwaq revisited the town to work on the regeneration of the historic center. Jamma'in is well known for its stone, its Maqams, and its distinct architectural style where almost all buildings are palaces. Most importantly, the old town is not entirely abandoned with 114 families living there, which has resulted in numerous concrete additions to historic buildings. Hence the challenge in Jamma'in was how to deal with such additions, how to show people useful examples of interventions, and how to showcase the wealth, beauty, and history of such a town. 2011 served to work on the research, documentation and design components. As 2012 began, the first tender to upgrade another palace and the people's houses inside that palace was underway.

### 'Abwein (Ramallah)

Abwein suffers from abandonment. The old town



called Al Qa'er (literally the bottom) is at the bottom of a hill whilst the new town is on top of that hill. The challenge is how to upgrade the living conditions of current residents and save the abandoned section from further deterioration while creating certain points of attraction that could bring people to the old town. A main advantage and opportunity in Abwein is that the old town is at the edge of the agricultural lands, which are beautifully terraced

and offer seasonal picnic areas for families. Through two phases of conservation works, street edges, stone walls, concrete additions and family gardens were upgraded. The historic section—prone to destruction—was cleaned, structurally supported, restored and protected. A main central plaza for family gatherings was restored, with attraction points such as seating areas and a falafel shop also upgraded along with the overall beautification of the



main street. This work was all done for \$174,425 and created 1,332 working days (funded by the AFESD). In addition to this, a workshop on stone wall building was given and young people trained in it were employed in the restoration project. Further, two volunteer cleanup days, a public meeting with home owners, and music activities were also organized. Currently Riwaq is planning the restoration of a women's & children's center in the town along with a public plaza and street upgrading which will be finalized in September 2012.

### Adh Dhahiriya (Hebron)

Following many years of single building restoration work with the municipality of Adh Dhahiriya, 2011 marked the first year of a more comprehensive approach to the regeneration of the old town. Adh Dhahiriya is home to more than 900 historic buildings and has historically functioned as the urban center for Bedouin communities in the south of Palestine. Consequently, the goal is for the historic center to regain its commercial power, which has been lost to the new center over the years. Hence a main focus, in addition to upgrading the housing conditions for families in the town, was the rehabilitation of the old market (souq & al qesariyyeh) along with providing a sleep over facility for those interested in visiting the town and its amazing surroundings. So far more than 60 rooms have been restored, \$151,950 spent and 1265 working days created (funded by the AFESD). Further, the municipality has been quite active in taking over the role of debris removal and rebuilding the boundaries in the project areas. Also the "Old Town Protection Committee" was established in order to facilitate work with homeowners, residents, and new investors, in order to begin gathering funds for the continuation of the project, and to be able

to carry on the burden after Riwaq's departure. Currently Riwaq is involved in the organizing of the "Spring Festival" in April 2012 and is also working on developing house rehabilitation schemes with current residents.





## » Job creation & restoration: the adaptive reuse of historic buildings

### Job creation through conservation:

Riwaq's conservation projects have created several job opportunities throughout the program's active work over the last 20 years. During 2011, with the generous support of our donors, Riwaq provided more than 20,215 direct working days as well as 10,107 indirect working days for contractors, engineers, and architects, as well as skilled and unskilled workers.

Continuing to build upon Riwaq's experience in building restoration with both its valuable role in job creation and provision of needed services for local communities, Riwaq worked on the restoration of 12 buildings in 2011. Grants for restoration works were directly provided to Riwaq with a grant from Sida for \$813,050, the Netherlands Representative Office for \$97,795 and IPW for \$62,103 while the twelfth project (the circus school in Birzeit) was a grant to the Palestinian Circus School from the Belgium Cooperation wherein Riwaq was contracted to design and supervise work. A total of 16,678 direct working days were generated throughout.

In 2010 Riwaq evaluated more than 35 building restoration applications, which were short listed according to pre-set criteria that consider the town, the building, the partner and the proposed function. As in previous years, labor intensive methods of restoration were adopted and local materials were prioritized. 55% of the budgets went directly to laborers while 60% of the material budgets was

spent on local materials.

In 2011, 6 project beneficiaries contributed in cash and this sum of \$54,011 was used to cover any deficits in the project costs as well as emergency projects that were not recipients of donor grants. While these buildings are important to save, they do not necessarily fall into our project guidelines in terms of use. Thus, this amount meant, for example, that if we observed a building that was about to fall, we could draw on this sum to repair the structure directly since the money was not restricted to donor agreements.

The 12 buildings restored in 2012 include:

### Hosh Al Etem In Birzeit

Nearly collapsed and quite deteriorated before work began, this building complex will now serve



as the new residency space for Birzeit University. The buildings are owned by the Municipality of Birzeit which gave the University a 15 year rent-free agreement. The project was realized through a larger cooperation agreement with IPW which also included a training component.

**Total cost:** \$62,103

**Duration:** December 2010-April 2012

**Donor:** WBI & IPW

**Generated direct working days:** 722

### The Red Crescent Center in Hajjah

As mentioned previously, Hajjah is a site where Riwaq is working comprehensively on the regeneration of the historic center. Prior to the planning phase of the regeneration project. An abandoned building was turned into the Red Crescent Activity Center with a training hall, a kindergarten and a seasonal clinic. The building was rented by the Red Crescent Society for 10 years from the Tayyoun family.

**Total cost:** \$97,795

**Duration:** January 2011-May 2011

**Donor:** Government of the Netherlands

**Generated direct working days:** 1,264



### The Palestinian Circus School in Birzeit

Housed in the former gymnastics building of Birzeit University's old campus, generously provided by the Nasir family, the Circus School students, artists and teachers now enjoy a rent-free permanent space for practice along with meeting spaces and a small residency for visitors.

**Total cost:** \$174,500

**Duration:** March 2011 – September 2011

**Donor:** The Belgium Government

**Generated direct working days:** 2,300



### Yasuf Youth Club & Yasuf Meeting Place (Madafeh)

Two projects took place concomitantly in Yasuf, a small village of 2,000 people in Salfit. Yasuf is a village that suffers from surrounding settlements and consequent settler attacks. Riwaq was fortunate to partner with such an active community and to be able to realize two much needed projects: one to serve as a youth center (rented for 15 years from



the Abdel Fattah family) and the other to serve as a multipurpose meeting place (rented for 20 years from Musleh family).

**Total cost:** \$123,330

**Duration:** March 2011-September 2011

**Donor:** Sida

**Generated direct working days:** 2,304 days

### **Biddya Women for Life Association Workshop & Production Center:**

This marks the second project in Biddya, both with the Association. The Association is very active in the community and has been able to increase its functions and capacity over the years. The new space is an architecturally rich family house with two floors that sits in a central location in the town. It will now serve as a sewing and embroidery center along with a shop to market products. The building has been rented by the Association from the Taha family for the duration of 15 years.

**Total cost:** \$81,072

**Duration:** March 2011-September 2011

**Donor:** Sida

**Generated direct working days:** 1,763 days



### **Kufr Al Labad Community Center-Al Barqawi Castle**

The castle in question is by far Riwaq's biggest project in 2011 in terms of size and cost. The municipality of Kufr Al Labad rented the building, consisting of 17 rooms with a 490 square meter courtyard, from the family who owns it for the coming 15 years. The castle will house all civil society organizations in the town and will be the main meeting space for the community as well as a location for public festivals and celebrations.



**Total cost:** \$174,617

**Duration:** March 2011-November 2011

**Donor:** Sida

**Generated direct working days:** 3,834 days

### Al Kayed Palace Guesthouse in Sabastiya:

Sabastiya, one of the Throne Villages, is among the 50 historic centers prioritized by Riwaq. In 2007 Riwaq worked with the Women's Committee for Social Work on the restoration of Kayed Palace which is rented by the Committee for 20 years to serve as their headquarters and production center. In 2011 Riwaq worked with the Committee again, this time on the restoration of the second floor of the building to be used as a guesthouse where tourists can sleep over when visiting the area.

**Total cost:** \$130,590

**Duration:** April 2011-October 2011

**Donor:** Sida

**Generated direct working days:** 1,010 days



### Anata Cultural Center

The Anata Cultural Society is one of the most active

organizations in this community where numerous socioeconomic and political issues plague the community, mainly because of its proximity to Jerusalem. This proximity means Anata is nearly inside Jerusalem, but it is also severed from this natural connection by the Wall. It is home to an infamous checkpoint and a refugee camp. The historic center is nearly lost and the cultural society is struggling to save the remaining buildings. The Rifa'i & Hamdan families leased the building for 13 years to the Society to be reused as a training and activity center for young people in the town.

**Total cost:** \$44,991

**Duration:** October 2011-December 2011

**Donor:** Sida

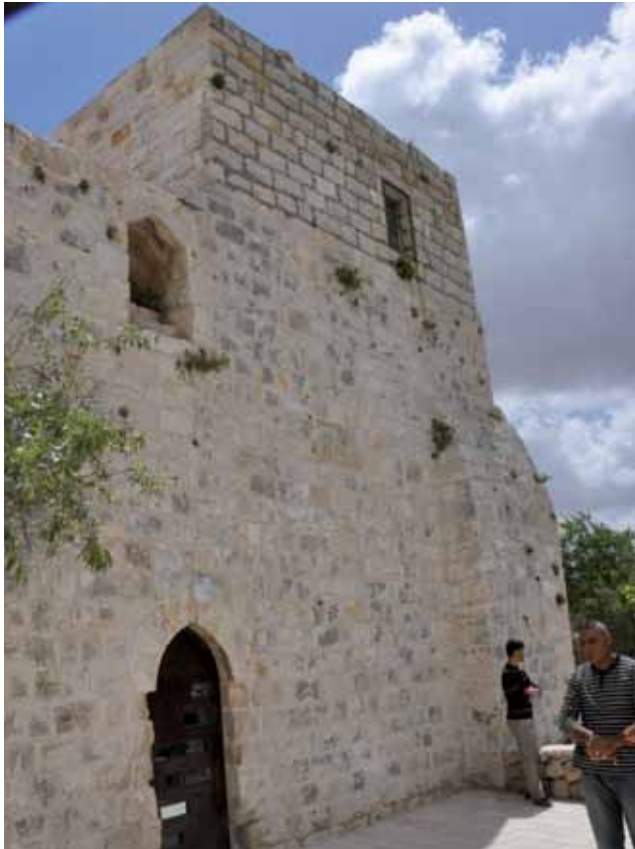
**Generated direct working days:** 440 days



### Qira Children's Center

A building complex with 10 rooms and a courtyard has been rented by the Children's Society in Qira to serve as their activity center. The Society rented the place from the Ali, Tleib & Irbassi families for 12 years. The premises will host a computer center,





a library and a multifunctional space to serve all community members.

**Total cost:** \$85,000

**Duration:** October 2011-December 2011

**Donor:** Sida

**Generated direct working days:** 1,273

### Handala Cultural Center in Saffa

The Handala Cultural Society is an active community organization that hosts cultural events and activities in the town and surrounding villages including an annual festival for local cultural organizations.

The Society has rented a building from its owners (Nasser & Karajeh families) for the coming 15 years in exchange for renovation. It will be used for offices, training rooms, and multipurpose meeting rooms.

**Total cost:** \$90,000

**Duration:** October 2011-December 2011

**Donor:** Sida

**Generated direct working days:** 692



## Saleh Al Barghouthi Palace Deir Ghassaneh

This project comes as a continuation of Riwaq's work towards the protection of Throne Village palaces and castles. After Ras Karkar, Abwein & Sanur, Riwaq was able to secure a grant from the German government to protect the Barghouthi Palace in Deir Ghassaneh along with the surrounding plaza. This is the first step towards a larger project for the regeneration of the historic center as a whole.

**Total cost:** \$64,585

**Duration:** October 2011-December 2011

**Donor:** Federal Republic of Germany

**Generated direct working days:** 750



## » Culture for all: cultural & community programs

Community is a key thread that runs through all of Riwaq's activities. Indeed, local ownership of the restoration process is crucial to ensuring sustainable maintenance and use of renovated buildings and old centers.

Riwaq's projects involve a great deal of interaction with communities across the West Bank, one

of the objectives of the projects being to bring cultural and community life back to abandoned historic centers. Through 2011 Riwaq planned and implemented several cultural, social, musical and educational activities in cooperation with active local partners in each village.





### Local festivals:

Festivals celebrate local produce, gastronomy, crafts and knowledge. Some are already in place in communities like Birzeit while others are created by Riwaq and the local community to showcase the heritage in particular locations. In 2011, Riwaq participated in and supported Heritage Week in Birzeit and helped organized the first edition of the Okra (Bamiyeh) Festival in Hajjah.

In the summer of 2011 Riwaq was a major partner in the Annual Heritage Week in Birzeit organized by Al Rozana Association to promote Birzeit's heritage. In addition to partnering in the event itself, Riwaq organized its own attraction point called "On the Roof: a panoramic view of Birzeit" in the form of a large slide that began on a roof of one building overlooking the historic center. The idea was to create an opportunity to see the urban fabric from a different point of view, a Birzeit rooftop Climbing upon roofs to reach the slide enabled participants to see both a map that showed the skyline of Birzeit and also a panoramic view of Birzeit.

Riwaq also organized the first local festival in the village of Hajjah. The festival took place on 23 July 2011 to celebrate Hajja's okra (bamiyeh). Hajjah is well known in Palestine for its okra, and the community is proud of this reputation. In addition residents of the historic center cultivate okra in the land plots inside and surrounding the center. To celebrate this, Riwaq worked with the local farmers and community to organize their own Okra Festival. It was the first festival of its kind in the town and there are plans to organize it next year as well.

### Concert at the Palace program:

A new activity Riwaq began in August 2011

in Sebastiya, the Concert Series will continue throughout 2012. The idea is to program musical concerts at old buildings in Palestine to bring people and live music to different Ottoman castles in the Throne Villages of Palestine. Those castles were built in the late Ottoman period and enjoy strategic locations overlooking their surroundings, distinctive architectural features, and large terraces and courtyards. The Series aims at highlighting the importance of those castles and their protection by exposing people to them as dynamic social and cultural venues which feature music and food. The Series, moreover, offers an active way to encourage tourism in Palestine.

The first concert was held in Sebastiya parallel to a Ramadan Iftar. Rather than hosting Riwaq's annual Iftar in a restaurant this year, the Iftar took place in the Kayed Palace in Sebastiya with the food prepared by the Women's Association. The concert then took place at the old Roman Amphitheater. Students from Al-Kamndjati Association played at the concert which was attended by the people of Sebastiya and two bus loads of people from Ramallah.

The second concert was held in Adh Dhahiriya on 4 December 2011, with cooperation from Al-Kamndjati which performed a three hour concert that entertained a number of visitors, Riwaq's friends, and locals from Adh Dhahiriya, including children and students. The day included a tour of the old town of Adh Dhahiriya to introduce the historical story of the place and Riwaq's conservation work to date.

### Walks and Talks:

Through its "Walks and Talks" series, Riwaq organized several walks to, around and through



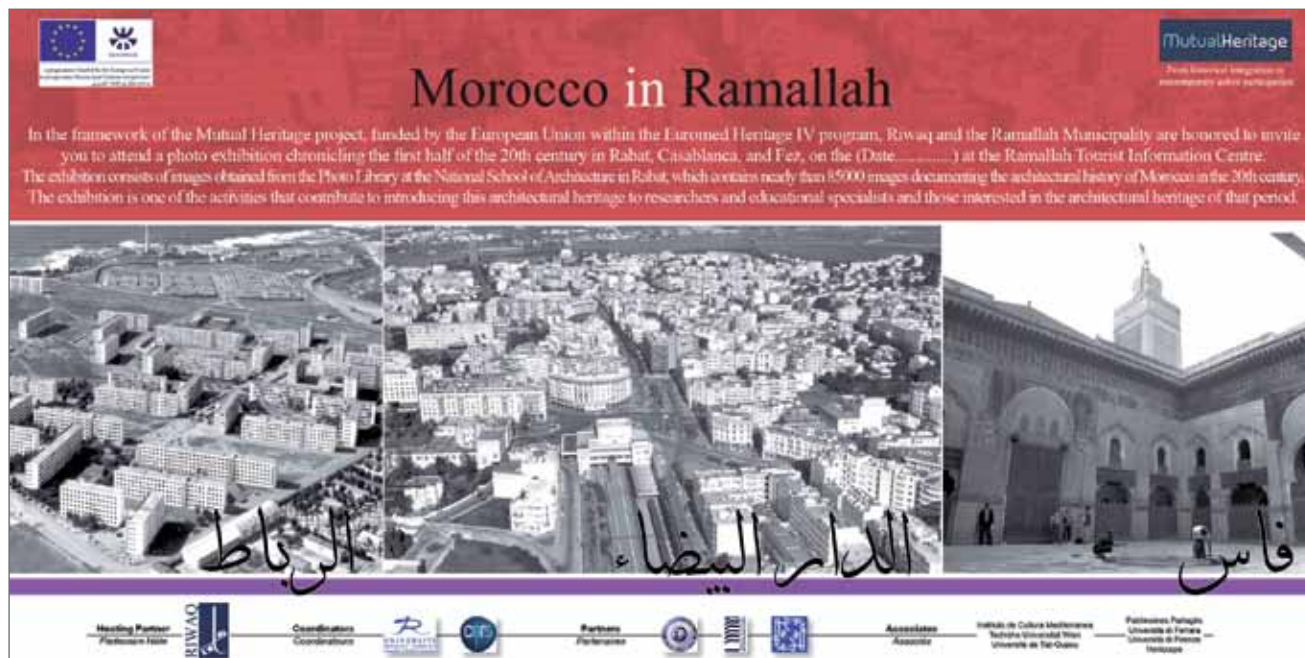
historic centers that are part of the regeneration program or part of the tourism trails. Ten walks took place in which Riwaq's team and visitors were able to become more acquainted with and introduced to cultural heritage in rural Palestine. In addition Riwaq's team gave 12 talks at the various sites of restoration projects, dealing with the importance of historic structures and how to save as well as benefit from them.

## » Trainings

In 2011 Riwaq was part of a series of training sessions and workshops. Some were held abroad, for which Riwaq's team and stakeholders traveled, and some were held in Palestine and targeted crafts people and professionals.

Riwaq's Michel Salameh attended a 2.5 month course in Rome on stone conservation from 13





April to 1 July 2011 organized by ICCROM. Michel's training was supported by Riwaq and ALESCSO (ATHAR Program).

Shatha Safi from Riwaq and Da'ad Seirafi from the Ramallah Municipality attended a training session on "the rehabilitation policies and strategies of cultural ministries and institutions in Morocco" in Rabat through the MH project, while Sahar Qawasmi from Riwaq and Nour Khdeiri from the Birzeit Municipality traveled to Tunis for a training on "Restoration/Conversion." Sahar Qawasmi and Lana Judeh, both from Riwaq, went to Beirut for a training on "Contemporary Heritage."

Moreover, Ruba Salim and Khaldun Bshara visited Namur, Belgium, in February 2011 for a conference on "Structural Interventions in Historic Context" and were introduced to the restoration techniques

being taught at IPW there. In addition they were particularly focused on structural consolidation techniques and methods applied in IPW.

Locally and in cooperation with IPW, Riwaq organized three training workshops in Palestine. The first was on "Metro-Photography Laser & Infrared" by Serge Paeme who trained Riwaq's architects on survey techniques using a technology that connects photos to detailed survey works. The second was on traditional iron works by Laurent Bouvy that took place in al Jalazone refugee camp and was attended by Riwaq's team and 5 local blacksmiths. The third was on painting wooden ceilings, which took place in al Kamandjati hall in Jenin where Riwaq constructed a wooden ceiling in 2009; the workshop was given by Caroline Pholien and attended by Riwaq's team and 4 craftsmen from the area.

## » Creating connections: local and international

### “Mutual Heritage”

2011 was the 3rd and final year of the EuroMed Heritage 4 project called “Mutual Heritage” which was implemented in partnership between several Mediterranean countries and funded by the EU to include a tourist trail, trainings, and projects. It was a very active year for this project as a brilliant “heritage map” was prepared at Riwaq, published in May 2011. The text and graphic design of the heritage guide were prepared throughout 2011, with a number of authors participating in constructing this guide, which is currently being published.

The tourist trail from Birzeit to Taybeh called “Re-Walk Heritage: Ramallah Highlands Trail” is not just about connecting Palestine internally but it is also about creating connections with other partners and countries. The project partnership includes France, Morocco, Tunisia, Italy and the Palestinian Authority; each partner works on heritage guides & maps as well as exhibitions and trainings, thus creating a common understanding of our mutual heritage and sharing knowledge and experience while fostering new friendships.

Within this project, Riwaq held several activities in 2011:

1. Heritage guided tour: A total of 7 heritage guided tours were implemented with different groups, including international tourists, international students, local university and school students.
2. Exhibitions: as part of the EU project Mutual Heritage a number exhibitions took place locally

and regionally, including:

- Riwaq’s exhibition of the Room Makeover Project was shown in Birzeit University on 10 February 2011 with over 70 Birzeit University students in attendance. It was also shown in Bologna, Italy, in 2011, and at the Lebanese University in Beirut in September.
- Two exhibitions were shown at Birzeit Heritage Week (13-17 July) one from the National University of Architecture (ENA) in Morocco illustrating the “20th Century Architectural Heritage of Moroccan Cities” while the second was an exhibition looking at mutual heritage in the area, called “HERISCAPE: Cities & Landscapes Of Modernity In The Mediterranean Area-Highlighting Heritage Projects From Morocco, Tunisia & Palestine.”

### Urban Discussion Initiatives

In 2010-2011, Riwaq ventured into two partnerships that go beyond building restoration. Riwaq worked with Art Territories on “Designing Civil Encounter,” a two day symposium and urban tour in Ramallah and the surrounding urban expansion. Riwaq supported and was part of the design of the urban tour.

Riwaq also worked with the Birzeit University Ethnography Museum on the 3rd Edition of the Cities’ Exhibition, entitled: “Between Ebal and Gerzim,” through which it supported the production of one intervention and developed a long-term partnership with the Museum.

Such partnerships attest to Riwaq’s ongoing and long-term commitment to contributing to innovative





and daring cultural productions in Palestine and its ongoing research into space formations, urbanization and change.

### **4CHO Cooperation:**

Within the 4CHO Cooperation, Riwaq continued to work side by side with other cultural heritage

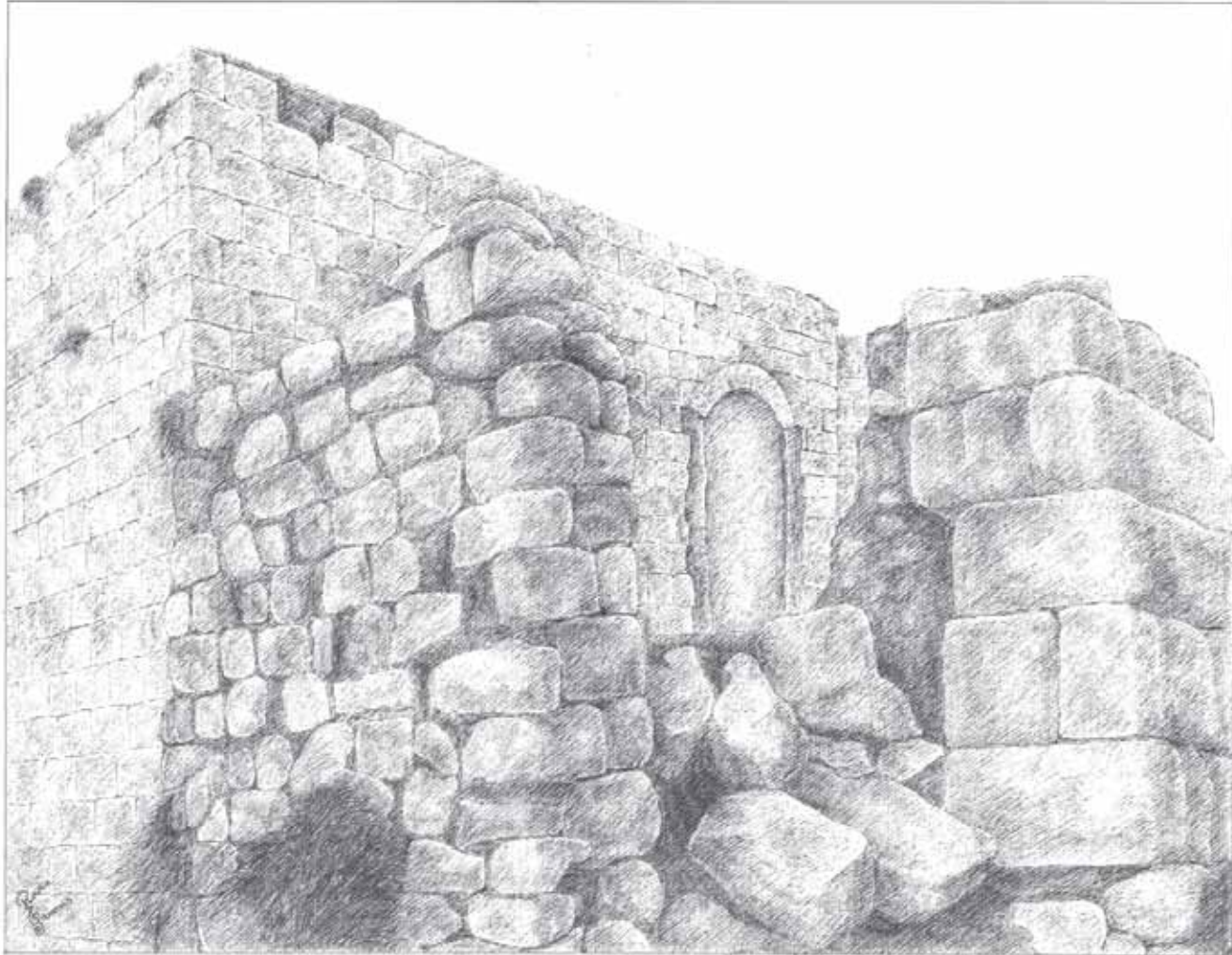
organizations in Palestine: CCHP, HRC & OCJRP-WA. Of special mention is Riwaq and CCHP's joint project for the regeneration of the old town of al Jaba'a in the Bethlehem district. This is a small scale project that included survey, documentation, preventive conservation, and project prioritization in cooperation with the local community.





### Tom Kay Award:

2011 was the third round of Riwaq's Tom Kay Award for freehand sketching. The award was open to participants from three Palestinian universities: An-Najah University, Palestine Polytechnic University, and Birzeit University. 28 students participated, and drawings were judged by a panel consisting of Adah Kay (Tom's wife), Dr. Tina Sherwell (director of the International Academy of Art-Palestine), Fida Touma (co-director of Riwaq), and Lana Judeh (Riwaq). The drawings were judged according to drawing techniques, composition, expression, the ability to draw from reality, and originality. A young woman named Rania Jamous, a student from Al- Najah University, won the first place award for a splendid drawing.





Fonds

Prins Claus Fonds voor  
Cultuur en Ontwikkeling

## Riwaq wins the Prince Claus Award

In September 2011, Riwaq was awarded one of the 2011 awards for the Prince Claus Fund for Culture & Development. The Prince Claus Awards are presented annually to individuals, groups and organizations in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean for their outstanding achievements in the field of culture and development and the positive effect of their work on their direct environment and on the wider cultural or social field.

“Riwaq is awarded for its significant achievements in preserving and reinvigorating sites of historical and architectural significance, for linking cultural heritage with community development and economic opportunities, for nourishing collective memory and strengthening Palestinian identity, and for its daring and pioneering work in a context marked by conflict and military occupation.”

## » Annex

### Facts about Riwaq :

#### Board of Directors:

Maha Abu Shusheh	President of the board	Iyad Issa	Architect/ project coordinator
Lana Abu Hijleh	Vice president		
Ghassan Abdullah	Treasurer	Khaldun Bshara	Co- Director
Jalal Khader	Secretary	Lana Judeh	Architect/ project coordinator
Vera Tamari	Member	Marie Taylor	Architect
Christo Burshe	Member	Michael Far	Financial Manager
Areej Hijazi	Member	Michel Salameh	Architect/ project coordinator

In 2011, the board accepted new members in the general assembly thus enlarging it from 13 to 23. New board elections are due in October 2012.

#### Riwaq team 2011:

Farhat Muhawi	Head of planning & Development	Sahar Qawasmi	Coordinator of MH project
Fida Touma	Co- Director	Samah Daragmeh	Administrative Assistant
Huda Dahdol	Site engineer		

Shatha Safi	Architect/ project coordinator
Suad Al- Amiry	PR & Fundraising
Yousef Dar Taha	Architect

### Funders

AFESD: Arab Fund for Economic & Social Development  
Ford Foundation  
IPW: The Institute of Walloon Heritage (Belgium)  
SIDA – the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency  
The Representative Office of the Netherlands  
The EU: EuroMed Heritage IV  
WBI: Wallonie-Bruxelles International





# Financial Statements

December 31, 2011





## **Independent Auditors' Report to the Board of Trustees of Riwaq Center for Architectural Conservation**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Riwaq Center for Architectural Conservation (Riwaq), which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2011, and the statement of activities and changes in net assets, and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

### **Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements**

Riwaq management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free of material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### **Auditors' Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risks assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### **Opinion**

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Riwaq as at December 31, 2011 and its activities and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards.



April 8, 2012  
Ramallah, Palestine

Note: For a full report with all detailed notes please visit Riwaq's website- [www.riwaq.org](http://www.riwaq.org)

## Statement of Financial Position

As at December 31, 2011

	Notes	2011 U.S. \$	2010 U.S. \$
<b>Assets</b>			
Non-current assets			
Property and equipment	3	204,531	63,186
		<u>204,531</u>	<u>63,186</u>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Contributions receivable	4	1,446,008	3,504,578
Other current assets	5	125,983	23,467
Cash and short-term deposits	6	1,853,848	1,806,258
		<u>3,425,839</u>	<u>5,334,303</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<u><u>3,630,370</u></u>	<u><u>5,397,489</u></u>
<b>Net Assets and Liabilities</b>			
<b>Net assets</b>			
Unrestricted net assets		1,107,983	1,014,904
Special reserve	7	61,535	61,535
<b>Total net assets</b>		<u>1,169,518</u>	<u>1,076,439</u>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>			
Deferred revenues	8	25,083	35,294
Provision for employees' indemnity	9	194,846	293,657
		<u>219,929</u>	<u>328,951</u>
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Accounts payable and accruals	10	255,504	409,833
Temporarily restricted contributions	11	1,985,419	3,582,266
		<u>2,240,923</u>	<u>3,992,099</u>
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<u>2,460,852</u>	<u>4,321,050</u>
<b>Total Net Assets and Liabilities</b>		<u><u>3,630,370</u></u>	<u><u>5,397,489</u></u>

## Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets

For the year ended December 31, 2011

	Notes	2011 U.S. \$	2010 U.S. \$
<b>Revenues</b>			
Temporary restricted contributions released from restriction	11	1,846,288	2,068,960
Unrestricted contributions	12	13,723	32,203
Other revenues	13	203,810	76,628
Deferred revenues recognized	8	19,668	8,816
		<u>2,083,489</u>	<u>2,186,607</u>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Projects' expenses	14	1,846,288	2,077,081
Administrative expenses	15	139,111	18,751
Currency exchange loss		5,011	41,942
		<u>1,990,410</u>	<u>2,137,774</u>
<b>Increase in net assets</b>		<u>93,079</u>	<u>48,833</u>
Net assets, beginning of year		<u>1,076,439</u>	<u>1,027,606</u>
<b>Net assets, end of year</b>		<u>1,169,518</u>	<u>1,076,439</u>



## Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended December 31, 2011

	2011 U.S. \$	2010 U.S. \$
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>		
Increase in net assets	93,079	48,833
<b>Non-cash adjustments to reconcile increase in net assets to net cash flows from operating activities:</b>		
Depreciation	21,671	18,751
Provision for employees' indemnity	45,546	103,145
Deferred revenues recognized	(19,668)	(8,816)
Loss from disposal of property and equipment	219	-
	140,847	161,913
<b>Working capital adjustments:</b>		
Contributions receivable	2,058,570	(1,914,045)
Other current assets	(102,516)	239,450
Accounts payable and accruals	(154,329)	246,639
Temporarily restricted contributions	(1,596,847)	1,120,343
Deferred revenues	9,457	20,607
Payments of employees' indemnity	(144,357)	(211,922)
<b>Net cash flows from (used in) operating activities</b>	<b>210,825</b>	<b>(337,015)</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>		
Purchase of property and equipment	(163,235)	(20,607)
<b>Net cash flows used in investing activities</b>	<b>(163,235)</b>	<b>(20,607)</b>
<b>Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>47,590</b>	<b>(357,622)</b>
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	1,806,258	2,163,880
<b>Cash and cash equivalents, end of year</b>	<b>1,853,848</b>	<b>1,806,258</b>

## Notes to the Financial Statements

December 31, 2011

### 1. Activities

Riwaq Center for Architectural Conservation (Riwaq) is a non-government, non-for-profit organization established in June 1991. Since its establishment, Riwaq's main aim is the protection of the cultural, architectural and natural heritage of Palestine. As Riwaq recognizes the benefits of group work, it has always sought to join efforts with other organizations, local and international, which care to protect the cultural heritage. On August 22, 2004, Riwaq was officially registered in Ramallah with the Palestinian Ministry of Interior under registration number RA-22318-CU.

Riwaq carries out its activities through six units; the national registry of historic buildings unit, the architectural renovation unit, the urban planning and development of historic cities unit, the research and publication unit, the social awareness and the incorporation of the society unit and the management and financial unit.

Riwaq's financial statements as of December 31, 2011 were approved by the Board of Trustees on April 8, 2012.

#### 2.1 Basis of Presentation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs), as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB).

The financial statements have been presented in U.S. Dollars, which is the functional currency of Riwaq.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

#### 2.2 Changes in accounting policy and disclosures

The accounting policies adopted are consistent with those of the previous financial year except that Riwaq has adopted the following new and amended IFRS. Adoption of this standard did not have any effect on the financial performance or position of Riwaq.

IAS 24 – Related Party Disclosures (Amendment)

The following standard has been issued but is not yet effective, and has not been adopted by Riwaq:

IFRS 13 Fair Value Measurement

#### 2.3 Judgments and estimation uncertainty

Riwaq's financial position and changes in net assets are sensitive to accounting methods, assumptions, estimates and judgments that underlie the preparation of the financial statements. Riwaq bases its estimates on its past experience and on various other assumptions deemed reasonable, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities. Due to different assumptions and situations, the actual results may differ significantly from these estimates.

## **2.4 Summary of significant accounting policies**

### **Donations revenue**

Donor's unconditional pledges are those pledges where donor does not specify prerequisites that have to be carried out by the recipient before obtaining the fund.

Donations revenue from unconditional pledges are recognized as follows:

- Unconditional pledges that are not restricted by donor for a specific purpose or time are recognized as revenue when the pledge is obtained.
- Unconditional pledges that are temporarily restricted by donor for a specific purpose or time are recognized as revenue when such purpose or time is satisfied.

### **Deferred revenue**

Donations related to property and equipment are stated at fair value, recorded as deferred revenues and recognized as revenue on a systematic basis over the useful life of the asset.

### **Expenses recognition**

Expenses are recognized when incurred based on the accrual basis of accounting.

### **Impairment and uncollectibility of financial assets**

An assessment is made at each statement of financial position date to determine whether there is objective evidence that a specific financial asset may be impaired.

If such evidence exists, any impairment loss is recognized in the statement of activities and changes in net assets. Impairment is determined as follows:

- For assets carried at fair value, impairment is the difference between cost and fair value;
- For assets carried at cost, impairment is the difference between carrying value and present value of future cash flows discounted at the current market rate of return for a similar financial asset;

### **Fair value of financial instruments**

The fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities recorded in the statement of financial position approximate their carrying amounts largely due to the short-term maturities of these instruments. Where the fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities cannot be derived from active markets, they are determined using valuation techniques including the discounted cash flows model. The inputs to these models are taken from observable markets where possible, but where this is not feasible, a degree of judgment is required in establishing fair values.

### **Cash and short-term deposits**

Cash and short-term deposits in the statement of financial position comprise cash at banks and on hand, and short term deposits with an original maturity of three months or less.

For the purpose of the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents consist of cash and short-term



deposits as defined above, net of outstanding bank overdrafts.

### **Contributions receivable**

Contributions receivable are stated at the original amount of the unconditional pledge less amounts received and any uncollectible pledges. An estimate for the uncollectible amount is made when the collection of the full unconditional pledge is no longer probable.

### **Property and equipment**

Property and equipment are stated at cost, net of accumulated depreciation and any impairment in value, if any. Such cost includes the cost of replacing part of the property and equipment. All other repair and maintenance costs are recognized in the statement of activities and changes in net assets as incurred. Land is not depreciated. Depreciation is calculated on a straight line basis over the estimated useful lives of the assets as follows:

	Years
Equipment and computers	3-7
Furniture	10
Leasehold improvement	10

An item of property and equipment and any significant part initially recognized is derecognized upon disposal or when no future economic benefits are expected from its use or disposal. Any gain or loss arising on derecognition of the asset (calculated as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset) is included in the statement of activities and changes in net assets when the asset is derecognized.

### **Income taxes**

Riwaq is a not-for-profit organization; accordingly, it is not subject to income tax.

### **Accounts payable and accruals**

Liabilities are recognized for amounts to be paid in the future for goods or services received whether billed by the supplier or not.

### **Provision for employees' indemnity**

Provision for employees' end of service benefits is calculated in accordance with the labor law prevailing in Palestine, and Riwaq internal policies, based on one month indemnity for each year of employment.

Employee's provident fund is provided for through contributing 10% and 5% of the gross salary by Riwaq and the employees, respectively.

### **Foreign currencies**

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are retranslated at the rate of exchange ruling at the statement of financial position date. All differences are taken to the statement of activities and changes in net assets.