

RIWAQ

Annual Report
2025



Annual Report 2025



Vision: Cultural and natural heritage that flourishes with protection at the national and regional levels, fosters knowledge exchange, contributes to our national identity, and acknowledges Palestine's cultural and human dimensions.

Mission: Restoration and revival of the cultural and natural heritage in Palestine, documentation and preservation of that heritage through mobilizing resources, implementing programs and projects, drafting supportive policies, and building partnerships that increase knowledge exchange and build national awareness.

RIWAQ 2025

The year begins and ends without a true appreciation for the fleeting nature of time and its diminishing blessings. This feeling is compounded by the growing anxiety of planning for the future and the constant struggle to secure resources for the coming year. Yet, as we review the year's work and achievements, we are filled with pride in what we have accomplished despite the difficulties and challenges. This success fuels a deeper determination to persevere and dream of a better future—one where the children of Palestine enjoy their cultural heritage regardless of the occupation, and a land that finally breathes freedom.

RIWAQ persisted in the revitalization of the Jerusalem countryside despite the growing threat of annexation and confiscation. In the historic center of Qalandiya, we paired community-led rehabilitation plans with archaeological research, restoration, and excavations. We celebrated the completion of the "Arish" playground for local families and the restoration of an interpretation center, now equipped to house the area's history and artifacts. Simultaneously, our teams deepened their exploration of the archaeological remains preserved beneath the town's Ottoman foundations. Through the "Creative Heritage" series of activities, the work extended to collaborative exhibitions and events, including a national drawing competition for seventh-graders held in partnership with the Ministry of Education and the Mayasem Cultural Association across the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Restoration efforts continued across the West Bank, focusing on Beit Hanina's historic Dar al-Durr and Bab al-Qaws, as well as the Assaf Courtyard in al-Jib, which now serves as a vibrant community and cultural hub. RIWAQ also successfully completed the renovation of cultural centers in Beitunia and Kafr Zibad, further expanding the network of protected heritage sites. To bring these spaces to life, we launched a series of community programs and activities that targeted children and youth, including a storytelling session with the late Hamza Aqrabawi, a photography competition, and storytelling workshops. In parallel with these regional projects, RIWAQ continued its tireless work on a plan to rescue and restore the damaged historical sites in the Gaza Strip. This involved cleaning the sites, documenting the damage, sorting and storing historical stones, and developing intervention priority plans. To date, RIWAQ has completed initial intervention phases at the Great Omari Mosque, the Qaisariyya Market, the historic Gaza Municipality building, and Dar Farah. While the situation might seem impossible given the scale of the destruction and the restrictions on materials, the team's dedication—in cooperation with partnering organizations and relevant official bodies—has laid a solid foundation for protection, recovery, and reconstruction into the coming year. These physical interventions were accompanied by a range of initiatives and planning projects, including a guide to the historic center of Gaza and a series of online seminars designed to raise awareness about historical landmarks, their importance, and the vision for their recovery. Expanding its reach, RIWAQ participated in several local and international conferences and training sessions, while strengthening its support network through meetings with friends and supporters in the diaspora. RIWAQ concluded 2025 with significant recognition. The Public Spaces Project in Qalandiya was awarded the Holcim Grand Prize in Venice, Italy. Additionally, Dr.Suad Amiry received the Great Arab Minds Award in the Architecture and Design category, honoring her role in establishing RIWAQ and her lifelong efforts in preserving Palestinian cultural heritage.



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50 Historic Centers Program: Toward New Geography

The Life Jacket: Revitalization of the Jerusalem Cluster

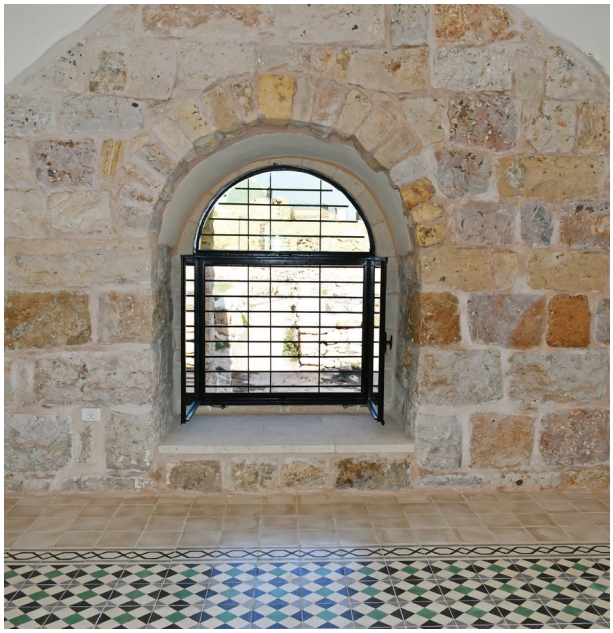
RIWAQ believes in the long-term vision of the Life Jacket Project as a model for revitalizing and connecting the towns and villages of the Jerusalem countryside, which remain fragmented by the Israeli occupation policies. The importance of this strategic project is amplified by the systematic restrictions imposed on these specific villages and the wider West Bank. This year's interventions include further restoration—both preventative and complete—of structures within the historic centers of Beit Hanina, Qalandiya, and Al-Jib.



The Assaf Courtyard Restoration Project - Al-Jib

RIWAQ has restored and rehabilitated the Assaf Courtyard as part of the ongoing initiative launched in 2017 through the Life Jacket Project. This initiative preserves the historic building while transforming it into a community center for Al-Jib and its neighboring towns. The restoration converted the ground floor into a community library, while the first floor now houses a multi-purpose hall and an administrative office. Connecting these spaces is the rehabilitated courtyard, which serves as a shared area for public gatherings. This project was funded by the Federal Republic of Germany (through its Development Bank) and implemented by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP)/Program of Assistance to the Palestinian People (PAPP), in cooperation with the Al-Jib Municipality, at a cost of US$78,929.





“Dar Al-Dur” Restoration and Rehabilitation Project

The restoration of Dar al-Dur continues RIWAQ’s broader efforts to rehabilitate the historic center of Beit Hanina, within the framework of the Life Jacket Project. This initiative preserves Dar al-Dur as a prominent architectural landmark while transforming it into a vibrant hub for social, cultural, and community programs. The project included the complete restoration of the two-story, 150 square meter historic building, as well as the rehabilitation of the surrounding area, including the garden and courtyard. This work was undertaken in partnership with the Beit Hanina Municipality, the al-Dur family, and the local Education Committee. This project was supported by the British Council’s Cultural Protection Fund at a cost of US$131,839.



“Bab Al-Qaws” courtyard restoration project

Through this project, the Bab al-Qaws building—a landmark in Beit Hanina—was fully restored, with preventative restoration work carried out on the adjacent courtyard as well. The structural intervention included rebuilding collapsed sections of Bab alQaws and the neighboring building, constructing and plastering the exterior facades of both buildings, and preparing the roofs.

This involved designing and implementing a small square, cleaning the courtyard, and carefully sorting stones for the reconstruction of the original arches and facades.

This project was undertaken in partnership with the Beit Hanina Municipality, with support from the British Council’s Cultural Protection Fund, at a cost of US$40,333.

Qalandiya's Children's Playground Project "Al-Arish Playground"

RIWAQ designed and implemented the Al-Arish Playground project in the historic center of Qalandiya, located in the town square, traditionally known by the same name. Historically, this square served as the main entrance to the town and a central gathering place for celebrations, community meetings, and condolences. By transforming this space into a playground, the project restores the square's role as a hub for the children of Qalandiya and their visitors. Jointly funded by the French Consulate General in Jerusalem and the Middle East Children's Alliance (MECA) with a budget of US$57,600, the park represents a significant first phase of development. Additional playground equipment is already planned for a future project to further enhance the space.





Qalandiya's Archaeological Excavation Project - Phase Two

Led by archaeologist Dr. Issa Al-Sari', the second phase of the Qalandiya Archaeological Excavation Project continued its mission to uncover and share the village's rich history. This season's survey and excavation resulted in the significant discovery of Byzantine church remains and a new collection of artifacts. To house these finds, an archaeological room was restored and transformed into an interpretive center. This rehabilitation included interior restoration, the installation of display cases, and the addition of an iron-framed floor to allow visitors to view the site safely. Beyond the physical work, the project focused on community engagement through organized tours and heritage activities. A highlight was the "Small Archaeologist" program, which transformed village children into researchers by introducing them to excavation techniques. Supported by the Gerda Henkel Foundation at a cost of €75,000, this project ensures that Qalandiya's past remains a living part of its present.









Community Centers and Public Arenas: Cultural Infrastructure for Social Change

The Historic Buildings Restoration Project aims to provide a suitable environment where cultural and youth institutions can work and create. By developing these spaces, RIWAQ has established vital models for cultural initiatives that drive social change, strengthen the capacities of women and youth, and provide safe, vibrant areas for children and families within their historic towns and villages.

Kufr Zibad Sports Club Restoration and Rehabilitation Project

The Haj Rashid Ghanayem Courtyard in Kufr Zibad was redesigned and rehabilitated to serve as the village's youth club headquarters, and a hub for cultural activities. The historic complex comprises eleven rooms: nine on the ground floor, an attic, and first floor terraces with a separate entrance, as well as an external room with its own access. To maximize this unique layout, RIWAQ prepared specialized designs for multi-purpose halls, administrative offices, and shared service areas, including kitchens and bathrooms. In addition to these functional upgrades, preventative restoration was carried out on the attic and adjacent structures to protect the site from future deterioration. This project was implemented in cooperation with the Kufr Zibad Local Council and the local sports club, with support from the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development at a cost of US$149,998.

Restoration and rehabilitation project of the Beitunia Community Center (Beit Ounia)

In cooperation with the Beitunia Municipality, RIWAQ redesigned and adapted the historic building situated at the start of the Old City road, opposite to the municipality building, to serve as a community center, and a cultural hub.

The structure consists of two floors, characterized by a mix of flat roofs supported by metal beams, and a tiled roof on the first floor. Its spatial configuration includes a ground floor with a central space flanked by a room on each side, as well as three additional rooms on the first floor. These upper rooms overlook a large terrace, and three traditional terraces, also supported by metal beams. A spacious courtyard surrounds the building, and it occupies a prominent position at the intersection of two vital streets in the city. Due to years of neglect, the building had suffered significant damage to its roofs, particularly the ground floor roof and the concrete terraces. To address these structural issues while meeting modern needs, the necessary plans and designs were prepared to include a large multi-purpose hall on the first floor, with administrative offices, and a shared service area on the ground floor. Furthermore, the courtyard was prepared and paved to create a public square and garden for the benefit of the town's residents. This project was implemented with the support of the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development at a cost of US$156,002.







Initiatives for the reconstruction and preservation of cultural heritage in Gaza (Recovery Plan)

RIWAQ continues its work to rescue and restore cultural heritage in the Gaza Strip through a series of physical interventions, capacity building, planning, and documentation.

During ceasefires, RIWAQ worked diligently to rescue and restore several historical sites of immense cultural importance, including the Great Omari Mosque, the Qaisariyya Market, the historic municipality building, and Dar Farah. This vital work began with the meticulous documentation of damage and the development of intervention priority plans to guide the emergency response.

Physical efforts on the ground involved clearing rubble, sorting and preserving historical stones in secure locations to prepare the sites for eventual reconstruction. Furthermore, critical structural work was undertaken to reinforce collapsed sections, and stabilize areas at risk of further deterioration due to their precarious and unstable condition. Beyond physical restoration, the project worked on building the capacity of journalists to focus on highlighting the historical significance and narratives associated with these landmarks, ensuring that coverage of events in the Gaza Strip acknowledges the profound human and historical dimensions of its heritage. These initiatives also included specialized training in restoration and rescue techniques, as well as the development of adaptive methods for using readily available materials —a necessary measure in response to the restrictions imposed by the Israeli occupation on the entry of construction materials into the Strip.

RIWAQ works in close coordination with Palestinian institutions, supporting organizations, and strategic partners. These efforts are part of a larger project under the auspices of the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, in partnership with the Gaza Municipality and the Palestinian Ministry of Waqf, and in cooperation with local institutions such as the CCHP, the Welfare Association, and the Italian South-South Foundation.

The projects and interventions aimed at rescuing and restoring cultural heritage in the Gaza Strip are implemented with generous support from the Aliph Foundation, the Gerda Henkel Foundation, the British Council's Cultural Protection Fund, the Barakat Trust, the Cultural Emergency Response Foundation, and other dedicated contributors.





Seminars on Architectural Heritage in the Gaza Strip

During 2025, RIWAQ organized a series of seminars dedicated to the architectural heritage of the Gaza Strip, providing a platform for experts to document and discuss the vital landmarks of the Strip:

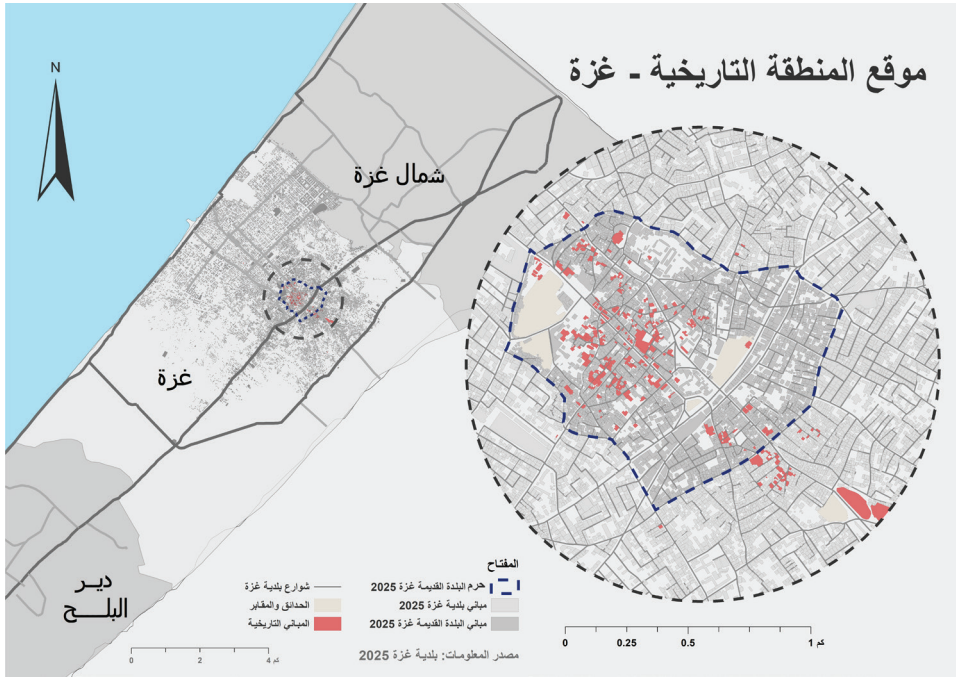
- "Al-Qaisariyya Market: The Jewel of Gaza's Old City" presented by Engineer Munir Al-Baz.
- "Al-Zawiya: Gaza's Historic Market" presented by Engineer Ayman Abu Shaaban.
- "The Great Omari Mosque: A Witness to Gaza's History Through the Ages" presented by Dr. Abdul Latif Abu Hashem.

This series serves as a critical record of the Gaza Strip's architectural landscape, showcasing its history, design, and development throughout the ages, up to the tragic devastation suffered in the aftermath of the war. These seminars stem from a core belief in the importance of documenting and highlighting the architectural heritage of the Gaza Strip, and raising global awareness of its profound historical and cultural value.

Building Guidelines Initiative in the Historic Area of Gaza

In response to the Gaza Municipality's directives, RIWAQ launched an initiative to develop a building guide for the historic district of Gaza City. This guide aims to steer reconstruction within the Old City in a way that preserves its historical character and authenticity. As a practical reference, the guide provides clear regulations for building design to address the dangers of haphazard construction and ill-conceived renovations that threaten the city's character and heritage. It also offers specific design proposals and solutions for various components of the historic district, including streets, markets, neighborhoods, and public squares.

The guide strictly adheres to all building codes and regulations of the Gaza Municipality, as it is designed to serve the interests of private property owners and residents of the Old City, while complementing the preservation efforts of the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, the Gaza Municipality, and other key stakeholders. The initiative specifically targets the parties responsible for designing, implementing, and supervising construction projects within the historic district of Gaza City, including engineering firms, contracting companies, and private property owners.




ABDULLAH
HIBA
SAMIA
SIREEN
2021
ISRA
JAMILA
TALA
ALISAR
DALLA

Community and cultural activities and capacity building

In-Situ school: Specialized archaeology training in rural Jerusalem

This project established an in-situ archaeological school within the historic center of Qalandiya to provide specialized practical and theoretical training for 30 professionals including archaeologists, architects, engineers, and restorers. The program sought to enhance the technical skills of cultural practitioners in archaeological analysis, while strengthening their field knowledge through a comprehensive curriculum of surveys, research, and site visits. Beyond professional development, the project encouraged local community participation and fostered a deeper understanding of the importance of preserving cultural heritage in rural Palestine. Supported by the Barakat Trust, this initiative was implemented at a cost of £10,000.





Creative Heritage Project

RIWAQ implemented this cultural initiative to promote awareness of rural Jerusalem's heritage, specifically building upon the archaeological excavation project in Qalandiya. The project centered on the production of educational materials and interactive games designed for both adults and children, as it comprised several key components:

National Drawing Competition: in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and the





Mayasem Association for Culture and Arts, this competition targeted seventh-grade students. Distribution reached 62,821 copies in the West Bank and 22,241 copies in the Gaza Strip. Following a review by artistic committees, the winners were selected and announced.

Field Study on Supernatural Phenomena and Legends: conducted in partnership with the Council of Imagination, this study included tours of Qalandiya, Beit Hanina, Kafr ‘Aqab, and Al-Jib. Oral history documentation sessions were held with local residents to gather information on traditional legends. To conclude this study, an interactive tour was held in Qalandiya, where selected stories from the documentation were presented to the public.

Artist Tours and Educational Materials: RIWAQ organized tours for Palestinian artists in the villages of Qalandiya and Beit Hanina to inspire the development of educational products. These artists are currently designing a series of games and educational materials that reflect the history of these villages.

“An Adventure in the Neighborhood”: In collaboration with Beit Byout (The Palestinian LARP Organization), RIWAQ hosted two treasure hunt events titled “Every Stone Tells a Secret” in historic Qalandiya. These events engaged young men and women in immersive games that taught them about the village’s history.

This project is generously supported by the Gerda Henkel Foundation, and these activities are set to continue into 2026.

“Narrating the Rural” Project | Beit Anan

This project aims to delve into the social, cultural, and architectural history of the historic center of Beit Anan. In partnership with the Cultural Forum Center and the Beit Anan Municipality, RIWAQ coordinates various youth-focused activities and events in the town. This project is part of a broader initiative conducted alongside the Cultural Forum Center, and partners within the AC pilot school. RIWAQ also contributes to the school’s coordination and organizational team.



Media training

The Birzeit University Media Students Training and Architectural Heritage Documentation Project aims to produce a series of short videos highlighting Palestinian architectural heritage. By presenting historical information through engaging visual content, the project seeks to raise awareness of the importance of architectural heritage in Palestine, while providing media students with practical training in the field of cultural heritage.

Filming took place in several locations across the West Bank, showcasing diverse forms of architectural heritage:

soap-making architecture in Nablus

palace architecture in Deir Ghassaneh (Ramallah)

courtyard architecture in Qabatiyia (Jenin)

traditional bathhouse architecture in Hebron

Bedouin-style bathhouse in Beit Hanina (Jerusalem).







The Future of Our Remains Project

RIWAQ worked on the "Today's Remnants, Tomorrow's Sustenance" project, which aims to explore new ways to revive the concept of public space in the Palestinian countryside, and reclaim communal land. The project is based on a community-driven process that explores the possibility of recycling restoration remnants into artistic products that serve local residents, and effectively transform these public areas into new spaces owned, managed, and utilized by the community. In 2025, the project included an online seminar titled "Common Land in Palestine: Questions and Observations," presented by architect Lana Judeh. Additionally, two workshops focused on embroidery and drawing were organized for youth in the Old City of Silat ad-Dhahr, and two artworks were created using leftover restoration materials like stones and soil. The project concluded with an open dialogue regarding RIWAQ's experience with communal work and the launch of a comic strip documenting the project's activities. This initiative was implemented with the generous support of the Culture Resource and the A.M Qattan Foundation.

Cultural activities in Al Jib

RIWAQ began working on the community cohesion project in the town of Al-Jib at the beginning of April 2025. This project was carried out alongside the restoration of the Assaf Courtyard in Al-Jib. The project plan was developed based on activities proposed by the residents of Al-Jib across five main areas: promoting local cultural heritage,

building, health awareness, developing capacity in community-based tourism, activating the Al-Jib library, implementing community empowerment activities.

Cultural activities in Gaza with Nawa: “Protecting the cultural heritage in Palestine”

During the genocidal war on the Gaza Strip, RIWAQ—in cooperation with the Nawa Association for Culture and Arts—organized and implemented a series of interactive activities for children in Deir al-Balah, focusing on the Sabra booklet as part of the “Protecting and Developing Cultural Heritage to Challenge Geographical Fragmentation” project.

The initiative included training a team of volunteers and staff on the booklet’s methodology and content, followed by interactive activities with 16 children and their families in Deir al-Balah. These activities aimed to introduce children to the oral traditions and historical landmarks of villages in the Jerusalem countryside through research-based learning, puzzle-solving, and art. A focus group conducted by the Monitoring and Evaluation Department, demonstrated the activities’ clear positive impact on strengthening the children’s Palestinian cultural identity. Participants learned about villages such as Kafr ‘Aqab, Al-Jib, Qalandiya, and Jaba’, while acquiring traditional vocabulary such as “al-Khabiya” (earthenware jar), “al-Tabun” (traditional of oven), and “alSiraj” (a lantern). Furthermore, the activities fostered teamwork and problem-solving skills in an enjoyable learning environment that reinforced the children’s sense of pride and belonging.









Workshops and training (summer training program)

As part of its annual programs, and in an effort to develop and disseminate knowledge about cultural heritage, RIWAQ concluded its summer restoration training program with five architecture students, from various local universities. The training included theoretical and practical instruction in restoration theories and techniques, field visits to several of RIWAQ's ongoing projects, a field trip to Ramallah, hands-on training in traditional plastering and grouting, and a workshop on traditional carpentry. At the end of the two-month program, the students presented design projects for buildings they had surveyed in various historic towns and cities across Palestine, showcasing the training activities, information, and new techniques they had learned and acquired. RIWAQ organized this training in partnership with the British Council's Cultural Protection Fund, the International Labour Organization (ILO), and the Arab Palestinian Investment Company (APIC).

Earthna Summit 2025

RIWAQ was invited to participate and give a talk as part of the second edition of the Earthna Summit (Qatar Foundation) under the theme “Building our Legacy: Sustainability, Innovation and Traditional Knowledge.” The event took place in Msheireb, Doha/ Qatar. During the presentation, the RIWAQ team highlighted past and ongoing projects, focusing on the “50-village” project, Gaza, traditional crafts, and policies for the protection of cultural heritage in Palestine. The two-day summit covered a wide range of topics through presentations, interactive panel discussions, workshops, and roundtables. Additionally, The Earthna village in Barahat Msheireb hosted a series of inspiring talks and discussions led by various experts and innovators to foster dialogue and inspiration. Several side events hosted by partners also included networking sessions and discussions led by local stakeholders.



Masahat Project

As part of the “Masahat” project, RIWAQ hosted the “Al Awael Mosaic” exhibition, which highlighted the art of mosaic and its history in Palestine. The exhibition included an interactive, hands-on demonstration in which attendees created a mosaic panel. The event concluded with a seminar entitled “Mosaic Decorative Arts in Palestine,” presented by Dr. Awni Shawamreh.





Knowledge Production

"RIWAQ Guide to the Maintenance and Restoration of Traditional Woodwork in Palestine"

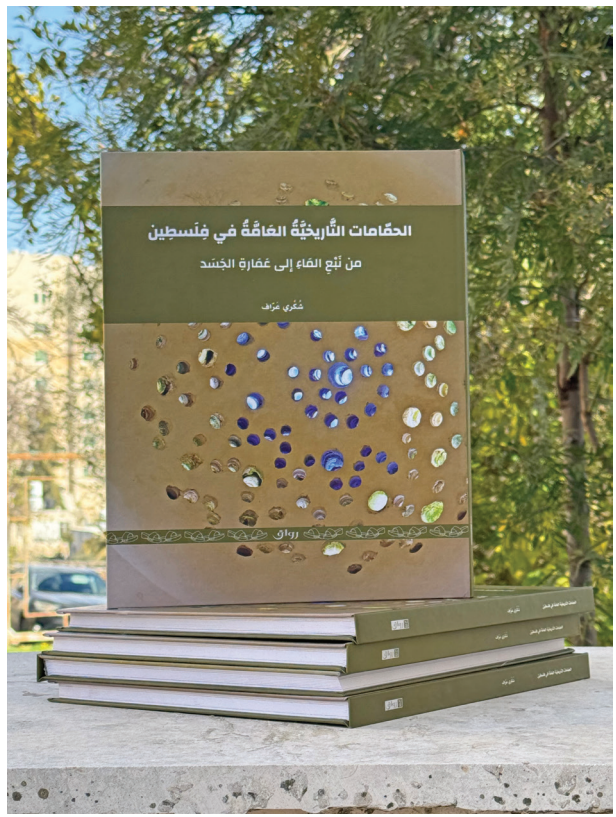
This guide addresses the maintenance and restoration of woodwork, one of the most significant traditional crafts in Palestine. Historically, woodwork has evolved alongside developments in building techniques and the nature of the materials used, remaining deeply linked to political, economic, and social changes, particularly during the British Mandate and the subsequent Zionist occupation. RIWAQ hopes this booklet will serve as the foundation for a series of specialized guides on the maintenance of traditional crafts, including blacksmithing, decorative tile making, mural painting, and stone carving.

This guide is the result of a project to develop and preserve traditional crafts, produced in cooperation with the Lutheran World Federation/Vocational Training Program – Ramallah, the Tarek Wali Center for Architecture and Heritage, the Jameel House of Traditional Arts – Cairo, and the Turquoise Mountain Foundation in Jordan. It was printed with the generous support of the International Labour Organization and the Arab Palestinian Investment Company (APIC).

“Historical Public Baths in Palestine”

This book by Dr. Shukri Arraf examines bathhouses (also known as Turkish baths) as an architectural style that flourished in Palestine during the Mamluk and Ottoman periods. The study documents these structures through detailed surveys of surviving remains, while providing comprehensive urban and architectural plans and photographs. It also explores the natural, economic, and social factors that contributed to their emergence and prosperity, alongside some of the social narratives associated with them. The book comprises three chapters. The first introduces the origins of the bathhouse as an architectural style within its historical and social context, including associated social customs and traditions. This is achieved through a broad examination of the bathhouse’s development across the Levant, with a specific focus on the Mamluk and Ottoman periods. The second chapter examines public bathhouses in cities such as Jerusalem, Acre, Gaza, Nablus, Safad, Jaffa, Hebron, Nazareth, Ramla, and Tiberias, it also explores the factors that influenced the rise, expansion, and decline of these bathhouses, while providing detailed architectural documentation. The third chapter focuses on public baths outside urban centers, as well as pools and springs with names derived from the term “bathhouse.”

This study serves as a vital historical and documentary reference for an architectural style that reached its peak prior to the British Mandate in Palestine and the subsequent Israeli occupation. The book was edited by Dana Abbas and Yousef Dar Taha, and published with the generous support of the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development.





Awards and Resource Development Program

Holcim Award 2025

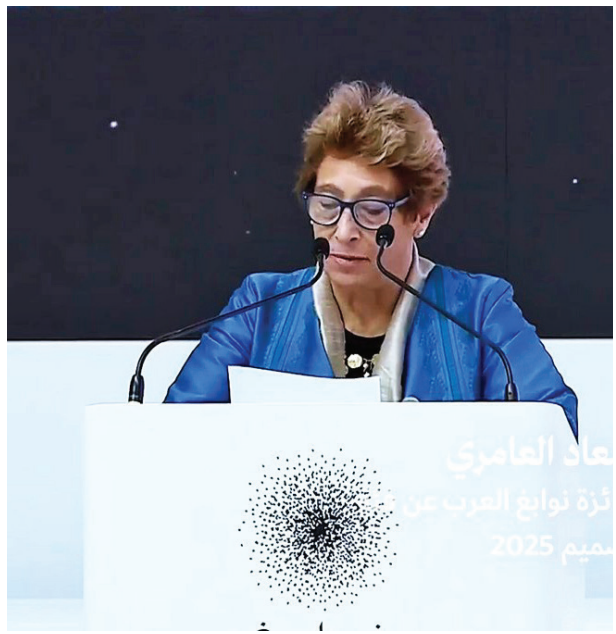
The “Qalandiya: The Green Historical Maze” project by RIWAQ has won the Holcim Foundation Award for 2025. The Holcim Foundation Awards are among the world’s most prestigious honors in the field of sustainable design and construction. This year’s 20 winners were selected by a world-class jury of 34 independent committees, chaired by Su Fujimoto, Kjetil Trædal Thorsen, Sandra Barclay, Lina Ghotmeh, and Jean Gang.



The Great Arab Minds Award for the year 2025

Dr. Suad Amiry, founder of RIWAQ, was awarded the Great Arab Minds Award in the Architecture and Design category in recognition of her distinguished career and extensive cultural and architectural contributions. As one of the most prominent Arab figures in her field, Dr. Amiry has dedicated her life to preserving architectural heritage and connecting physical places to memory and cultural identity.

Through her initiatives, she has spearheaded the documentation and revitalization of thousands of historical buildings, transforming them into vibrant community spaces. Her work serves as a vital reference for understanding the role of architecture in preserving history and building the future, cementing her status as one of the most influential Arab minds in the discipline.





Development Program

During 2025, RIWAQ continued its mission of engaging and collaborating with a broad audience of stakeholders in Palestine and abroad through social media platforms and online campaigns. RIWAQ also strengthened its connections with individuals, institutions, and supporters by participating in numerous meetings, workshops, and events with diverse groups of supporters and friends. This year's development and outreach activities included meetings with individuals and organizations in Palestine, Jordan, Qatar, the Netherlands, the UAE, and the USA.

Notable events included RIWAQ's participation in the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) annual meeting in Algeria. Additionally, RIWAQ participated in the Symposium: Grassroots Initiatives in Cultural Heritage Preservation in Boston organized by the Aga Khan Library and MIT, and the "Investing in People" conference organized by The Big Heart Foundation in Sharjah. These engagements focused on building future partnerships, exchanging expertise, and connecting with Palestinians in the diaspora.

Board, Staff, and Supporters

The Board of Directors held its regular meetings this year to discuss strategic plans, the current situation, and potential areas of development for existing and completed projects. The General Assembly held its annual meeting in April 2025.

In 2025 the RIWAQ Board consisted of:

Maha Abu Shousheh	President
Vera Tamari	Vice-President
Farhat Muhawi	Treasurer
Christo Bursheh	Secretary
Suad Amiry	Member
Hani Kort	Member
Iyad Masrouji	Member

In 2025, the RIWAQ family consisted of the following members:

Aya Tahhan	Architect and planner
Basel Naser	Architect
Kholoud al Najjar	Site Engineer
Dana Abbas	Planner / Director of the Rehabilitation Department
Hiba Omari	Development Officer
Saja Mansour	Architect and planner
Samah Al Titi	Administrative Assistant
Shahd Al Dik	Data Entry/ Archive
Shatha Safi	Director
Tareq Dar Nasser	Site Engineer/ Director of Supervision Department
Tasneem Abed	Architect
Israa Al Qadi	Cultural Program Coordinator
Murad Mansour	Financial Manager
Mohammad Subhi	Office Support
Yousef Dar Taha	Architect/ Director of the Restoration Department

Our activities and projects would not have been possible without the support of the following organizations and individuals:

- Arab Fund for Economic & Social Development
- Cultural Protection Fund of the British Council
- Gerda Henkel Foundation
- ALIPH- International Alliance for the Protection of Heritage
- The Federal Republic of Germany through its Development Bank (KFW) and implemented by the United Nations Development Program/ Program of Assistance to the Palestinian People (UNDP/PAPP)
- Cultural Resource and A.M. Qattan Foundation
- The Barakat Trust
- Cultural Emergency Response
- Middle East Children Alliance (MECA)
- Consulate General of France in Jerusalem
- The Arab Palestinian Investment Company (APIC)
- International Labor Organization (ILO)
- Arts Collaboratory/ DOEN Foundation
- The Muna and Basem Hishmeh Foundation
- Palestine Aid Society
- Barjeel Art Foundation

Generous contributors

RIWAQ also thanks its group of friends, supportive individuals, its staff and its board of directors for their generous support that helps RIWAQ continue its programs and achieve its goals and mission.

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Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Trustees
RIWAQ-Center for Architectural Conservation
Ramallah, Palestine

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of **RIWAQ-Center for Architectural Conservation (hereinafter "RIWAQ"),** which comprise statement of financial position as of December 31, 2025, statement of activities, statement of changes in net assets, and statement of cash flows for the year then ended and notes to the financial statements which include a summary of material accounting policy information and other explanatory information.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of RIWAQ as of December 31, 2025, its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS Accounting Standards).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the audit of the Financial Statement section of our report. We are independent of RIWAQ in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statement in areas under the jurisdiction of Palestinian Authority, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

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

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing RIWAQ's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing as applicable matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate RIWAQ or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing RIWAQ's financial reporting process.

Deloitte.

Independent Auditor's Report (Continued)

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISA's will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISA's, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also,

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than the one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omission, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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 internal control.

- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.

- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the RIWAQ's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause RIWAQ to cease to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Munther Al Bandak
Partner
License no. (114/2015)



Deloitte & Touche (M.E.)
Ramallah – Palestine

April 07, 2026

RIWAQ-Center for Architectural Conservation
Statement of Financial Position
As of December 31, 2025

	Notes	2025 USD	2024 USD
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash on Hand and Deposits with Banks	**5**	2,071,485	1,931,334
Other Current Assets	**6**	204,442	202,906
Contributions Receivable	**7**	1,443,399	1,007,606
Total Current Assets		**3,719,326**	**3,141,846**
Non-Current Assets			
Right of use assets	**8**	30,745	40,994
Property and Equipment, Net	**9**	776,341	778,858
Total Non-Current Assets		**807,086**	**819,852**
Total Assets		**4,526,412**	**3,961,698**
Liabilities And Net Assets			
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Lease Liabilities – Short-Term	**8**	10,249	10,249
Accounts Payable and Accruals	**10**	93,379	58,095
Restricted Contributions	**11 & Annex I**	1,300,346	1,043,529
Deferred Revenues	**12**	74,392	76,887
Total Current Liabilities		**1,478,366**	**1,188,760**
Non-Current Liabilities			
Lease Liabilities - Long-Term	**8**	20,496	30,745
Provisions for Staff Benefits	**13**	735,124	630,651
Total Non-Current Liabilities		**755,620**	**661,396**
Total Liabilities		**2,233,986**	**1,850,156**
Net Assets			
General Unrestricted Fund		1,732,050	1,551,166
Endowment Fund	**14**	560,376	560,376
Total Net Assets		**2,292,426**	**2,111,542**
Total Liabilities and Net Assets		**4,526,412**	**3,961,698**

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements and should be read with it.

Annex I and Annex II of this report are presented for informative purposes only and are not part of these financial statements and the Independent Auditor's Report.

Chairman of the Board	**Treasurer**
Maha Sobhi Mohammed Awwad	**Farhat Yousef Farhat Mhawi**

RIWAQ Center for Architectural Conservation
Statement of Activities
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

	Notes	2025 USD	2024 USD
Revenues			
Restricted Contributions Released from Restrictions	**11**	1,529,780	1,686,500
Deferred Revenues Recognized	**12**	17,517	10,639
Unrestricted Contributions and Donations	**15**	88,478	40,095
Other Revenues	**16**	225,131	135,297
Total Revenues		**1,860,906**	**1,872,531**
Expenses			
Projects' Expenses	**17 & Annex II**	1,529,780	1,686,500
Administrative and General Expenses	**18**	191,269	169,439
Currency Exchange Loss (Gain)		(41,027)	6,929
Total Expenses		**1,680,022**	**1,862,868**
Change in net assets for the year		**180,884**	**9,663**

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Treasurer	**Chairman of the Board**
Farhat Yousef Farhat Mhawi	**Maha Sobhi Mohammed Awwad**

RIWAQ-Center for Architectural Conservation
Statement of Changes in Net Assets
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

	General Unrestricted Fund	Endowment Fund	Total
	USD	USD	USD
Balance as of January 01, 2025	1,551,166	560,376	**2,111,542**
Change in net assets	180,884	-	**180,884**
Balance as of December 31, 2025	**1,732,050**	**560,376**	**2,292,426**
Balance as of January 01,2024	1,668,047	560,175	**2,228,222**
Prior years adjustments (Note 21)	(126,544)	-	**(126,544)**
Balance as of January 01,2024	**1,541,503**	**560,175**	**2,101,678**
Change in net assets	9,663	-	**9,663**
Transfers to Endowment Fund	-	201	**201**
Net assets balance as of December 31, 2024	**1,551,166**	**560,376**	**2,111,542**

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RIWAQ-Center for Architectural Conservation
Statement of Cash Flows
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

	2025	2024
	USD	USD
Cash Flows from Operating Activities		
Change in net assets for the year	180,884	9,663
Adjustments:		
Depreciation of Property and Equipment	18,439	11,344
Amortization on the Right of Use Asset	10,249	10,249
Interest on Lease Liability	1,751	1,751
Provisions for Staff Benefits	104,473	105,255
Prior year Adjustments	-	(126,544)
Cash Flows Generated from Operating Activities before Changes in Operating Assets and Liabilities	**315,796**	**11,718**
Changes in Operating Assets and Liabilities		
(Increase) /Decrease in Contributions Receivable	(435,793)	752,683
(Increase) in Other Current Assets	(1,536)	(44,682)
Increase /(Decrease) in Accounts Payable and Accruals	35,284	(5,744)
(Decrease) /Increase in Deferred Revenues	(2,495)	29,940
Increase /(Decrease) in Restricted Contributions	256,817	(501,130)
Cash Flows Generated from Operating Activities	**168,073**	**242,785**
Payment of Employees Benefits	-	(40,757)
Net Cash Flows Generated from Operating Activities	**168,073**	**202,028**
Investing Activities		
Purchase of Property and Equipment	(15,922)	(41,282)
Net Cash Flows (Used in) Investing Activities	**(15,922)**	**(41,282)**
Financing Activities		
Payment of the Lease Liability	(12,000)	(12,000)
Net Cash Flows (Used in) Financing Activities	**(12,000)**	**(12,000)**
Net Increase in Cash on Hand and Deposits with Banks during the Year	**140,151**	**148,746**
Cash on Hand and Deposits with Banks, Beginning of Year	1,931,334	1,782,588
Cash on Hand and Deposits with Banks, End of Year	**2,071,485**	**1,931,334**

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