

Project Title: Assessment of the Impact of Pollution Sources on the Water Environment and the Lives of the Residents in Salfet District, Palestine



Report Title: Training Activities - Introductory GIS Training

Prepared by:



Funded by:

AGFUND - ARAB GULF PROGRAMME FOR
UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS



برنامج الخليج العربي لدعم
منظمات الأمم المتحدة الإنمائية

November 2008

Acknowledgments

The House of Water and Environment (HWE) would like to express their gratitude and appreciation to the Arab Gulf Programme for the United Nations Development Organizations (AGFUND) for their generous support and funding, and to the Municipality of Salfeet and all those who made this project possible.

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INTRODUCTION

This report is the fifth progress report that summarizes the conducted activities during the Introductory Training Course in Geographic Information Systems, which took place from November 10-13, 2008 at House of Water and Environment (**HWE**). This training course is a part of the project entitled, "Environmental Assessment of Pollution Sources on the Water Environment and Palestinian Livelihoods in the Northern West Bank- Salfeet District" funded by the Arab Gulf Programme for the United Nations Development Organizations (**AGFUND**).

The overall goal of the project is to investigate and assess the sources of pollution and their impacts on water resources, as well as to study the impacts of water contamination on the residents' health, as set by the project proposal and the contract. The following briefs the two year project's main tasks:

1. Assessment of the impact of pollution on water resources and environment.
2. Development of criteria and framework for the protection of groundwater at various levels.
3. Protection of the water resources.
4. Management of the health risk.
5. Implementation of training activities and awareness campaigns for the local communities on:
 - (a) Impact of pollution on water and environment.
 - (b) Groundwater protection guidelines.
 - (c) Assessment of health risk of pollutants.

To achieve the above objectives effectively, different activities were carried out including: research on pollution sources, data collection, survey processes, field measurements, training seminars on water and water related diseases, mapping and statistical analyses, in addition to a wide range questionnaire that covers the study area, along with many other outreach activities.

This report summarizes the activities that were implemented to fulfill objective No.5 mentioned previously. It is of the utmost importance to conduct a GIS training course to provide the municipal staff with the essential tools and knowledge in order to create maps which they can depend on during any further decision process.

OVERVIEW OF THE COURSE

This course provided a comprehensive background in GIS involved in environmental monitoring, it also intended to provide a broad overview to GIS and Image Processing and their use in environmental research. The training included theoretical lectures,



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