

## Real People. Real Business Ventures.

The Youth Business Support Unit at Sharek Youth Forum aims to promote self-employment as a viable alternative to traditional means of employment, and as an effective tool to reduce poverty in Palestine. Currently, the unit focuses on both technical and financial services, in the form business start-up training, start-up grants, and business counseling. The unit's activities cover various areas in the West Bank and Gaza Strip through its business incubators and satellite business unit's in the different areas. The unit's activities are generously supported by the UNDP's DEEP program through financing from the Islamic Development Bank.

In this issue of the newsletter we put the spotlight on a number of young Palestinian entrepreneurs that were supported in pursuing their dreams in establishing their own business ventures.

### Manal Jaabari Hebron

Manal, 32 years old, is a motivated Palestinian woman that has the talent of working with flowers, ribbons, and glitters. Her skills were finally directed towards an income-generating activity for her family when she came up with the idea of opening a Wedding Accessories shop in the Old City of Hebron. The unit provided Manal with business training, financing, and continue to provide her with counselling towards the success and expansion of her business.



### Inas Namleh Rafah

Inas is a recent graduate of Medical Technology and Laboratory Sciences in Rafah. She lives in a separated family, where she plays the role of the main bread-winner of her household. At the age of 22, and after spending years as a volunteer at the various medical organizations in the Gaza Strip, Inas was able to start her own laboratory through the support of the Youth Business Support Unit and in partnership with a local Palestinian healthcare organization. Inas, hopes to continue by opening her own-private lab where she can provide affordable services to a dense population in need throughout the Gaza Strip.



### Hani Abu Sabla Gaza City

With experience in making perfumes, Hani Abu Sabla was finally able to move from being an employee at a friend's shop to a business owner working for his own account. At 23 years of age, Hani, who has a university degree in accounting, is selling perfumes at his mobile-kiosk in the streets of Gaza City, where consumers look to cheaper local perfumes as alternatives expensive imported ones. Hani received technical and financial support from the Youth Business Support Unit to launch his small business.

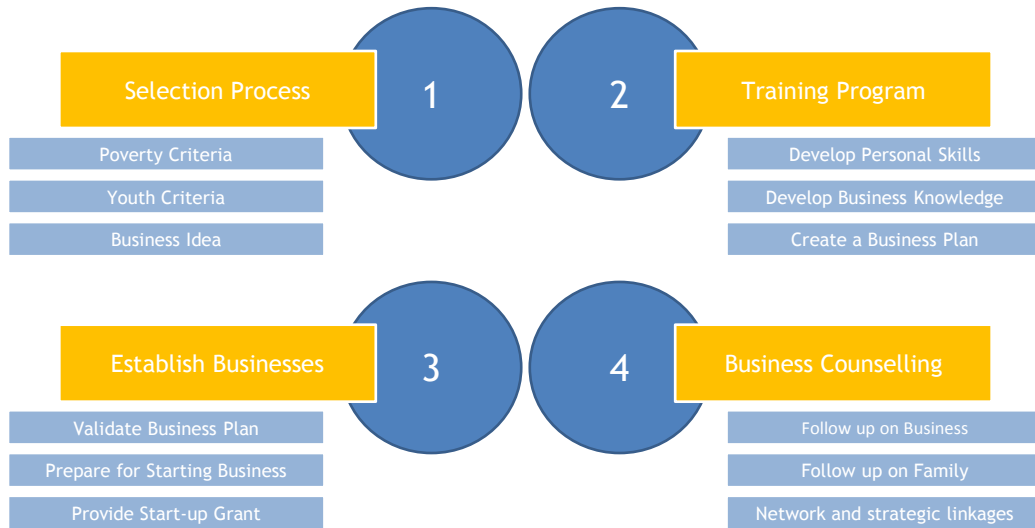


### Munir Sabaaneh & Ahmad Salem Nablus

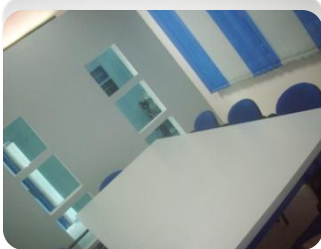
Two young and motivated residents of Ein Beit Elma' refugee camp, Munir and Ahmad are jointly operating a Cocktail Shop in the city of Nablus, where they are utilizing their prior experience in this field to generate income that will contribute to the improvement of the families' livelihoods. Receiving technical and financial services to launch their business, these two young entrepreneurs are hard-working business owners, still in their late teens.



## Poverty Reduction Methodology



## Youth Business Support Units in Palestine



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