



## BETHLEHEM UNIVERSITY

جامعة بيت لحم

### Dedication of the Education Building

28 November 2012

#### **Improving the Quality of Primary and Secondary Education in Palestine**

Thanks to the funding support of the Fundación Promoción Social de la Cultura (FPSC) and Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo (AECID) and the engagement of the Palestinian Ministry of Education, Bethlehem University is building upon its successes from its 2007-2010 *Quality of Education for all through Partnership Project* and expanding its efforts in Jerusalem, Bethlehem and the northern Hebron educational directorates with its 2010-2014 *Improving the Quality of Primary and Secondary Education in Palestine Project*.

While the first project from 2007-2010 focused on 15 schools, this new and expanded project from 2010-2014 involves 118 schools in the middle and southern West Bank: 58 of which are direct partners and an additional 60 which are indirect beneficiaries. The schools involved represent the private (including Catholic and Christian), UNRWA, and public government sectors. Upwards of 22,000 students and 1,100 teachers as well as 5,000 parents and 180 Bethlehem University students in training to be teachers are beneficiaries of this new four year program.

The project's aim is to promote education for gender equity, human rights, democracy, cultural identity and diversity, and environmental protection.

- More than 6,000 hours of professional training and supervision, including 300 hours focused on children with special educational needs, are being provided.
- Palestinian educators are enhancing teaching skills and pedagogy in Special Education as well as in Technology and Media Education.
- Recreational Summer Camps focused on remedial teaching in English, Arabic and Math are being provided.
- Teacher Resource Centers with enhanced computer technology and other educational materials and diagnostic tools are being established at Bethlehem University and throughout the directorates of Jerusalem, Bethlehem and North Hebron.
- Video documentaries about real issues faced by special needs students, teachers and parents in the educational process are being produced.
- Collaborative local and international networks of teachers, students, parents and community leaders are being strengthened.
- Public lectures and forums focused on new technologies and education, including a conference on "The New Proposed Tawjihi System," a "School Administration: Toward Improving Learning and Teaching Pedagogies in Schools" workshop, and specialized teaching methodologies focused on Inclusive Special Education are being provided.
- Scholarships the Higher Diploma in Methods of Teaching are being offered for 150 in-service teachers.
- A higher degree program in Special Education is also being developed at Bethlehem University.