

**The Danish House in Palestine
ANNUAL REPORT
January – December 2024**

PROGRAMME SUMMARY

The present report plan is aligned to the strategy of The Danish House in Palestine 2021 – 2025¹ and the document “The way forward- post 2025”². The report covers the period from January – December 2024. In this report we report on targets, achievements and lessons learned.

The vision of The Danish House in Palestine

To strengthen the mutual understanding and appreciation between Danish and Palestinian cultures, as well as encourage values of diverse, open, and tolerant societies.

The Development Objective

A cultural and creative sector that provides courageous and quality learning opportunities for young girls and boys, women and men, and produces daring artistic expressions, thereby contributing to increased cultural diversity, pluralism and freedom of expression in Palestine.

The Four Outcomes³

Outcome 1		An increasing number of Palestinians and Danes are engaged in and actively supporting the programmes of the Danish House and its partners	
Outcome indicator		% increase in people engaged and actively supporting the programmes and partners of the Danish House	
Baseline	Year	2020/ 19	12.300 are engaged/ actively supporting the work of the Danish House and Palestinian partners
Target	Year	2024	19.000 are engaged/ actively supporting the work of the Danish House and Palestinian partners
Target	Year	2025	26.000 are engaged/ actively supporting the work of the Danish House and Palestinian partners

Outcome 2		The resilience of girls, and boys, young women and men strengthened in vulnerable communities targeted by the Danish House and its partners	
Outcome indicator		% increase in young girls, and boys, women and men in Danish House and partner target communities who have been empowered (strengthened their network and social capital) through the programs of the Danish House and partners and feel able to take the lead in diverse art and cultural initiatives at community and national level.	
Baseline	Year	2020	0

¹ Effective 1 August 2021 – December 2025

² The way forward- post 2025 dates 17 July 2022- Approved by DRO

³ Updated Result Framework 2023- 2025

Target	Year	2024	30% of young girls and boys, women and men in our target communities who state that their network and social capital (resilience) has been strengthened, and feel able to take lead in diverse art and cultural initiatives at community and national level
Target	Year	2025	75% of young girls and boys, women and men in our target communities who state that their network and social capital (resilience) has been strengthened, and feel able to take lead in diverse art and cultural initiatives at community and national level

Outcome 3		Palestinian civil society organizations working with art and culture further strengthened to contribute to freedom of expression and cultural life in Palestine.	
Outcome indicator		The capacities of the strategic partners of the Danish House to provide quality art and culture programs further developed	
Baseline	Year	2020	[baseline to be established at start up]
Target	Year	2024	Strategic partners have better collaborations and well-defined programs contribute to freedom of expression and cultural life in Palestine.
Target	Year	2025	All strategic partners delivering effectively according to their mandates relating to freedom of expression and cultural life

Outcome 4		The Danish House in Palestine has transitioned into an NGO with a more solid and diverse funding base	
Outcome indicator		Sources and diversity of funding	
Baseline	Year	2020	98% of the funding of the Danish House is from The Danish Representation in Ramallah
Target	Year	2024	At least 20% of the funding of the Danish House is from other sources than The Danish Representation in Ramallah
Target	Year	2025	At least 30% of the funding of the Danish House is from other sources than The Danish Representation in Ramallah Bridging/ Shifting towards CISU fund

The situation

The ongoing genocide in Gaza and the aggressive occupation of the West Bank represent profound violations of human rights that have devastating consequences for countless children and families. In Gaza, the relentless aggression has resulted in over 14,500 Palestinian children losing their lives⁴. These are not just numbers; they represent the loss of innocent lives—infants who have barely begun to experience life, toddlers taking their first steps and calling out for their parents, school-aged children venturing out into the world for the first time, and teenagers who have yet to discover their passions and aspirations.

⁴ UNICEF. (2024, December 14). *Statement by UNICEF Executive Director Catherine Russell on children and continued bloodshed in Gaza Strip.*

The Tragic Reality in Gaza

Gaza, home to nearly half of the Palestinian population, has been particularly ravaged by the ongoing genocide. Children endure unimaginable trauma, growing up amid continuous airstrikes, widespread loss of life, and a complete lack of access to essential resources like food, clean water, healthcare and education. The humanitarian crisis is of unprecedented proportions, with 2024 likely to be remembered as a tragic period for the Palestinian people under this brutal aggression and systematic violence.

The Situation in the West Bank

While Gaza is often highlighted, the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, is also suffering under the weight of occupation. Families live in constant fear for their safety, with children expressing anxiety about walking in their neighborhoods or traveling to school. Movement restrictions and access barriers further exacerbate daily life, stripping families of basic freedoms and rights. The situation in the West Bank is dire, Israeli Occupation forces have been using deadly, war-like tactics across the northern West Bank, deepening people's humanitarian needs and raising concerns over excessive use of force. They initiated a wide-scale operation in the northern West Bank, focusing on Jenin, Tulkarm and Tubas. Israeli aerial and ground strikes have been reported, resulting in mass casualties and the destruction of infrastructure, especially with the use of bulldozers in all governorates.

In 2024 Israeli occupation forces killed 498 Palestinians in the West Bank, including 143 children⁵ (as of July 2024, with numbers still rising), marking the highest weekly death toll based on UN data available since 2005. Additionally, Israeli Occupation forces have intensified movement restrictions in the Israeli-controlled area of Hebron city (H2). These restrictions have disrupted access to livelihoods and services for thousands of Palestinians. Furthermore, multiple incidents of detention have taken place at these checkpoints, alongside allegations of sexual harassment.

Humanitarian Crisis Intensifies

In 2024, humanitarian needs in both Gaza and the West Bank have reached critical levels. The military actions, coupled with the blockade, have severely worsened already precarious conditions, leaving millions vulnerable and in desperate need of assistance.

The rising numbers of casualties among civilians, particularly children, highlight the severity of this crisis. The international community faces the vast task of confronting the reality that the Palestinian people continue to suffer from a systematic lack of access to food, clean water, and healthcare, all under the oppression of occupation.

Understanding the Context

Given these disturbing realities, it is important to understand the context in which we operate. Recognizing the lived experiences of the children and young adults we serve is key. Without this understanding, our efforts to meet their needs will lack significance and impact. The children and young people we aim to support are living under these harrowing conditions; therefore, it is essential that we remain aware and responsive to their specific circumstances and challenges.

⁵ UNICEF. (2024) *Child casualties in West Bank skyrocket in past nine months.*

Only by remaining aware of their challenges can we hope to provide meaningful assistance and advocate for their rights in the face of such overwhelming adversity.

Conclusion

As the world remembers 2024 as a year marked by genocide against the Palestinian people, we urge individuals around the globe not only to stand in solidarity with the Palestinian people but also to take concrete actions that advocate for justice and support their rights.

Despite the overwhelming hardships, the Danish House reaffirms its dedication to backing initiatives that equip young Palestinians with the tools to express themselves and advocate for their rights. We believe in the importance of fostering optimism among children and amplifying the messages of Palestinian creatives and young advocates.

Again, our credibility as a civil society organization depends on our ability to understand the changing situation, foresee new challenges, and work closely with our partners to adapt. This teamwork helps us stay relevant and effective in supporting the children, youth, and communities in Palestine.

Major Highlights in 2024:

- **Children's Safety at Risk:** Children are very vulnerable to the ongoing violence and instability. The attacks on schools, hospitals, and neighborhoods put their safety at risk. Since October 7th, more children have died in Gaza than in all other conflict zones combined since 2019 (Save the Children). Children suffer from health and food insecurities due to the blockade, which limits essential supplies. The situation is critical and requires immediate action to protect children's safety and well-being.

The well-being of children is a major concern in this crisis, highlighting the need for urgent intervention and support.

- **Impact on Palestinian Lives:** The policies and actions of the occupying power continue to have had a huge impact on the daily lives of Palestinians in the West Bank. They include taking control of land, limiting movement, and making it hard to get work permits. This has led to home demolitions and evictions, causing a lot of instability. The violence from state-backed settlers has made it difficult for Palestinians to sustain their livelihoods. Military raids have become common in major cities, highways, and safe areas, making it hard for families to feel secure.
- **Human Cost in Gaza:** Over 45,541 Palestinians have been killed, and more than 108,338 have been injured in Gaza as of December 30, 2024⁶. These numbers are likely higher due to the breakdown of services and communication systems in Northern Gaza hospitals. Gaza is under constant attack, with schools, hospitals, and residential areas being targeted. This

⁶ UNRWA. (2024, January 25). *UNRWA situation report 154: Humanitarian crisis in Gaza Strip and West Bank, including updates from OCHA*. UNRWA.

has led to the displacement of 1.9 million Palestinians since October 7th⁷, causing a huge sense of insecurity among families. The crisis has made it hard for people to access food, healthcare, and economic stability.

- **Challenges for INGOs:** On December 9, 2024, the Government of Israel established an inter-ministerial team assigned to oversee the registration of international non-governmental organizations (INGOs) that offer assistance to Palestinians in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT). This new system raises significant concerns for organizations like ours, as we are also an INGO that could be affected by these regulations. We could face assessments based on vague and potentially biased criteria, impacting our ability to operate effectively. The risks we face include ongoing administrative burdens, the potential for unjust dismissals, and outright cancellations of our operating licenses. Additionally, there is a real concern about visa rejections, which could prevent our international staff from accessing the region. Ultimately, these changes threaten the operations of INGOs like ours and further intensify the humanitarian crisis, which continues to grow in severity.
- **Funding Challenges:** In 2024, primary funding sources were put on hold, placing vital community programs at serious risk and jeopardizing the organization's hard-earned reputation. This interruption underscores the challenging environment in which the organization operates and highlights the urgent need for flexible solutions to address pressing needs on the ground.

From this experience, we've learned a painful lesson from the suspension of official funding in the past. It's not about politics or the agendas of governments; it's about the inherent value of protecting the lives and well-being of children. Children are not part of the complex issues that often drive political decision-making. Their needs are universal, and their future is a shared responsibility.

During these difficulties, an important truth has emerged: organizational strength is not solely dependent on external funding but also on the unwavering support of the community. Perseverance has been possible not just due to donor contributions, but also because of the resilience and generosity of individuals who have stepped forward to lend a hand.

This experience has demonstrated that when people come together, they can create hope and resilience, even in the face of daunting challenges. The support received plays a crucial role in inspiring continued efforts within the community, affirming the organization's commitment to its mission.

⁷ OCHA. (2024, December 31). *Reported impact snapshot: Gaza Strip*. OCHA.

Summary January – December 2024

- **Responsive and Active Engagement (Outcome 1):**
 - An increasing number of Palestinians and Danes are actively engaged in and supporting The Danish House's programs, despite challenges posed by the ongoing genocide in Gaza and a prolonged funding pause from the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
 - We focused on enhancing local ownership by creating 85% of content through collaboration with external Palestinian and Danish writers, graphic designers, and other creatives to strengthen cultural narratives.
 - Implemented targeted outreach efforts that included unique storytelling, inspirational features on artists, and strategic social media campaigns that connected Danes and Palestinians, maintaining engagement and amplifying awareness.
 - Hosted events such as film screenings and online talks, strengthening cultural connections and fostering dialogue between the two societies, while highlighting the resilience of Palestinian communities.
 - In Spring 2024, we released the five-part podcast series *Stemmer fra Vestbredden*, hosted by acclaimed journalist Nagieb Khaja, providing intimate perspectives on life under occupation in Palestine through interviews with cultural actors and civil society representatives.
 - In September 2024, we co-hosted a cultural exchange visit by a delegation from the Tamer Institute, where Anne Sofie Allermann, who visited Palestine last year after translating and publishing one of her children's books, hosted the delegation and engaged them with various cultural and social actors in Denmark, fostering collaboration and understanding while showcasing Palestinian cultural narratives. The delegation included librarians, writers, and musicians as well as illustrators.

- **The resilience of Palestinian children (Outcome 2):**
 - Continued to build resilience among marginalized communities by creating safe and creative spaces for young women and men.
 - In 2024, we launched the "Here We Remain" project, which is completely funded by individual donations. This project provides psychosocial support through expressive arts to children affected by the Israeli aggression in Gaza, as well as to injured children who managed to flee to Egypt.
 - The project also distributes recreational kits to targeted children, enhancing their mental and emotional well-being through play and creativity.

- **In-House Activities (outcome 2):**
 - Our office continued to serve as a vibrant cultural hub, hosting a diverse range of activities that fostered cultural exchange and creativity. These included expressive arts workshops, community events, and innovative collaborative projects with international artists.
 - In addition, we addressed pressing community needs by organizing initiatives to fill and organize hygiene kits to women in Gaza.

- We also facilitated important discussions on the role of arts and the impact of funding pauses on the art and culture sector, sparking critical conversations and potential solutions.
- **Humanitarian Response (outcome 2)**
In response to the humanitarian crisis in Gaza, we initiated "Little Hearts: Humanitarian Aid for Children in Occupied Palestinian Territories," in which we:
 - Delivered essential winter supplies and recreational kits to over 3,500 refugee children in the Gaza Strip, providing vital aid amidst extreme weather conditions.
 - Offered psychosocial support and health services to children in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank.
 - Utilized art, storytelling, and creative expression as tools to support thousands of children in Gaza, promoting healing and fostering a sense of community.
- **Local Partners Producing Quality Art and Culture (Outcome 3):**
 - We initiated a project with Khazaaen social archive which aims to document Palestinian artistic and cultural movements while actively engaging youth in preservation efforts.
 - As part of this project, we had the privilege of collaborating with renowned Palestinian artist Suliman Mansour, who shared his insights and experiences. His contributions not only enriched the project but also inspired youth participants to deepen their understanding of their cultural heritage and the importance of artistic expression in the face of adversity.
- **Grant Acquisition Efforts (outcome 4):**
 - **CISU (Small Interventions):** were granted 142,068.80 DKK to translate Yahya Hassan's work into Arabic and bring it to Palestinian readers (translation + activities around the translated work).
 - **Agency for Culture and Palaces:** Applied for a grant of 30,000 DKK for the translation of Yahya Hassan's work in collaboration with Khalil Al Sakakini.
 - **CISU Engagement Pool:** we were granted 199, 502 DKK to send the exhibition "What becomes of Eid" to Denmark.
 - **Operations Day Work (Media Literacy and Youth's Voice):** we were granted 2 million DKK for fOperations Day Work, focusing on media literacy and empowering the youth's voice, for 2 million DKK.
 - **CISU (Danish Emergency Relief Fund DERF):** we were granted 999.314 DKK for humanitarian support, including winter jackets, blankets, and more for kids in Gaza.
 - Another three grants from the Danish Agency for Culture and Palaces 100,000 DKK, SportsGoodsFonden 140000 DKK, and the Municipality of Copenhagen around 55,000 Dkk to support .
 - **Memberships:** Managed to triple the number of our members in Denmark (through reepay). **Continued to strengthen community ties, tripling the member base in Denmark through effective outreach and engagement strategies.**

BIANNUAL PROGRAMME RESULTS

January - December 2024

Outcome 1

An increasing number of Palestinians and Danes are engaged in and actively supporting the programmes of the Danish House and its partners.

Two key factors profoundly shaped DHIP's operations throughout 2024, including Outcome 1. First, the ongoing genocide in Gaza and the deteriorating situation across Palestine have deeply disrupted every facet of society, directly impacting our partners and the communities we serve. Second, the prolonged funding pause imposed by the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs brought critical programme activities in Palestine to a standstill, creating substantial challenges for DHIP's ability to deliver its mission.

Despite these significant challenges, we remained steadfast in our mission to engage Palestinians and Danes in meaningful cultural exchange while supporting Palestinian culture and our programme partners and activities.

Output 1.1 Diversity and local ownership of Danish House communication platforms enhanced

Output – indicators and targets 2024

% of all Danish House stories, images, etc created in cooperation with external Palestinian and Danish writers, graphic designers, filmmakers, photographers etc

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Target	60%	80%	80%	80%	80%
Result	32%	80.45%	82.46%	85%	

Output 1.1 activities January – December 2024

A central focus for the year has been preparing DHIP's transition from a government-funded NGO toward a more independent future by 2026. This will be a gradual transition aimed at enhancing our financial resilience and adaptability in the face of the complexities within the current funding landscape. Our goal is to develop an organization that can effectively navigate these challenges while continuing to serve our community with stability and responsiveness to changing circumstances in Palestine.

We are committed to establishing a sustainable model of community support that prioritizes children's needs above all else. We firmly believe that children's welfare should be treated as a non-negotiable right, safeguarded from the burdens of politics and conditional funding. Our activities are reflected in two primary areas:

- **Cont'd Repositioning DHIP's Public Image:** Strengthened our image as a grassroots organization through strategic communications and community-focused campaigns.

- **Attracting Public Support:** Implemented targeted efforts to grow our membership and donor base via social media campaigns and outreach at public events.

These efforts are pivotal to ensuring DHIP's long-term sustainability.

Donor acquisition and memberships

Direct financial support from Danish civil society remains central to DHIP's strategy for achieving independence. Expanding our membership base is essential for maintaining engagement, ensuring democratic roots within civil society, and securing ongoing support for our mission.

In 2024, we consistently grew our membership base while strengthening efforts to attract donations. This included collaborations with Danish individuals and organizations to organize fundraising events, raffles, and donation auctions. Importantly, in Q3 2024, we launched a recurring monthly donor option, aimed at creating a more sustainable and reliable income stream.

To attract and retain members and donors, we focused on sharing impactful content through our platforms:

- **Inspirational Stories:** Highlighting the resilience and creativity of young Palestinian artists and communities, offering unique insights into their daily lives.
- **Partner Features:** Showcasing the incredible work of our Palestinian and Danish collaborators to emphasize the tangible impact of our programs.
- **Cultural Narratives:** Aligning content with international awareness days to contextualize the significance of Palestinian culture within global conversations.

These strategies have helped foster a deeper connection with our supporters, driving both financial contributions and long-term engagement, crucial for DHIP's transition to financial independence.

Social Media

Throughout 2024, our social media channels remained a vital tool for creating a shared reality between Denmark and Palestine. By sharing stories, videos, and images produced by DHIP, our partners and various artists, we aimed to provide especially Danes with insights into aspects of Palestine that are often absent from mainstream news.

Due to the imposed funding pause, DHIP had no active projects in Palestine for much of the year, limiting our ability to post project updates and milestones. Instead, we leveraged our platforms to emphasize the critical role of arts and culture in strengthening communities and building resilience. Our social media strategy focused on:

- **Partner Portraits:** Highlighting the work of partner organizations and their cultural and artistic responses to the genocide.
- **Youth Voices:** Sharing images, artworks, and short texts produced by children and youth from our target groups.

- **Cultural Significance:** Telling stories about important days in Palestine and internationally, explaining their cultural relevance.

Of the ~160 posts on social media⁸, 85% involved either our partner organizations or Palestinian artists and cultural actors, further enhancing local ownership of our platforms.

Furthermore, our social media channels were used strategically to recruit members and donors by showcasing how donated funds are utilized to create meaningful impact. Additionally, we shared relevant cultural events in Denmark and Palestine to foster cultural awareness and exchange.

During the year, we have worked on improving our output on social media in two aspects in particular; shareability and engagement by non-followers. By closely monitoring and optimizing these metrics, we aim to reach new audiences.

Events

In 2024, DHIP hosted and co-organized a series of events, both online and in-person, to amplify Palestinian voices and strengthen the connection between civil societies in Denmark and Palestine. These included:

- **Film Screenings:** In collaboration with Palestinian Cinema Days, Palestine Film Festival, Jøder for en Retfærdig Fred, and Christianshavns Beboerhus, we brought contemporary Palestinian cinema to Danish audiences. These screenings provided unique insights into Palestinian life and culture, fostering greater understanding and solidarity.
- **Online Talks:** Partnering with student organizations, we hosted a series of live online talks featuring prominent Palestinian voices. These events, broadcast to large audiences at the University of Copenhagen and Aarhus University, facilitated meaningful dialogue and strengthened connections between movements in Denmark and Palestine.
- **Cultural Exchange Visit:** In September, we co-organized a week-long visit by a delegation from the Tamer Institute, hosted by Danish author Anne-Sofie Allerman. The goal was to exchange professional knowledge and create lasting relationships between Danish and Palestinian actors in the field of arts for children and youth, so they can collaborate on joint projects in the future. The visit was supported by the Danish Institute in Damascus and the Nordic Culture Contact Globus Startup+ fund. The guests included a writer, two librarians, a musician, an illustrator, and two members of the Tamer Institute's management. A highlight of the visit was the event *Voices from Palestine* at Copenhagen University. Held in a packed auditorium, the evening featured presentations from Tamer staff, DHIP representatives, and Palestinian and Danish artists, fostering insights, dialogue, resilience, and hope.

Through these events, DHIP continued to amplify Palestinian narratives and strengthen the bridge between Denmark and Palestine, fostering understanding and solidarity across borders.

⁸ This includes posts and stories on Instagram, Facebook and LinkedIn, but excludes repurposed material (e.g. the same post across platforms or a post shared as a story).

Podcast - Stemmer fra Vestbredden

In Spring 2024, DHIP released the five-part podcast series *Stemmer fra Vestbredden*, hosted by acclaimed journalist Nagieb Khaja. Produced by DHIP and funded by CISU, the series offered audiences an intimate perspective on life under occupation in Palestine. Recorded during Khaja's journey through the West Bank in Fall 2023, the podcast features interviews with cultural actors and civil society representatives, shedding light on the challenges and resilience of Palestinian communities.

To mark the podcast launch, Khaja gave in-depth interviews to *Radio 4* and *Zetland*, where excerpts from the series were shared with a wide audience. Additionally, DHIP organized three in-person launch events, featuring talks by Khaja that further highlighted the stories and insights captured in the podcast.

Our collaboration with local artists and cultural practitioners was important in the project's success. We created a platform for their voices to be heard, amplifying their stories and perspectives through our podcast. By doing so, we showcased their cultural resilience and expertise. Many of these artists and practitioners work under precarious condition/ occupation. Despite all the challenges, they continued to create, innovate, and push boundaries, and we were honored to provide a platform to highlight their struggle.

Our collaboration not only resulted in the production of the podcast but also opened doors for future collaborations and opportunities between us and these artists. Through this project, we were able to introduce these talented individuals to new audiences, expanding their reach and exposure.

Operation Dagsværk - Voices for Hope and Solidarity

In 2023, DHIP, in collaboration with the Tamer Institute, applied to Operation Day's Work with the project *Voices for Hope and Solidarity* and was successfully shortlisted. In May 2024, the project was officially selected as the Day's Work project for 2025, earning a decisive majority vote from students across Denmark.

This significant achievement carries multiple benefits. The funds raised by the Danish youth movement will directly support Palestinian youth, while the project's preparation phase will foster collaboration between volunteers from Denmark and Palestine. This collaboration aims to deepen understanding of the living conditions faced by Palestinian youth and to co-create a large-scale campaign that will be disseminated across Denmark.

This initiative provides an invaluable platform for amplifying young Palestinian voices, enabling them to speak directly to their Danish peers. Additionally, it offers a unique opportunity to raise awareness about DHIP's mission and work within Denmark, strengthening ties between the two communities.

Output 1.1 Progress, Contributions and Lessons Learned

In 2024, DHIP focused on maintaining its role as a bridge between Danish and Palestinian communities, despite the challenges of a funding pause and limited project activities in Palestine.

A key achievement was the continued emphasis on local ownership in our storytelling, with the majority of our content created in collaboration with Palestinian and Danish contributors.

Our efforts centered on showcasing the resilience of Palestinian communities and the vital role of arts and culture in fostering hope and solidarity. Events such as the *Voices from Palestine* cultural exchange and the launch of the *Stemmer fra Vestbredden* podcast provided powerful platforms for dialogue and mutual understanding between the two societies.

These experiences highlighted the importance of adaptability, grassroots engagement, and authentic storytelling in maintaining connections and amplifying Palestinian voices during a challenging year. As DHIP prepares for its transition to become more financial independence, these lessons will remain central to our approach.

Output 1.2 The popular engagement opportunities of the Danish House further improved and marketed

Output 1.2 indicators and targets 2024

	July – Dec 2021		2022		2023		2024		2025	
	target	result	target	result	target	result	target	result	target	result
Danes joined our volunteer program	5	0	14	4	4	7	8	3/4	10	
Danish Student/Journalist took part in an educational journey to the West Bank	20	19	40	150	60	69	80	-	100	
Danes are members	200	155	300	200	350	304	400	405	500	
Danes gave a donation	600	2.254	1.000	562	500	984	500	552	500	
individuals have signed up to our newsletter	600	597	700	709	800	809	900	1.315	1.000	
individuals follow us on social media	12.800	13.489	14.000	15.288	17.000	17.300	19.000	19.670	20.000	

Output 1.2 activities January – December 2024

Danes joined the Volunteer Program

Our volunteer program suffered significantly during 2024 due to the escalations in Palestine, the official Danish security assessment of the region and the resulting restrictions on travel. We did, however, manage to successfully welcome two volunteers, while a third candidate was denied entry upon arrival.

Volunteers:

- Dalia Ali volunteered with Sharek Youth Forum
- Shanna Pedersen volunteered with Al Harah Theater
- Mads Gdahl volunteered with the Danish House in Palestine

- Mona Mishaal (denied entry upon arrival)

Danish Student/Journalist Educational Journeys

In more typical years, DHIP hosts groups of Danish students and journalists for educational journeys, providing them with first-hand insights into life in Palestine. However, the devastating genocide in Gaza and the escalating situation in the West Bank forced the cancellation of all planned visits in 2024. These unprecedented challenges underscored the importance of fostering understanding and solidarity through alternative platforms for dialogue and learning.

Danes as members of the Support Organization

In Q1 2024, a review of our membership database revealed that the number of active members was significantly lower than anticipated, with a discrepancy of nearly 100 members. This was due to a faulty setting that kept memberships marked as active after their expiration. The issue has since been resolved, ensuring accurate membership tracking moving forward. Despite this initial challenge, we observed steady growth in memberships throughout the year, culminating in 405: 348 active members and 57 memberships on hold - typically due to issues like expired credit cards. We are optimistic about reclaiming a significant portion of these paused memberships, further strengthening our base of support.

Danes Giving Donations

2024 Bank transfer donation: 361⁹

2024 SMS donations: 44

2024 Billwerk membership account donations: 37

2024 Billwerk fundraising account donations: 110

In 2024, 552 Danes generously contributed to DHIP, reflecting strong and continued support for our mission to strengthen civil society in Palestine. These contributions came from a mix of smaller individual donations, funds raised through external events in Denmark, and larger amounts from organizations. A significant milestone was the launch of our recurrent donor option in late Q4,

⁹ Please note that the actual number of individuals who contributed donations through direct transfers is much higher than the figures presented here. Our analysis is based on the number of transactions; however, many of these transactions stemmed from events that included multiple contributors. In these cases, the total funds collected were consolidated and transferred by a single individual, which may not accurately reflect the true number of donors.

which we anticipate will yield a significantly better ROI compared to individual donations over time.

Our fundraising efforts took place against the backdrop of the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Gaza. While the heightened awareness and urgency surrounding the crisis likely motivated many to donate, the increased competition from other organizations working in the region posed additional challenges. Despite this, the support we received underscores the trust and solidarity that Danish civil society continues to place in DHIP's work.

Newsletter Sign-ups

By the end of 2024, the number of newsletter subscribers reached 1,315, reflecting steady growth in this key communication channel. The DHIP newsletter continues to perform strongly across all relevant metrics, serving as an effective platform to share in-depth stories, updates on current projects, and invitations to events. This approach has helped to deepen connections with our core audience, reinforcing their engagement and support for our mission.

Followers on Social Media

In 2024, DHIP's social media platforms (Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn, and YouTube) reached 19,670 followers, exceeding our target for the year. Engagement metrics for both organic posts and paid advertisements performed well above industry benchmarks, reflecting the success of our efforts to connect with and engage diverse audiences.

Output 1.2 Progress, Contributions and Lessons Learned

2024 was a year defined by significant challenges and hard-earned progress. The worsening humanitarian crisis in Gaza and escalating aggressions in the West Bank shaped the realities of our work, limiting some of our core activities while underscoring the importance of DHIP's mission. Despite these obstacles, we found ways to sustain and strengthen our connections with Danish and Palestinian communities.

Through our engagement with volunteers, members, and donors, we continued to foster solidarity and understanding. The steady growth in our membership base, the expansion of our communication platforms, and the unwavering support from Danish civil society remind us of the deep commitment shared by our supporters. These contributions reflect a shared belief in the power of art, culture and grassroots collaboration to create lasting impact. The limitations we faced in hosting volunteers and educational journeys highlight the importance of flexibility and innovation in maintaining engagement. We were reminded of the value of alternative platforms for connection and the need to adapt our approaches in a rapidly changing context.

Outcome 2

The resilience of girls, and boys, young women and men strengthened in challenged communities targeted by the Danish House and its partners.

Output 2.1 Cultural and creative capabilities for the most marginalized girls and boys, young women and men in vulnerable communities including in and around Area C, East Jerusalem and Gaza strengthened.

Again, for this outcome two key factors significantly influenced the progress of Outcome 2 throughout 2024. First, the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Gaza and the donors pause that led to the suspension of core projects with our strategic partners. This disruption necessitated a reliance on donations from individuals, which primarily supported humanitarian interventions. While we are grateful for this support, it has posed challenges in assessing our indicators at the outcome level, as the pause in core activities has made it unfeasible and unrealistic to measure impact at this stage.

As our core projects have only recently resumed activities at a very small scale, we anticipate that comprehensive measurements will be possible by the end of 2025. These early-stage initiatives, while vital, have not yet reached a level that allows for thorough evaluation or meaningful impact assessment.

Output 2.1 indicators

- # Girls and boys, young women and men participating in expressive arts activities
- Reported increase in cultural and creative capabilities in the sample communities reached by the Danish House and its partners, incl. outreach festivals

Output 2.1 targets 2024

- 30% increase in the number of Girls and boys, young women and men participating in expressive arts activities
- Women, men, girls and boys in sample communities report increase in cultural and creative capabilities

Output 2.1 activities January – December 2024

In the face of unprecedented hardship in Gaza, where the ongoing aggression has devastated lives and communities, the mental well-being of children is a critical concern. The trauma inflicted on these young individuals will impact them for generations, making it imperative to address their psychosocial needs. "Here We Remain" is a collaborative initiative between The Danish House in Palestine (DHIP) and the Tamer Institute for Community Education, dedicated to supporting young Palestinians in processing their experiences and building resilience through creativity and community engagement. The project is set to continue in 2025.

This initiative focuses on providing psychosocial support to children and youth affected by the ongoing genocide in Gaza and Egypt through expressive arts programs. By creating safe and supportive learning environments, the project promotes the growth, psychosocial well-being, and resilience of children and youth—addressing the urgent need for safe spaces where they can express themselves during this crisis. This effort is especially critical for those who have spent over a year without access to schools or any form of education due to the Israeli occupation, which has resulted in the bombardment of universities in Gaza and the conversion of schools into shelters for displaced people.

Here We Remain (Providing Psychosocial Support to Palestinian Children and Youth)

The project encompasses a variety of activities designed to provide vital psychosocial support through creative expression, with specific initiatives including:

1. Expressive Art and Creative Writing Workshops

Tamer Institute has successfully launched four creative paths—two focusing on creative writing and two on expressive arts—benefiting a total of 77 children (58 girls, 19 boys) aged 9 to 16. These workshops, held in displacement camps and shelters, provide a safe environment for children to articulate their emotions and experiences. Participants engage in storytelling, writing diaries about their realities, and creating art that reflects their thoughts and feelings. For instance, in Al-Qarara and Khan Younis, children have shared profound reflections on life before and after the outbreak of Israeli aggression.

- **Creative Writing with Facilitator Rawan Hassouna** – Displacement Camps in Al-Qarara, Khan Younis
- **Creative Writing with Facilitator Mahmoud Al-Ja'bari** – Displacement Camps in Mawasi Khan Younis
- **Expressive Arts with Facilitator Abeer Jibril** – Displacement Camps in Deir al-Balah
- **Expressive Arts with Facilitator Cleopatra Naim** – Displacement Camps in Sultan Mahmoud Tent gathering, Mawasi Khan Younis

2. Alphabet of War Path

This innovative activity focuses on compiling a written and illustrated dictionary using vocabulary unique to children's experiences during the conflict in Gaza. It serves as a powerful tool to understand the social and emotional connotations of their lived experiences. Currently, Tamer Institute is engaging 62 children (52 girls, 10 boys) across three groups in this activity, creating narratives that reflect their challenges.

3. PSS through Creative Writing and Drawing Paths in Egypt

Tamer Institute has finalized preparations to launch two creative writing and expressive arts paths for Palestinian children displaced to Egypt during the ongoing genocide, in collaboration with ADEF, an organization supporting Palestinian refugees.

4. Emergency Recreational Kits Distribution

To support displaced children, Tamer Institute is preparing to distribute emergency recreational kits in collaboration with organizations like the Red Cross. These kits will include resources to help children cope and provide distractions from the stress of their circumstances. Tamer's coordinator in Egypt is working to identify displaced and injured Palestinian children through hospitals and community organizations.

5. Cultural Productions

Tamer Institute's cultural production process is ongoing, resulting in the creation of five books (two by children, two by established authors, and one translated), among other literary outputs.

6. Seminar by the Youth Teams

Tamer's youth teams are organizing seminars focusing on the act of writing during times of genocide to promote hope, resilience, and life. Moreover, workshops and discussions on research concerning "The Alphabet of War" are being prepared.

7. Artistic and Cultural Productions by the Youth

Tamer Institute has launched podcast production initiatives with 30 displaced Palestinian youth, documenting personal experiences during the ongoing aggression while developing skills in audio production and storytelling.

By focusing on these tailored activities, the "Here We Remain" project aims not only to provide immediate psychosocial support but also to lay a foundation for long-term resilience and empowerment among children and youth in Gaza and Egypt. Funded entirely through donations from individuals and organizations in Denmark, this initiative showcases the solidarity between Danish and Palestinian communities, coming together to support the mental health and well-being of those most affected by the ongoing crisis.

Little Hearts: Supporting Gaza's Children This Winter

In the wake of ongoing aggression and displacement, the children of Gaza are facing one of their most challenging winters yet. Many families have been forced into overcrowded tent cities, carrying with them only the bare essentials as they flee their homes. Exposed to the biting cold without adequate shelter or warm clothing, these vulnerable children endure profound hardship during these harsh months. In response to this urgent humanitarian crisis, the Danish House in Palestine in collaboration with the Tamer Institute for Community Education, launched the "Little Hearts" project. This initiative, which began implementing in November 2024 due to the earlier pauses, is funded by the Danish Emergency Relief Fund (DERF) and in-kind contributions from individuals.

The "Little Hearts" project is designed to provide essential winter items and psychosocial support to displaced Palestinian families in Gaza and the West Bank. It aims to directly address the immediate needs of 3,500 vulnerable children and their families through the distribution of winter jackets, hats, and gloves—items that mean much more than mere survival. In makeshift tents without reliable heating, these provisions offer dignity, warmth, and a reminder that these children have not been forgotten amidst the devastation.

- **Project Achievements:** The "Little Hearts" project has achieved significant milestones in its first phase of implementation. Despite operational challenges, the project successfully procured and distributed 2,500 winter kits and recreational kits to displaced families in Gaza. Each kit included essential winter clothing items tailored to meet the immediate needs of vulnerable children.
- **Future Direction:** While the achievements highlighted above reflect our commitment to meeting the immediate needs of Gaza's children, the "Little Hearts" project will continue

its outreach and support through May 2025. Future endeavors will focus on the well-being of those affected by the ongoing crisis.

When You Visit My City Book

In late 2023, we collaborated with different Palestinian artists (writer, illustrator) to create an interactive book for children. The book, entitled "When You Visit My City," features 12 Palestinian cities, each described from a child's perspective, highlighting their unique characteristics. This project aimed to introduce Palestinian children to the beauty, history, and cultural significance of Palestinian cities through a poetic and imaginative lens. The book holds deep significance in the current context, where many children in Palestine have been deprived of the chance to visit cities outside their villages due to the Israeli occupation and its network of checkpoints. Through this project, the children were given an opportunity to reconnect with their homeland—at least through the power of imagination and poetry.

The project's activities were designed to engage children creatively and promote a deeper understanding of their cultural heritage.

- **Workshop with Children in Farkha Village:** The project began with a workshop held in the village of Farkha, near Salfit, as part of a summer camp. The event was attended by the poet, Dalia Taha, and the illustrator, Lubna Taha. They engaged the children in creative activities inspired by the book, sparking their imagination and curiosity. Fifty copies of the book were distributed during this session, allowing the children to explore its poems and illustrations.

Children interacted with the book in unexpected ways, turning its illustrations and poetic phrases into playful guessing games. One child would describe a city or recite a line from the book, and others would guess which city was being referenced. This interaction showed how the book could be both a poetic journey and a tool for fostering creative play.

- **Workshop at the Palestinian Museum:** Another significant activity under the project was a workshop held at the **Palestinian Museum** during the summer. This workshop brought together children to create a collaborative mural of Palestinian cities, inspired by the poems and illustrations in *When You Visit My City*. Through this activity, the children visually expressed their connection to their cities, merging poetry, art, and imagination into a shared creative experience. The mural became a vibrant representation of Palestinian heritage and identity, as envisioned through the eyes of the younger generation.
- **Book Launch at Khalil Sakakini Cultural Center:** A formal book launch was held at the **Khalil Sakakini Cultural Center**, featuring Dalia Taha and **Ahlam Bisharat**, a renowned writer of young adult and children's literature. During the event, the speakers highlighted the importance of the book as a tool for introducing Palestinian cities from a fresh perspective, especially in light of the current political situation.

The speakers emphasized that publishing such a book at this moment in Palestinian history is vital, as many Palestinian cities are under attack by the Israeli occupation. The book serves as a reminder of the beauty, resilience, and significance of these cities in the Palestinian narrative.

During the workshops, it became evident that many children had never left their villages or towns, making the book a bridge to explore their homeland. The book also includes an activity encouraging children to write poetry about their own villages, cities, or refugee camps using techniques similar to those employed by Dalia Taha. This exercise focused on the overlooked details of their surroundings rather than mainstream elements, fostering a deeper connection to their local environment.

Output 2.1 Progress, contribution and lessons learned

In 2024, despite significant challenges, including the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Gaza and funding pauses, we remained committed to strengthening the resilience of marginalized youth in vulnerable communities. The "Here We Remain" initiative, in collaboration with the Tamer Institute for Community Education, focused on providing psychosocial support through creative expression, successfully enabling children to articulate their experiences in a safe environment. Our "Little Hearts" project addressed the urgent needs of displaced families by distributing essential winter items, reinforcing a message of dignity and solidarity amid harsh conditions. Additionally, the "When You Visit My City" project engaged children in creative activities that deepened their understanding of their cultural heritage.

These efforts underscored the importance of adaptability in response to adversity. Engaging children creatively proved vital not only for their emotional well-being but also in nurturing their resilience and connection to their cultural identity. The lessons learned during this challenging year will guide our future endeavors as we work towards resuming core programming and enhancing the capacity of young Palestinians to thrive despite the difficulties they face.

Output 2.2 The pedagogic and creative capacities of the community centre workers and librarians the community centres and libraries further strengthened.

Output 2.2 indicators

- # of community centres in hard-to-reach communities in Area C that have further strengthened their pedagogical methodologies.
- Reported increase in pedagogic and creative capacities of the community centre workers and librarians the community centres.

Output targets 2024

- Grants acquisition: Strengthening of community centers in hard-to-reach communities in Area C
- 20 community centres in hard-to-reach communities in Area C that have further strengthened their pedagogical methodologies
- 25% of selected libraries from hard-to-reach communities in Area C have developed pedagogical methodologies

Output 2.2 activities January –December 2024

As stated in Output 2.1, the pause affected our work with local partners, and we started at the end of 2024. Consequently, the indicators and achievements for Output 2.2 cannot be fully calculated or measured, as they require time to unfold until the end of 2025. Nonetheless, we initiated some activities to kickstart the projects and engaged in strategic planning with our partners, including the Tamer Institute, Al Harah Theater, and Circus School. Notably, our partnership with Film Lab, our last strategic partner, did not commence in 2024, as they required additional time to obtain approvals from the Palestinian Authority to implement projects and disburse funds. Given the usual delay in their approval process compared to other partners, we decided to launch the project in 2025.

Despite the challenges posed by the pause, we embarked on several initiatives to strengthen the pedagogic and creative capacities of community centre workers and librarians. Our efforts focused on launching the new projects with the target groups. The following projects highlight our activities during this reporting period:

Resilient and Safe Libraries for Learning

In partnership with the Tamer Institute for Community Education, we launched the Resilient and Safe Libraries for Learning project. This initiative aims to enhance the role of libraries as safe, vibrant spaces that foster creativity, resilience, and lifelong learning. The project includes training programs designed for librarians and community workers to develop critical thinking, creativity, and child-centered approaches.

Additionally, the initiative encompasses workshops for children and families, bringing them together in libraries across Palestine, including rural villages. Specialized training programs for young people will also allow them to produce cultural works, such as short films and publications.

During this reporting period, Tamer Institute successfully organized a three-day gathering for around 80 librarians. This event not only aimed to shape the direction of the year's planning but also served as a form of psychosocial support (PSS) for the librarians, who act as first aiders for children. This support was crucial in helping them feel more confident in their roles.

Palestine International Children and Youth Theater Festival

In collaboration with Al-Harah Theater, we presented the "Palestine International Children and Youth Theater" project. This initiative brings theater to children and youth in the Bethlehem and Hebron districts, focusing on building local capacities in vulnerable communities. The project includes capacity-building workshops for community facilitators to enhance their skills. It also involves producing a new play for children, which will be performed in community centers, and conducting performances in these centers to reach children.

During this reporting period, Al-Harah Theater managed to organize a 6-week training workshop for 12-14 facilitators, nominated by 5-7 selected community centers in the West Bank. This training aimed to equip them with the necessary skills to engage with children and youth through theater.

Next Generation of Circus in Palestine

In collaboration with the Palestinian Circus School, we launched the Next Generation of Circus in Palestine project. This initiative combines technical skill-building, outreach, and community engagement to support Palestinian youth in expressing themselves creatively and freely. The project includes specialized technical training for aspiring artists, social circus programs for children, and promotion of the circus impact through documentation and engaging materials. During this reporting period, the Palestinian Circus School formulated children's groups and enrolled 20 participants (12 females, 8 males) in the specialized technical training program, which is conducted at the school's venues in Birzeit. This training aims to equip young people with the skills and confidence to express themselves through circus arts.

Capacity Building through Delegation Visit

Mentioned in Outcome 1, in September we co-organized a week-long visit by a delegation from the Tamer Institute, hosted by Danish author Anne-Sofie Allerman. The goal was to exchange professional knowledge and create lasting relationships between Danish and Palestinian actors in the field of arts for children and youth, so they can collaborate on joint projects in the future. The delegation consisted of 7 guests who participated in various activities and meetings with Danish professionals in their respective fields.

- Khaled Juma, an author born in Rafah, Gaza, has published 37 books, including 22 for children and various poetry collections. He has written over 100 songs and conducted numerous workshops in creative writing, journalistic editing, and oral storytelling. Khaled engaged in meetings and workshops with Danish authors and professionals at cultural institutions, discussing his authorship and exploring the education systems in both Denmark and Palestine.
- Baraa Alwoor, a Palestinian illustrator from Gaza, specializes in children's and youth literature. She has received multiple international awards for her illustrations and works as an educator and organizer of artistic workshops for children and adults. During her visit, Baraa delivered a presentation on her artistic experiences and participated in collaborative workshops with Danish illustrators and authors, fostering cultural exchange and professional connections.
- Amani Abuarish, a librarian from Beit Ula in Hebron, is educated at Hebron University and focuses on engaging children through storytelling, theater, and creative activities. Amani visited several libraries in Denmark, including Lyngby Main Library and Gentofte Main Library, where she gained insights into new initiatives, such as a Silent Book library. She also shared her experiences in promoting children's literature in a panel debate at the Manuscript School for Children's Fiction.
- Zeinab Amarneh, who currently works at Al Khuljan Library in Jenin, collaborates with children on various activities and promotes artistic hobbies. Throughout her visit, Zeinab had the opportunity to network with Danish librarians while also discussing her role in nurturing children's literature during the panel debate at the Manuscript School for Children's Fiction.
- Renad Qubbaj serves as the General Director of Tamer Institute for Community Education in Palestine, where she focuses on creating a safe, expressive learning environment for

children and advocating for their rights to culture and well-being. During her trip, Renad attended several meetings and events, including discussions with Operation Dagsværk about future collaborative projects. She also presented Tamer's initiatives at a public event at the University of Copenhagen, further expanding her professional network.

- Eman Sharabati coordinates the Publishing and Knowledge Production Units at Tamer Institute and is active in Palestine's cultural sector. Eman participated in meetings with organizations like the National Knowledge Center for Reading and engaged in workshops that allowed her to connect with Danish cultural professionals, sharing insights and experiences.
- Mohammed Abunassar, a musician with a performance arts education, composes songs and has a passion for music, especially folkloric styles. He engaged in various music-related activities during the visit, including a recording session with Danish musicians Peter Kibsgaard and Kim Jezus, which provided him with new perspectives on Denmark's music scene and opportunities for collaboration.

Output 2.2 Progress, contribution and lessons learned

All projects under this output have recently begun, marking the initial stage of our theater and circus initiatives. We are currently focusing on establishing strong training for librarians and community facilitators to prepare them for their roles in supporting children. The early engagement of local youth in circus training has generated excitement and interest, indicating a promising start. Initial insights suggest that community involvement is important for building ownership of these programs, and as we embark on this journey, we recognize the importance of ongoing feedback to shape our activities effectively.

Outcome 3

Palestinian civil society organizations working with art and culture further strengthened to contribute to freedom of expression and cultural life in Palestine

Similar to Outcome 2, Outcome 3 has also been significantly impacted by the financial pause and the challenges faced by Palestinian civil society organizations, particularly within the art and culture sector. The ongoing struggles for freedom of expression and cultural identity have underscored the urgent need to strengthen the capabilities of these organizations to ensure their vital contributions to the cultural life of Palestine. Despite the obstacles, our commitment to empowering Palestinian artists and cultural practitioners remains unwavering.

Output 3.1 The collaboration between and the organisational capacities of Palestinian civil society organisations enhanced

Output indicator 2024

Increase in the collaboration and the organisational capacities (internal governance, fundraising, M&E etc.) between the civil society partners supported by the Danish House

Output 3.1 target 2024

- 100% achievement against agreed annual milestones for organisational development

Output 3.1 activities January –December 2023

While no formal capacity-building initiatives were conducted during this period, we provided support by connecting one of our partners with a volunteer. Shanna, a Danish artist, dedicated her time to help Al Harah Theater in their capacity-building effort.

Output 3.2 Young talented Palestinian artists and cultural practitioners' abilities to advocate for freedom of expression and cultural life is strengthened

Output indicator 2024

- # of Young talented Palestinian artists and cultural practitioners' participating in workshops
- Productions/documentations of civic space violations/ art work/ testimonies

Output 3.2 target 2024

- 20% increase in the number of young talented Palestinian artists and cultural practitioners' participating in workshops
- 20 productions/documentations of civic space violations/ art work/ testimonies

Output 3.2 activities January –December 2023

The Danish House in Palestine (DHIP) team actively engaged in numerous meetings within the cultural sector, particularly focusing on the importance of freedom of expression in Palestine. These discussions followed the financial challenges the sector has faced, exploring alternatives and reinforcing the seriousness with which the community regards this topic. Given that the essence of cultural work lies in expression, ensuring support for this fundamental right is crucial.

Upshot Movie: In 2023, we partnered with Hanna Attallah to produce "Upshot," a film directed by Maha Haj and featuring a talented cast, including Mohammad Bakri, Areen Omari, and Amer Hlehel. The narrative centers on Suleiman and Mona, a reclusive couple whose isolated existence is disrupted by a visitor bearing painful truths from their past. With profound themes of grief and resilience, the film interrogates the emotional toll of war while emphasizing the personal and collective trauma experienced under occupation.

"Upshot" is set to have its world premiere at the prestigious Locarno Film Festival 77th Edition, with screenings in Palestine organized for 2025.

Stories from Memory: The Palestinian Artistic and Cultural Movement Archive:

In collaboration with Khazaaen Social archive, this project is dedicated to documenting artistic and cultural movements in Palestine, aiming to preserve the legacy of these movements for future generations. A key focus will be on tracking the experiences of artist Suleiman Mansour, with goals to document at least 500 materials related to his significant contributions to Palestinian art history. Within this reporting period includes training for 12 young graduates and university students to engage them in the vital task of documenting societal memory, cultural heritage, and historical narratives through creative expression. The collection of materials is scheduled for publication in 2025, enriching the preservation of Palestinian culture.

Output 3.2 Progress, contribution and lessons learned

In reflecting on the progress made in Outcome 3, it is essential to highlight the crucial intersection of art, culture, and freedom of expression in Palestine. Over the past year, efforts to strengthen Palestinian civil society organizations in the arts and cultural sectors have yielded some positive results; however, the overarching theme remains the ongoing challenges to freedom of expression that continue to affect these endeavors.

The discussions within the cultural sector have increasingly revealed a concerning trend: the very notion of freedom of expression is coming under scrutiny. As Palestinian artists, cultural practitioners, and civil society organizations navigate a complex landscape, they find themselves facing barriers that question their ability to express themselves freely and authentically. This has sparked serious conversations about the role of art in activism and the responsibility of cultural actors to advocate for their rights and the rights of their communities.

In our efforts to build capacity and enhance collaboration among Palestinian civil society organizations, it has become clear that the need for unity and collective action is more critical than ever. Many artists express a shared anxiety over the implications of financial constraints, censorship, and political pressures on their creative works. The restrictions imposed by external forces—notably those affecting funding and support—have forced cultural organizations to reconsider their strategies and approaches. This highlights the necessity of resilient structures that can withstand these pressures while continuing to promote freedom of expression.

During 2023, we hosted numerous discussions and workshops focusing explicitly on the importance of freedom of expression. These gatherings not only served as platforms for sharing experiences but also became spaces to articulate and confront the issues at hand. Participants emphasized the essential role of the arts in documenting societal realities and political landscapes. However, they also underscored the irony that the very support that should empower their voices often comes with constraints that diminish their capacity to speak freely.

In conclusion, this year has underscored the importance of advocacy and the need to protect the rights of artists and cultural practitioners. As we move forward, reinforcing our commitment to uphold these fundamental principles will be crucial in ensuring that the vibrancy of Palestinian artistic and cultural life prevails amidst adversity.

In House activities

This year has been particularly vibrant at the Danish House in Palestine, as demand for our open space has significantly increased. Numerous artists and initiatives have reached out to utilize the facilities for both daily and monthly activities, fostering a dynamic cultural environment.

We are proud to have hosted a variety of engaging programs, including:

- **Malath by Mais Wael:** This initiative aimed to facilitate healing through art, offering a total of 48 workshops that provided participants with therapeutic creative outlets.

- **Theater Game Development:** We welcomed a group of young creatives to collaborate on a new theatrical game, culminating in two dynamic workshops that encouraged innovation and teamwork.
- **Sisters for Gaza:** This initiative, spearheaded by Palestinian women, focused on sending hygiene kits to women in Gaza. We organized a successful packaging session, bringing together community members for a meaningful cause.
- **Crafting Workshops by Shahd Suboh:** Offering a series of 13 informative and hands-on workshops, Shahd Suboh led participants in exploring various crafting techniques, fostering creativity and skill development.
- **Laween Initiative:** Led by a collective of young Palestinian artists, this series of four workshops focused on the art of storytelling, empowering participants to express their narratives and cultural heritage.

Outcome 4

The Danish House has transitioned into an NGO with a more solid and diverse funding base

Output 4.1

The Danish House has increased its cash and grant's income

- **Strategic Focus on Financial Independence:** We strategically emphasized the expansion of our donor base to achieve more financial independence. By cultivating stronger connections with individual donors and new donors our organization aims to ensure the sustainability of its programs and the long-term impact of its mission.
- **Grant Achievements:** We successfully secured several grants, including those from CISU for Small Interventions and the Engagement Pool, the Agency for Culture and Palaces, Operations Day Work focusing on Media Literacy and Youth's Voice, the Danish Emergency Relief Fund (DERF), the Danish Agency for Culture and Palaces, SportsGoodsFonden, and the Municipality of Copenhagen.
- **Membership Growth:** In alignment with Outcome 1, we successfully tripled our member base in Denmark. This growth was achieved through effective outreach and engagement strategies, which not only strengthened community ties but also enhanced overall organizational involvement.