

البيت الدنماركي في فلسطين
التقرير السنوي 2013

The Danish House in Palestine
Annual report 2013



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welcome

dear friends, partners and colleagues,

Another year has passed and it is time for yet another annual report. 2012 became 2013 and brought along new projects, activities and visitors. After three years in our beautiful old house in Ramallah al-Tahta, you no longer have to say you want to go to Falafel Abu Khalil (unless you are craving their wonderful falafel), to find us. Now, you can just say you are going to the Danish House in Palestine and most taxi drivers will know where to find us!

In 2013, we focused on creating projects with activities in both Denmark and Palestine. Border-crossing words, our writers exchange, started off in Denmark with an event in the Royal Library on a stormy night in October 2013. The writers will all meet again in Palestine in May 2014. Activities in Denmark are also planned for other projects initiated in 2013 and our Photo-marathon 2013 exhibitions in Denmark were a great success showing Danes all over the country the winning photos and a different side of Palestine. The Palestine Photo-marathon also brought us to Gaza for the first, but definitely not the last time.

Our two-year project Design in Context continued in 2013 and will end in 2014. With a one-year exhibition, study trip to Denmark and workshops throughout the year, the participating young design students and craftswomen as well as the Danish and Palestinian designers are motivated for the last part of the project where the aim is to develop products in groups.

Many groups have visited us in 2013. Students, teachers, tourists and many more. We appreciate every visit and encourage even more to visit us in 2014. We are also very happy that Danish and international politicians have discovered us and visit us on a regular basis to learn about our work.

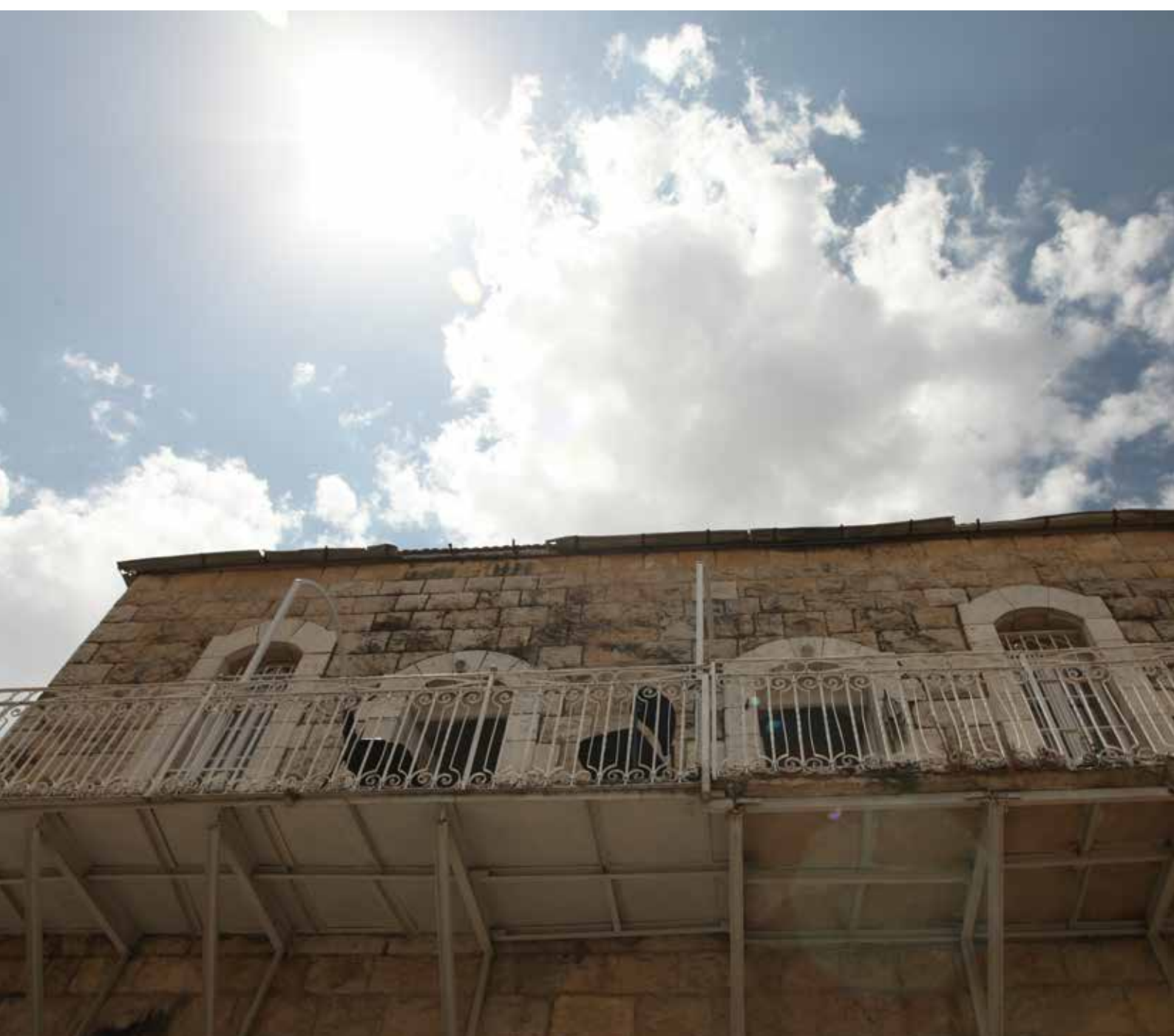
With Danida funding for projects and activities in place for 2013, we worked to ensure financial sustainability for the Danish House in Palestine from 2014 and onwards. With a strong political focus on Palestine and increasingly also on the Danish House in Denmark, we are optimistic towards the future.

In 2013, we also had to say goodbye to directors Christian and Birgitte Balslev-Olesen. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their brief but significant stay in Palestine. A thank you also to each and everyone who took part in our projects in 2013, visited us, went to our exhibitions in Denmark, participated in our events or in any other way helped us get to where we are today. Thank you also to our members in Denmark, our board, our advisory committee, our volunteers in Palestine as well as in Denmark and all of our partners. And last, but in no way least, thank you to our dedicated staff and interns. Without all of you there would be no Danish House in Palestine.

All in all, we have great expectations for 2014 and hope to be able to continue building bridges between Danes and Palestinians.

Salamat,

Karen Nordemann
Director



about us

“Our vision is to increase the mutual understanding and appreciation between Danes and Palestinians.”

the danish house in palestine

Creative. Passionate. Curious.

Those are the words that best describe the Danes and Palestinians we work with everyday. They inspire us and they are the reason why we do, what we do!

Bringing people together is what we do. We create professional, cultural and educational exchange between Danes and Palestinians. Between nurses, mechanics and journalists. Between artists, designers and writers. Between schools, institutions and organisations. We create the framework and you fill it out. It's as simple as that!

We also want to tell the stories about what happens when Danish and Palestinian professionals meet and cooperate, in Denmark and Palestine, in schools and organisations, in the field and in the office.

If you want to know more about the work of the Danish House in Palestine, go to our website www.dhip.ps or find us on Facebook www.facebook.com/pages/The-Danish-House-in-Palestine-DHIP

cooperation



border crossing words: writers exchange

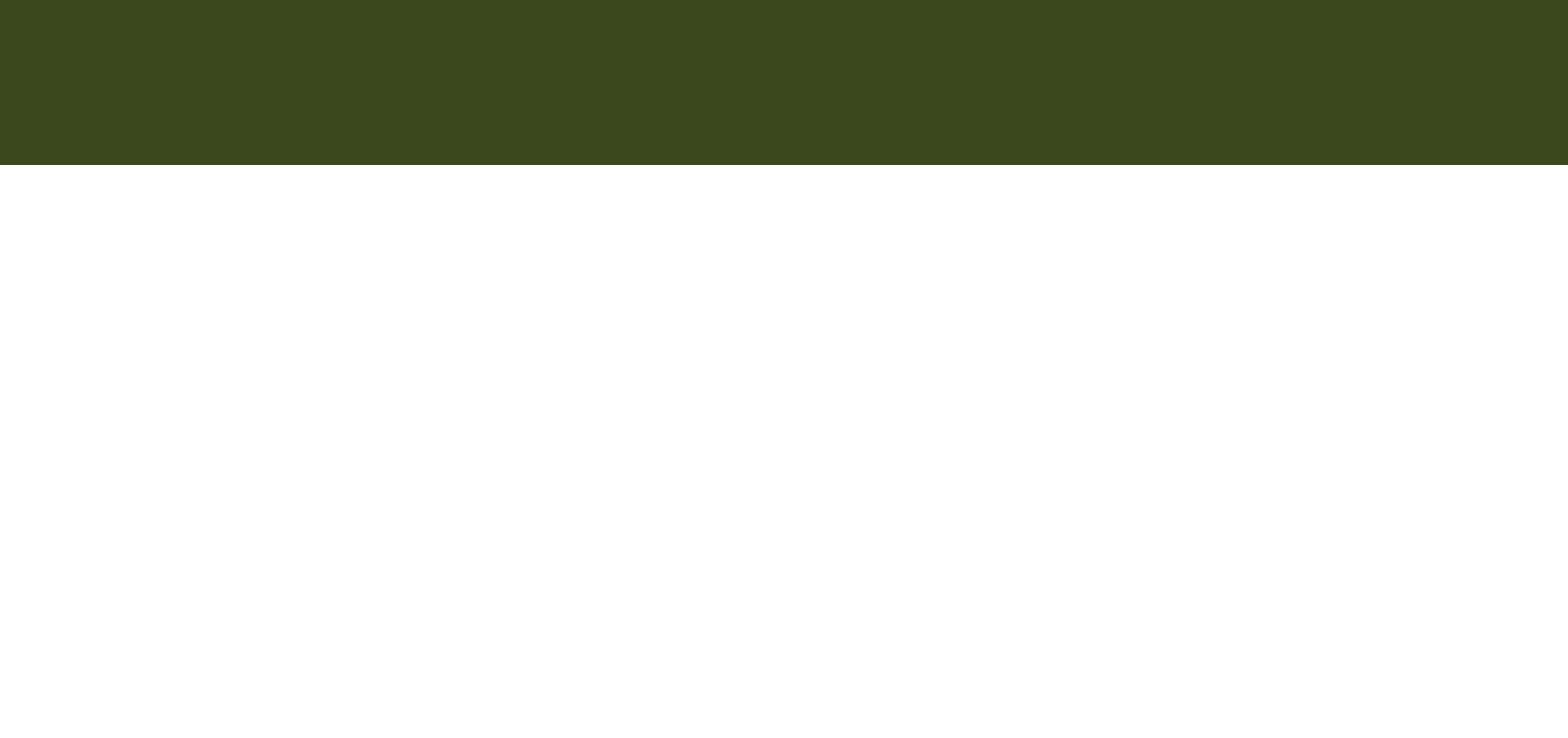
As Danish poet, Piet Hein wrote: Nobody's a prisoner when the thought is free. Perhaps this statement is the common ground for the participating writers in this exchange between Danish and Palestinian writers.

In October 2013, the first part of the writers exchange project Border-crossing Words took place in Copenhagen. Eight Danish and Palestinian poets and writers – Nathalie Handal, Najwan Darwish, Yahya Hassan, Kamal Boullata, Hanne-Vibeke Holst, Janne Teller, Martin Glaz Serup and Lone Kühlmann – met in words and discussions for a week in Denmark.

The project culminated in a major public event at the Royal Danish Library the Black Diamond on October 26, 2013.

The second part of the project will take place in May 2014 when the Danish writers are invited to Palestine to participate in PalFest's events and meet their Palestinian colleagues.

The project is a cooperation between PEN Denmark, PalFest and the Royal Danish Library the Black Diamond with the Danish House in Palestine. The project was supported by the Danish Center for Culture and Development (CKU) and Danida.



“We can have technical discussions - almost without words. We have learned, that it doesn’t matter that we speak different languages, when we share professional skills.”

- Lennart Høy, carpenter and participant

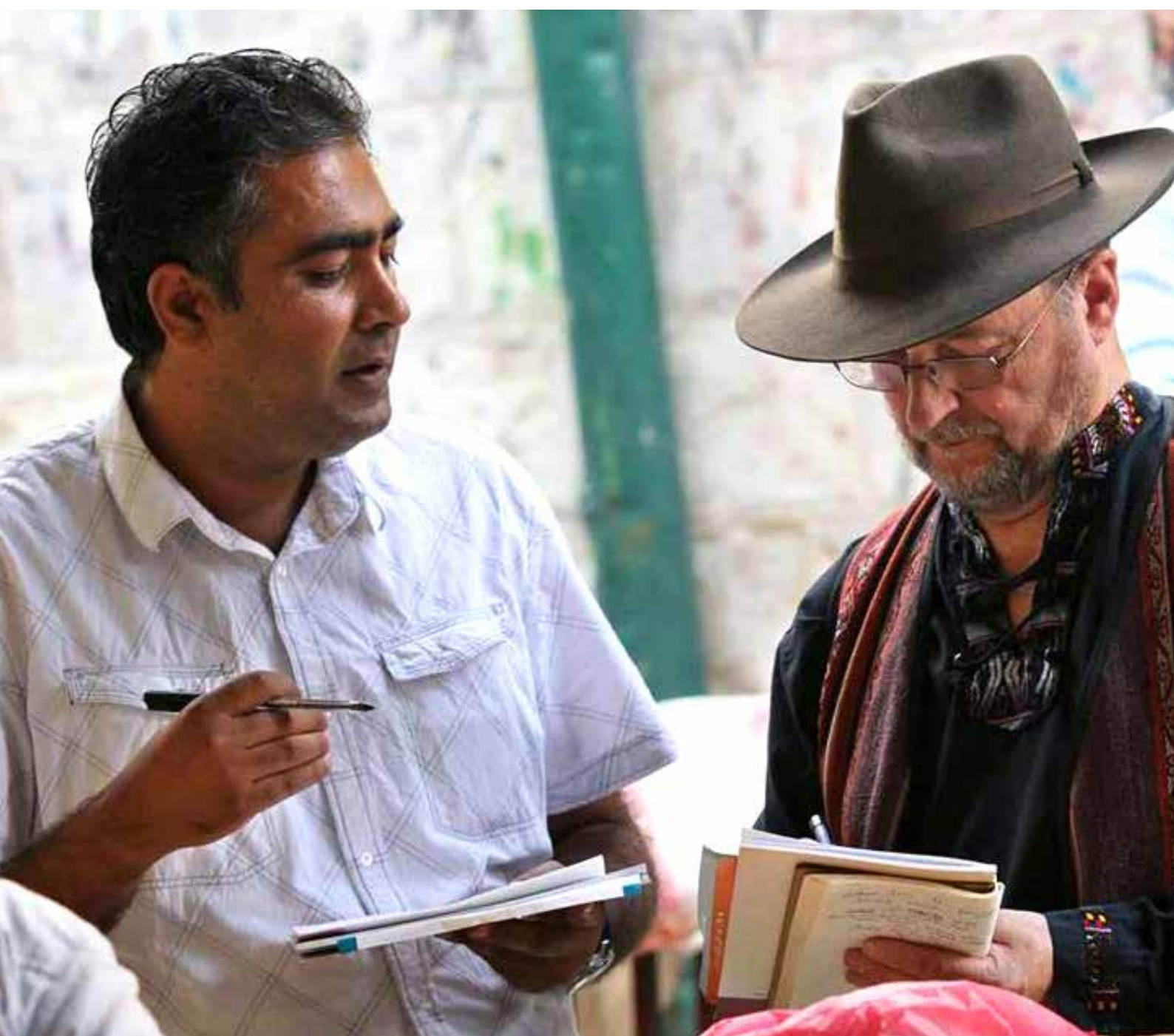
playground

In March 2013, the carpenter Lennart Høy and the cabinetmaker Helle Johansson arrived in the city of Qalqilya located in the northern West Bank to participate in the exchange project Playground.

In cooperation with project coordinator Lina Boukhari, carpenter and teacher Ayman Bahsh and students from Al Amal Association vocational school for the deaf, they build a playground for the orphanage Dar al-Iman in Qalqilya using both Danish and Palestinian techniques and materials.

The playground was inaugurated on April 5, 2013, with sunshine, lunch, speeches and lots of playing children. The project is scheduled to be continued in a new location in Palestine, and Ayman Bahsh has already built another playground in the city of Nablus inspired by his cooperation with Lennart and Helle.

The idea for the exchange project came from Helle Johansson and Lennart Høy who are colleagues in Denmark. The project was supported by Follow The Women, BUPL and Danida.



"I hope the cooperation with the Danish journalists will inspire my Palestinian colleagues to focus less on politics and conflict.

- Mohammed Darahgmeh, project coordinator

journalist exchange

In September 2013, seven Danish journalists travelled to Palestine to meet with Palestinian colleagues and with them discover stories about Palestine that do not normally reach Danish media. Before meeting their colleagues, the Danish journalists had an introduction to the Palestinian situation and visited amongst other places the United Nation's office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in Jerusalem and the old city of Hebron.

The journalists worked together in pairs and visited Bedouin Camps, Universities, the Samaritans and many more places in search of stories. Working together proved to be a valuable experience for both Danes and Palestinians and the results have been more than 20 articles and radio spots in Danish media.

The visit to Palestine was the first part of a two-way exchange. The second part will happen in Denmark in April 2014, where the Palestinian journalists will go to Denmark to discover untold stories about Denmark. The project is a cooperation between the Danish House in Palestine, International Media Support (IMS) and Nairobi Klubben. The project is supported by IMS and Danida.



“I love participating in the project with the Danish House.

I love doing the moodboards; and I use them for all my new models.”

- Sandra Rabie, student at the Fashion and Textile Institute in Beit Sahour

design in context

As the second year of the two-year project Design in Context started, a small group of Palestinian design students travelled from Palestine to Denmark on a study trip to find inspiration for their second year project.

During the second year of the project, the participating design students and craftswomen will work in groups and develop a small collection based on inspiration from study trips in Denmark and Palestine.

The project, which ends in 2014, aims to energize the field of design in Palestine. During the project, Palestinian and Danish designers and craftswomen attempt to rethink traditional, Palestinian embroidery into new contexts with broader appeal.

The project is a cooperation between The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts - The School of Design, the Fashion and Textile institute in Beit Sahour, Dalia association and the Danish House in Palestine with designers Omar Joseph Nasser-Khoury, Tine Winther and Josefine Gilbert. The project is supported by KVINFO and Danida.

global school partnership

What is democracy? What does democracy mean to a Danish student and what does it mean for a Palestinian student? What does it mean to be an active part of your community? And should you *be* an active part of your community? This and much more the teachers and students in our Global School partnership project will attempt to answer while exchanging ideas and thoughts with each other in order to challenge their perceptions of their own and the other culture.

During the project selected Palestinian students will travel to Denmark and the students will share projects, papers and assignments.

The project was initiated in 2013 and will continue until 2015.

The project is a partnership between Global School Partnerships, Tamer Insitute for Community Learning and the Danish House in Palestine along with four Danish and four Palestinian Schools. The project is supported by Danida and through DEMENA Youth Pool.

culture



olive harvest

As the olives ripen in October each year, it is time for the olive harvest. During the harvest season the children get off from school to help and families gather in the fields working from sunrise to sunset. The olive production is a significant part of the Palestinian economy and it has a strong cultural, social and historical importance. The olive tree as such is reflected in Palestinian art and literature as a symbol of resilience, steadfastness, and attachment to the land.

Eight Danes accepted our invitation to experience and help with the Palestinian olive harvest 2013. They spend a week in Palestinian villages, hiking from place to place and picking olives ultimately helping Palestinian farmers bring home the harvest.

To finish off the trip and the days in the olive fields, the group participated in the annual olive festival in Jenin. With activities such as bread baking, freshly pressed olive oil tasting as well as traditional folkloric music by the bonfire, they finished the week in style.

The experience gave the eight Danes a unique insight into the Palestinian culture and the Palestinian olive production.

The Olive Harvest trip is organized by The Danish House in Palestine with hiking guide Bassam Al-Mohor. The Danish House in Palestine organises Olive Harvest trips annually.



“My goal is to have my pictures exhibited. I like to picture my country in order to allow others to see the oppression.”

- Rakan Dababse, participant in Palestine Photo-marathon 2013

palestine photo-marathon

For the second consecutive year, The Danish House in Palestine held Palestine Photo-Marathon. In 2013, the participating cities were Nablus, Ramallah, Jerusalem and Gaza City. 86 people between the ages of seven and 76 finished either the six or 12 hours competition.

Three winners of each competition were chosen by a jury consisting of Danish photographer Klaus Holting and Palestinian photographer and artist Khaled Jarrar (Palestinian photographer Fadi Aurori was also part of the jury but had to withdraw due to family illness). The themes were developed by Lara Khaldi and the Danish House in Palestine.

The winners were announced at the Danish House in Palestine on May 19, 2013, where all the winning photos as well as special mentions and theme and city winners were exhibited. Afterwards, the winners' exhibition travelled to the participating Palestinian cities and to various locations in Denmark in public libraries and cultural centres.

Palestine Photo-marathon 2013 was organized by The Danish House in Palestine with Al-Hoash Gallery Palestinian Art Court – Jerusalem, Life Hope Center for Social & Health Promotion in Nablus and The French Institute in Gaza and supported by International Media Support (IMS) and Danida.

events

Couch Talks

Continuing the success from 2012 into 2013, the Couch Talk concept brings together opinion makers from various areas to discuss and elaborate on a certain topic in a dialogue with the audience. In 2013, we had discussions on Youth Activism, Culture and Development, Photography and much more.

Compositions

The purpose of our Compositions is to bring Danes and Palestinians together in all kinds of ways for film screenings, talks, performances and more is. The Compositions in 2013 included the event Palestine in a sui- case and the film screening for the project Youth:Occupied.

Concerts

During 2013, Al-Kamandjati performed concerts at the Danish House in Palestine several times. Most successful in terms of audience numbers were the performances by their students which filled up the House every time.

Group visits

Many groups visited the Danish House in Palestine in 2013, most were educational groups with teachers and students, but also political delegations found their way to the House.

See visitors and events statistics on page 35

volunteering



"I have felt, that I was a part of a larger family in al-Am'ari.

The Palestinians are so warm and open, and that is something we could learn a lot from in Denmark."

- Simon Hansen, volunteer in al-Am'ari refugee camp

dhlp volunteers

An important part of our work is our volunteer program. Through agreements with Danish and Palestinian organisations and institutions and through our own volunteer program, annually, we greet more than 25 volunteers in Palestine. On the next page you can read about two of our Danish partner organisations.

The volunteers that come through our own volunteer program are of all ages and backgrounds. They spend up to three months in Palestinian organisations where they work with Human Rights, Legal Aid, Women and Children, in Refugee Camps and much more. They live not only in Ramallah but also in Hebron, Qalqilya or Bethlehem and many of them come back to visit us or find a way to stay in Palestine longer.

Read more on the next page.

See volunteer statistics on page 35.



action aid & UCC volunteers

action aid volunteers

Action Aid is an international organization arranging volunteer work all over the world. The Danish House in Palestine is the Danish partner organization in Palestine, which means that we coordinate and organize the stays of all Action Aid volunteers coming to Palestine and advise them during their stay.

The Action Aid volunteers stay with local host families and work within different fields such as education, health sector or social work in a refugee camp. The aim of the Action Aid program is to raise awareness about the life conditions in Palestine and to increase social responsibility.

UCC volunteers

Our health exchange program is a cooperation between Al-Quds University in Jerusalem and the Danish nursing school University College Capital (UCC). The program comprises theoretical health courses and clinical practice, and the Danish health students spend five weeks in the West Bank to learn about nursing and public health in Palestine.

The UCC program aims to prepare the students to work in an international context and to gain an understanding of the complexity of working in different cultures and settings. The program has until now only been offered to Danish students coming to Palestine, but the goal is to offer the program to Palestinian students as well giving them an opportunity to study short-term in Denmark in the future.

See volunteer statistics on page 35



organisation

staff

Permanent staff

Christian Balslev-Olesen, *Director*
Brigitte Balslev-Olesen, *Director*
Karen Nordemann, *Coordinator and Director*
Abeer Habash, *Office Manager*
Doha Jabr, *Program Coordinator*
Naela Awad, *Housekeeper*
Mohammad Awar, *Accountant*

Interns

Sofie Dahl
Bilal Al-Issa
Jonas N. Steffensen
Sofie Ramji
Aya Sartawi

boards

Board of the association DHIP

Ulla Lundberg, Chair
Jutta Helles, Vice Chair
Jens Thodberg Bertelsen
Sune Segal
Ulla Munch-Petersen
Noman Kanafani
Birgitte Rahbek
Jens Juul Petersen
Bilal al-Issa

Board of the independent institution DHIP

Ulla Lundberg, Chair
Jutta Helles, Vice Chair
Jens Thodberg Bertelsen
Sune Segal

Advisory Committee in Ramallah

Sam Bahour.
Ghassan Abdullah
Huda Imam
Samia Botmeh
Ali Khilleh
Khaled Sabawi

partners

Palestinian partners

Al-Quds University
Augusta Victoria Hospital
Birzeit University Museum
The Child Club in Jalazone Refugee Camp
Dalia Association
Dar al-Iman Orphanage
Fashion and Textile Institute (fti)
Ibdaa Cultural Center
Juzoor for Health and Social Development
Life Hope Center for Social & Health
Promotion
Nabe Elias College For The Deaf
Qattan Foundation
The Palestinian Art Court - Al-Hoash Gallery
Palestinian Red Crescent
The Palestinian Youth Association for Leadership and Rights Activation (pyalara)
Radio Ayjal
Riwaq Center for Architectural Conservation
Sharek Youth Forum
Tamer Institute for Community Education
UNRWA Hospital in Qalqilya

Danish partners

BUPL
Danish Center for Culture and Development
The Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs
The Danish-Palestinian Friendship Association
Follow The Women
Global School Partnerships Denmark
Grundfos
International Media Support (ims)
Karen Blixen Museum
KVINFO Centre for Information on Gender, Equality and Diversity
Action Aid Denmark/Mellemfolkeligt Samvirke
Nairobi-Klubben
Palung – Palestinian Youth in Denmark
Pen Denmark
The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts, School of Design
The Royal Danish Library
UCC – University College Capital
Verdens Kultur Centret

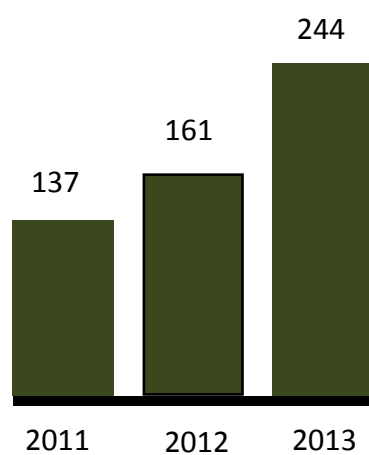
International partners

Institute Francais in Gaza, Ramallah,
Nablus and Jerusalem

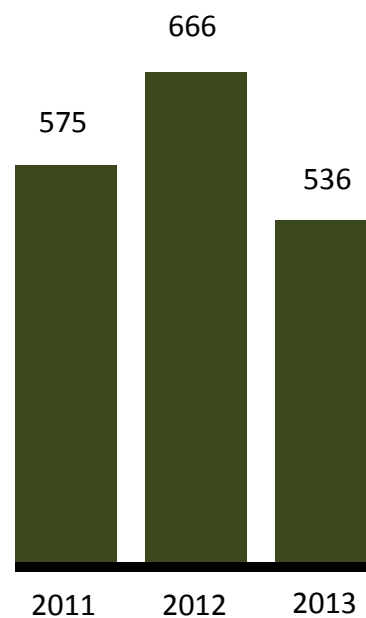
2013 in numbers

DHIP visits

overnight guests

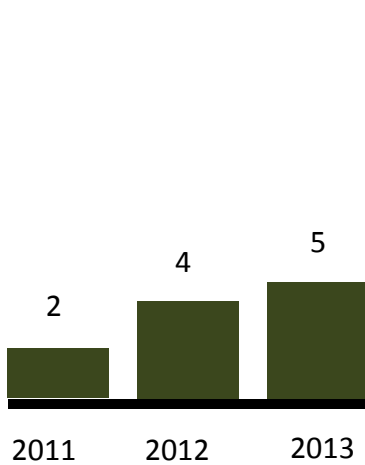


visitors

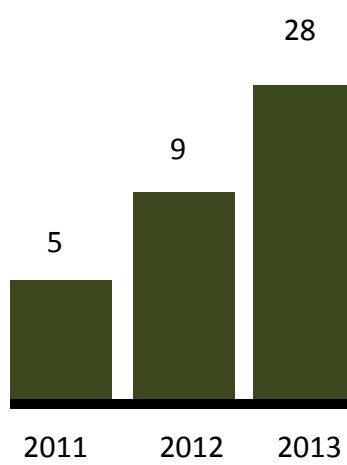


DHIP activities

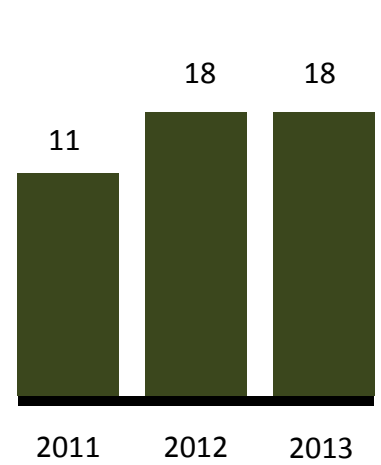
projects



volunteers



events



financial overview

2013 Statement of Activities (DKK)

INCOME

Project grants (unspent 2012)	1,395,000
Palestinian Foundation	100,000
MS - ActionAid	143,736
IMS - Journalists project	60,000
IMS - Palestine Photo Marathon	37,500
CKU	25,500
CISU	20,000
Follow the Women	13,125

Total project grants **1,794,861**

Unrestricted grants/income	
DHIP programs and Activities	180,261
Accommodation	80,500

Total unrestricted **260,761**

Total Available income **2,055,622**

EXPENSES

Projects/Activities	1,207,032
Rent and operating costs	274,907
Administration	84,555
Depreciation	12,000

Total expenses **1,578,49**

2013 balance sheet (DKK)

ASSETS

Current assets	659,360
Prepaid expenses	61,500
Fixed assets (net)	54,876

Total assets	775,736
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LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Accruals and payables	577,617
Net assets	198,118

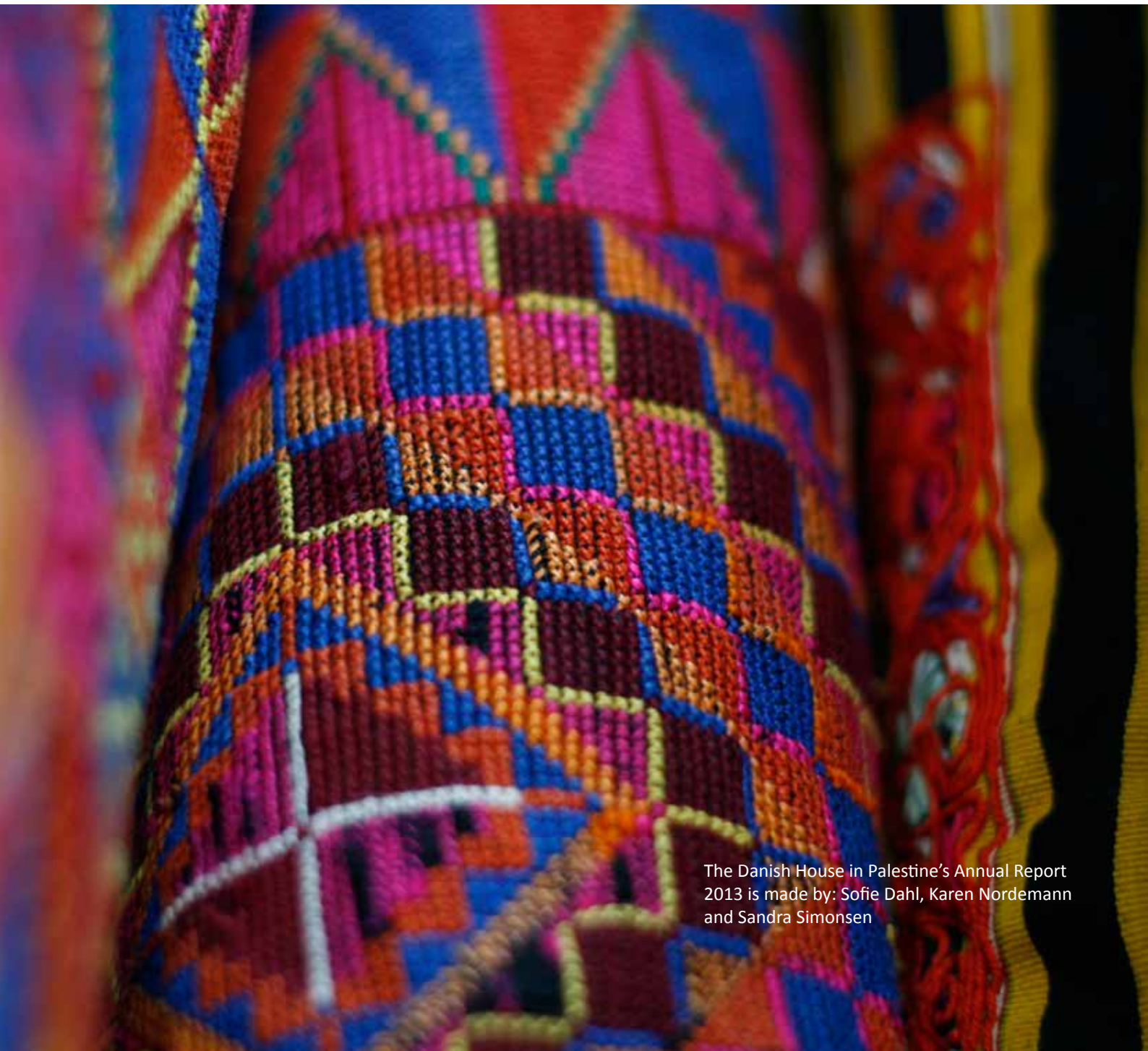
Total liabilities and net assets	775,736
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a special thank you to

Action Aid Denmark/Mellemfolkeligt Samvirke
Anne Marie Jacobsen
Al-Amal Association For The Deaf
Al-Hoash Gallery
Al-Quds University
A. M. Qattan Foundation
Augusta Victoria Hospital
Ayman Bash
Birzeit University Museum
BUPL
Canaan Fair Trade
Center for Jerusalem Studies
Child Center- Jalazon Camp
CISU
Dalia Association
Danish Center for Culture and Development
Dar al-Iman Orphanage
Dina Nasser
Dr. Akram Amro
Dunya Women's Cancer Clinic
Falafel Abu Khalil
Follow the Women
French Institute Gaza
Hebron Rehabilitation Committee
Helle Johansson
Ibda' Dhaisha
Inad Theater
International Media Support
Juzoor for Health and Social Development
KVINFO
Lena Odgaard

Lennart Høy
Majdi Hadid, Iprint
Maroof Rabba'
Nairobiklubben
OmarJoseph Nasser-Khoury
Palestine Photo-Marathon 2013 participants
Palestinian Center for Peace and democracy
Palestinian Society for Care and Development
PalUng
PRCS
PYALARA
Radio Ajyal
Ramallah Contemporary Dance Festival
Ramallah Municipality
Riwaq
Sam Bahour
Sharek Youth Forum
Tamer Institute for Community Education
The Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs
The Danish Representative Office in Ramallah
The Danish-Palestinian Friendship Association
The Fashion Textile Institute in Beit Sahour
The Life Hope Center for Social and health promotion
The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts, School of Design
Umaiye Khammash
University College Capital
UNWRA Hospital Qalqilya
Visit Hebron
Walid Abu Halaweh



The Danish House in Palestine's Annual Report
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