



Municipal Profile: AL BIREH

About the Municipality: Al Bireh is a Palestinian City adjacent to Ramallah in the central part of the West Bank, 15 kilometers (9.3 mi) north of Jerusalem. First named in history books as far back as 3500 B.C.E., Al Bireh historically served as a stopping point for caravans traveling from Jerusalem to Nablus. The municipality was first established in 1928 under the British Mandate, and is now home to over 40,000 residents.

Governance Excellence: In line with the strategy of the Palestinian local governance sector, CHF’s partnership with Al Bireh will focus on three key areas – **community participation, service delivery, and leadership development** – to support the municipality’s vision of becoming a more responsive, efficient, and effective center for governance excellence. Demonstrating their commitment, the municipality and wider community have already contributed countless staff and volunteer hours working with CHF on the city’s Strategic Development and Investment Plan and will contribute an additional \$85,000 in the coming years.

In 2013, CHF International and the Municipality of Al Bireh have begun a new partnership under the Local Government and Infrastructure Program (LGI) funded by USAID. The goal of this partnership is to further enhance the municipality’s ability to meet the needs of its citizens in a transparent and effective manner.

Community Participation & Service Delivery: Along every step of the way, CHF works with the municipality to engage citizens to get their feedback to inform local government decision-making and service delivery. The key community participation and service delivery interventions include:

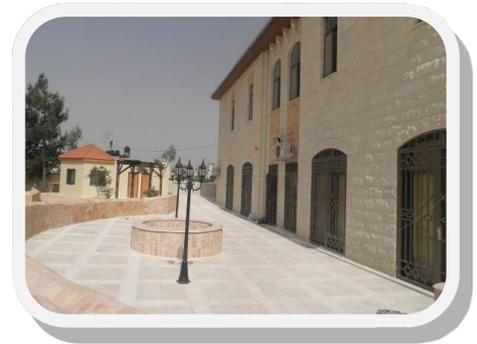
Key Interventions	Expected Outcomes
<i>Participatory Planning and Strategic Development & Investment Plan (SDIP) (2013)</i>	Community members are taking an effective role in decisions that affect their lives by participating in developing the city's Strategic Development & Investment plan that will be the guiding document for local economic and social development for the next 8 to 12 years.
<i>Citizen Service Center (2014)</i>	A Citizen Service Center is a state-of-the-art municipal facility that provides key services in an automated and transparent manner. To complement the Citizen Service Center, processes within the municipality will be overhauled to reduce time spent by citizens and staff to process requests (2013).
<i>Expansion of the Al Bireh Youth Foundation Club (2009 & 2013)</i>	With USAID funding, CHF helped expand the services available at the youth club, including a new media center, computer, music performance space and theater, and a language development unit, benefiting 1870 youth in 2009. The space was further renovated in 2013.



Photos: Strategic Development and Investment Planning workshops

“We at the Al-Bireh Youth Foundation couldn't imagine doing all this without the support of the CHF team. With the renovation, we were able to have more activities for youth...It helped us in having a better environment to work in. Thank you to CHF and for everyone who worked with us to have the best for the foundation.”

- Doha Jaber, Resident of Al Bireh City and Director of Al Bireh Youth Foundation



Renovated Al-Bireh Youth Foundation

Leadership Development: CHF will be supporting the municipality in assuming a leadership role in achieving sustainable development and developing, sharing, and planning for a longer-term vision for the community and the municipality's institutional development.

Leadership Development Key Interventions	Expected Outcomes
Municipal Strategic Corporate Plan (2013)	Based on a new municipal capacity assessment tool, the municipality will develop a Municipal Strategic Corporate Plan that outlines how the municipality will address its institutional development priorities.
GIS Spatial Data Management and Administration (2013)	This intervention will address a critical problem the municipality is facing, scattered spatial data, enabling the municipality to have the information required for physical and urban planning. CHF will also support the municipality in establishing a GIS unit for the city.
Physical Planning and Metropolitan Plan (2014)	A new physical plan for Al-Bireh and Metropolitan Plan with Ramallah and Beitunia will ensure proper planning for local development, transportation, and zoning to ensure enhanced access to public services and recreational spaces and greater environmental protection.

“We've begun our partnership with USAID through CHF because we were convinced that this partnership will have a real value add. It will enable us to take better decisions developing the capacity of the municipality, strategic planning and infrastructure...”

- Ziad Assad Taweel, Director of Al Bireh Municipality



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