

PROJECT REPORT FOR COOPERATION PROJECTS BETWEEN ECOWEEK & SHOROUC SOCIETY FOR WOMEN

A. GENERAL

NGO ECOWEEK based in Jerusalem (Israel) and Shorouq Society for Women based in Al-Azaryia (West Bank) cooperated in the years 2010 and 2013 within the framework of the ECOWEEK programs that took place on July 25-August 1, 2010 and on March 3-8, 2013.

B. PARTNERS

SHOROUC is a Palestinian non-profit organization, located in Azariya, officially established in 2002. Shorouq is committed to bringing Palestinian women into the public sphere and works with Palestinian women regardless religious or political beliefs and is dedicated to the vision of peace by supporting and training independent women to build a better future. Shorouq's vision of peace reflects the understanding that women have much to gain through proliferation of peace. Shorouq is actively building partnerships with local women's organization throughout Palestine, the region and abroad, including a small and micro-enterprises program between Israeli and Palestinian women and a small animals program to promote the local economy in Azaryia. The Shorouq Center is a safe place for women to meet and engage in education, empowerment, health and culture.

Within the framework of this cooperation SHOROUC provided:

- A local platform for cooperation in the West Bank.
- A resource for the involvement of women young professionals in the ECOWEEK activity.
- The premises of the Shorouq Center for meetings and as a design challenge.
- A point of contact and cooperation between the local authorities in Al-Azaryia and the ECOWEEK workshop team.

ECOWEEK is an international NGO started in 2005 and established as a non-profit entity in Greece and Israel in 2007 with the mission to raise environmental awareness and to promote the principles of sustainability. ECOWEEK is active in 15 countries and has members in 54 countries. ECOWEEK has been actively organizing sustainable design workshops and international professional meetings and conferences for young architects and designers throughout Europe and the Middle East since 2008 with an emphasis on sustainable design, green buildings, and programs for young professionals with a sustainability agenda.

Within the framework of this cooperation ECOWEEK provided:

- A local platform for cooperation in Israel.
- A platform for the increase of environmental awareness and the promotion of sustainability and sustainable design in the region.
- A platform for cooperation between Israeli and Palestinian young professionals.
- A platform for training and education for young professionals, and a point for learning from and networking with international peers and established professionals.
- A platform for sustainable design solutions to real local sites and venues.

C. PROGRAMS

ECOWEEK 2010 : Young Architects' Forum for Green Architecture, Community and Sustainability.

July 25-August 1, 2010

General data on the event:	This was the first event organized by ECOWEEK in the region.	
Number of participants:	55	
Number of Israelis:	29	
Number of Palestinians:	18 (incl. East Jerusalem)	
Keynote speakers:	Michael Sorkin (USA), Robert Axelrod (USA), Bjarke Ingels (Denmark), Thomas Rau (Holland), Omar Yousef (Palestine), and Thomas Doxiadis (Greece).	
Parallel events:	Site Visits:	Holy Sepulcher, Jerusalem BYU Center, Jerusalem Panel Discussion, Bat Yam Rawabi City Planning office, Ramallah Shorouq Center, Al-Azaryia
Total number of workshops:	6	

Workshop 1 theme:	The re-design of the Shorouq Center in Al-Azaryia including interior remodeling of existing center, additional extension and possibility of connecting to adjacent structure.	
Number of participants:	8	
Workshop leaders:	Dan Price (IL), Mai Haseba (PS), and Ziad Jallad (PS).	
Workshop consultants:	Elias Messinas	
Workshop products:	Preliminary design proposal with various alternative design solutions in plans, sections, elevations and 3d views of proposed designs.	
Final workshop outcome:	One of the preliminary proposals was adopted. Further developed by Palestinian architect, permit issued and implemented with the support of the Embassy of Belgium.	

ECOWEEK 2013 in the Middle East

March 3-8, 2013

General data on the event:	This was the third event undertaken by ECOWEEK in the region.	
Number of participants:	60	
Number of Israelis:	50	
Number of Palestinians:	30 (lectures) / 10 (workshops)	
Keynote speakers:	Byron Stigge (USA), MVRDV (Holland), Chris Sherwin (UK), Maciej Siuda (Poland), and Uri Gilad (Switzerland).	
Parallel events:	Exhibition 'Joining Green Spirit with Matter' at ZEZEZE Gallery, Tel Aviv Tour of Materials Library, Mediatek, Holon Tour of Al-Azaryia (West Bank) Green week at Tel Aviv Port Food Market	

Total number of workshops: 6

Workshop 3 theme:

Sustainable Pilgrimage Route in Al-Azaryia (Bethany) and the creation of sustainable solutions along the route to support the local economy, new businesses by women and to improve the ecological footprint of Al-Azaryia with environmental awareness initiatives, West Bank.

Number of participants: 10 (4 Israelis, 4 Palestinians, 2 Greeks)

Workshop leaders: Byron Stigge (USA) and Elias Messinas (IL)

Workshop consultants: Fatima Faroun (Shorouq, PS), Count Philippe Piccapietra (Order of Saint Lazarus, Jerusalem), Kassif Architects (IL) and Yoel Spiegel, URBIS (IL).

Workshop products:

Preliminary Master Plan with maps and sketches, with some preliminary architectural representations of points along the route (parking, market area, public square, environmental center and community agriculture, etc.).

Final workshop outcome:

The workshop proposals were conveyed and presented to the mayor of Al-Alazaryia and selected elements of the proposals were incorporated to the tourism master plan for Al-Azaryia, drafted by the Palestinian Ministry of Tourism.

