



Childhood Denied

Challenges in Early Childhood Development in Palestine

The Reality

Most Palestinian children not meeting their developmental potential due to

- Poverty and food dependency
85% of Gaza households food insecure (EMHJ 2013)
- Ill health, trauma and violence
60% experience violence in home (PCSB 2012)
- Inadequate nutrition, anemia and stunting
58% school children are anemic (MoEd 2012)
- Lack of stimulation and other ECD services

Key Factors

- Accessing ECD programs and services
(29%–38% of children access KG)
- Quality of care, education and development
 - Preschools physically unfit for purpose
31 children/classroom
 - Poor quality of teaching and learning
3% of teachers have education Diploma; no TT programs
 - Inadequate care and stimulation in the home and the community
- Broader sectoral issues

ANERA's Response: *Right Start!*

Renovated, upgraded
and equipped over 120
preschools





Trained almost 500 teachers





Distributed 14,000
reading packs



Trained over 10,000 parents
in positive-parenting



Next Steps

- Renovate and equip preschools
- Train teachers and institutionalize ECD training diploma
- Develop standards for ECD sector
- Revise national ECD strategy
- Continue research and build the case for support for ECD in Palestine
- Invest and expand community ECD interventions