



[Anera](#) is a registered non-governmental, non-profit international organization [established in 1968](#) to advance the well-being of communities in the [West Bank](#), [Gaza](#) and [Lebanon](#). Today, Anera responds to economic, health and educational needs of the most marginalized people and delivers humanitarian aid during emergencies. Headquartered in Washington, DC, the organization has offices in the West Bank, Jerusalem, Gaza, Beirut and, soon [Jordan](#) – giving Anera a significant presence in the Middle East.

Since establishing its main office in Jerusalem in 1976, Anera has directly implemented a wide range of development assistance programs in the West Bank and Gaza. The organization has been awarded funding from a variety of U. S. government agencies, multilateral donors (UNICEF, OFID), bilateral donors (Canada, Kuwait and Qatar), and a growing range of foundations, corporations, and private contributors.

A regional staff of more than 80 employees includes specialists in health, education, agriculture, engineering, procurement and commodity management, and community development.

## Anera in Gaza

[Gaza](#) has suffered through poverty, war and a crippling blockade that has isolated it from the rest of the world. Despite the challenges, Anera has been helping families in Gaza for over three decades.

In the early 1980s, Anera began working to stimulate job creation and develop sustainable projects. In 1985, an office opened with just three staff members. Projects focused largely on agriculture, a major source of livelihood in the region. The Gaza City Rainwater Conservation Project, a major initiative to improve water systems, started in 1989 and spanned five years. By the end of 1980s, Anera had also computerized the Gaza Chamber of Commerce.

Throughout the 1990s, Anera helped villages improve wells, cisterns and irrigation systems and also put much focus on youth education.

Today, with a staff of 10 – who all come from the communities they serve – Anera is training preschool teachers, building classrooms and water networks, and delivering relief and health care supplies in the wake of yet another war.

## Health & Relief

**In-Kind Medical Program** | For many years, Anera has received and distributed donations of [in-kind medical and pharmaceutical supplies](#) and equipment to local organizations in the health care field. Anera maintains a fully equipped and staffed warehouse in Gaza. Last year, Anera distributed 46 in-kind shipments valued at \$43 million to a wide range of governmental,



*Anera warehouse staff deliver and take inventory of a shipment of medicines to Al-Shifa Hospital in Gaza City.*

UNRWA and non-governmental institutions located not only in Gaza, but also in the West Bank and Lebanon. These donations included valuable medications such as analgesics, anti-inflammatory drugs, and bacterial agents, as well as general hospital and medical supplies.

**Emergency Relief** | Over the years, Anera has delivered [relief supplies](#) to communities affected by conflict, providing personal hygiene supplies, clothing, shoes, food packages, and kitchen utensils to families in dire need. These short-term interventions respond to unexpected humanitarian crises, such as the wars in Gaza in 2008-09, 2012 and 2014. In the few months immediately after the bombardment of Gaza in the summer of 2014, for instance, Anera delivered over \$6 million in humanitarian aid in the form of food packets, medicines, water, and hygiene kits. In 2018 to meet the increased medical needs of trauma victims related to the “Great March of Return” protests, Anera delivered over \$6 million in donated medicines to replenish depleted supplies at Gaza hospitals.



*After the 2014 war, Anera locally purchased and delivered 5,079 food parcels to families throughout Gaza.*

## Education

**Early Childhood Development** | With grants from Dubai Cares, the State of Kuwait, the Cargill Foundation and many others, Anera is leading the way in developing the first national curriculum for preschool as well as [early childhood development](#) methods in Palestine by investing in improving preschools, training teachers, producing resources and addressing wider educational issues. Anera is providing teachers with courses covering child development, child rights, learning theories, play and much more. Music, dance, drama, fine art, storytelling and handicrafts are being used to stimulate brain development and active learning. Schools and equipment are being upgraded to make them more child-friendly, stimulating and safe.

In Gaza, Anera has renovated over 100 preschools, delivered positive-parenting sessions for nearly 4,000 parents, trained 440 teachers, established reading corners in 90 preschools, and given 6,491 preschoolers book bags filled with children’s books.

## Economic Development

**Post-War Land Restoration** | Post-war assessments report that the 2014 war destroyed 51% of [Gaza’s farmland](#), greenhouses and irrigation systems. Anera’s land restoration program is needed to help revive Gaza agriculture. The project includes leveling and plowing damaged fields, installing irrigation pipes and providing olive trees and vegetable seeds to 28 families affected by the war.

**Water & Sanitation** | For decades, Anera has addressed urgent [water and sewage](#) problems in Gaza. In recent years, Anera’s largest water and sanitation projects were funded by USAID up until the current US Administration’s funding cuts to aid for Palestinians. Anera now relies on private funding and grants as well as funding from partner organizations to implement increased Palestinian access to water, sanitation and other small and medium scale community infrastructure in Gaza.



*In 2017, Anera updated Beit Lahia’s water networks, connecting homes to water and sewage lines. One of many such projects carried out by Anera in Gaza.*



The need for reliable infrastructure is especially acute now in Gaza, given the destruction of past conflicts and deepening impact of the blockade. According to the UN and World Health Organization, 97% of Gaza's drinking water is unfit for human consumption. In response to the situation, Anera has implemented dozens of water projects in Gaza, ranging from building reservoirs to improving water wells and pumping stations and connecting homes to water networks.

Following the 2014 war, which razed whole communities and cut water networks in neighborhoods and buildings, Anera undertook an emergency water system repairs project funded by Islamic Relief USA to fill the gap until larger-scale reconstruction efforts were possible. Using materials available within Gaza, Anera rapidly restored local water connections in war-damaged homes and neighborhoods, making water more accessible to 8,000 people.

**Gaza Women's Loan Fund** | With partial funding from the American Jewish World Service, Anera established the GWLF in 1995 to [provide working capital to low income women](#) to reduce poverty, create employment, and generate income. Among the poorest people in Gaza, loan recipients seek to fund micro-businesses such as food kiosks, small animal husbandry activities and dressmaking. The program has provided over 18,000 loans to more than 12,000 individuals. The GWLF has been functioning on its own since 2008, sustaining its capacity for helping women to gain a foothold in the marketplace.

## Community Infrastructure

**Home Gardens** | Four out of ten Palestinians in Gaza live in poverty with unemployment at over 50%. Youth unemployment is at a staggering 60%. Eight out of ten families have to depend on food aid and food prices are constantly rising. Starting in 2010, [Anera delivers greenhouses](#), agricultural training and equipment to scores of families in Gaza, giving individuals and families a way to put healthy food on the dinner table year-round and earn extra income. These home gardens exemplify Anera's mission to offer immediate relief and long-term humanitarian and economic solutions through the use of easily accessible resources.

**Access for Farmers** | We renovate roadways in communities across Gaza [enabling farmers to access their produce](#) and export it to markets. In Beit Lahia, Anera engineers recently rehabilitated a road by adding thicker layers of soil and mixing crushed stones with base aggregates. Anera has also constructed many wholesale markets across Palestine. Most recently, Anera built a wholesale market in the Abasan Al-Kabira area of Khan Younis, Gaza.

**Community Centers** | Anera builds public spaces and buildings throughout Palestine to promote individual development while strengthening community bonds. Our work in Gaza includes a community center in Khan Younis that was completed in 2018, as well as the Al-Mosaddar Sports Club and field, that provides a place for 1,500 local youth to have fun.

**Parks** | We turn vacant, rubble-filled lots into vibrant, landscaped [parks](#) where children can safely explore. And, in just the past seven years, Anera has built 12 parks in Gaza and the West Bank, helping to foster community bonding, emotional well-being, and to provide needed outdoor spaces for children to play and families to gather.



*Farmers like Amena are able to grow enough vegetables in her Anera-installed greenhouse to feed her family and earn a little extra income in the local market.*

## Management and Accountability

Anera brings together a unique combination of bilateral and multilateral aid, as well as private donations of both cash and in-kind support for local health institutions.

Anera is [audited annually](#) and meets USAID A-133 audit requirements. It routinely screens funders, partners and program recipients, using continually-updated software to comply with the U.S. Office of Foreign Asset Controls (OFAC – U.S. Treasury Department). Anera is a signatory to U.S. antiterrorism certification procedures and vets project partners regarding their ability to be nonpartisan and free of hidden political agendas. Field staff assesses all project partners to judge the quality of their professional skill sets.

Finally, it is important to highlight Anera’s considerable experience operating in conflict zones, such as during the past three wars in Gaza and two Palestinian intifadas. With an unrivaled depth of field experience, Anera’s staff is able to safely and efficiently carry out projects while meeting donor and project requirements.

As a result of its substantial and continuous assistance in Gaza for more than 50 years, Anera has well-established working relationships with local authorities at all levels as well as non-profits and other private sector institutions.



*Anera built this reservoir in Khan Younis, Gaza. It is a clean and reliable source of water for 70,000 people.*

### Contact us.

**Anera Headquarters**  
1111 14th Street NW, #400  
Washington, DC 20005

[1-202-266-9700](tel:1-202-266-9700)  
[anera@anera.org](mailto:anera@anera.org)  
[anera.org](http://anera.org)