



Consolato Generale d'Italia
Gerusalemme



Press Release – Gaza Strip - December 13th 2016 - Inauguration of the Children’s Land Center La Terra dei Bambini in Um Al Nasser

The Consul General of Italy in Jerusalem, Fabio Sokolowicz, and the Representative of the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation Jerusalem Office, Cristina Natoli, together with the Country Representative of the Italian NGO Vento di Terra, Gioia Benedetti, have inaugurated yesterday - Tuesday December 13th - the Children Land Center *La Terra dei Bambini* in Um Al Nasser, Gaza Strip, destroyed during the war of July 2014 and rebuilt in the framework of the Emergency Initiative 2016 funded by the Italian Cooperation for a total amount of approximately 250.000,00 Euro.

The Consul General of Italy, Fabio Sokolowicz, has recalled in his statement that the new ecofriendly Children’s Land Center - aligned with the National Early Recovery and Reconstruction Plan for Gaza 2014-2017 - will allow more than 200 families, 170 children and 200 women to attend psychosocial and educational activities.

Italy is strongly committed in the Gaza Strip through several Emergency Initiatives fostering project in sectors such as protection, WASH , IDPs, psycho-social support for a total amount of 2.120 M Euro and through a 15 M Euro soft loan for the rehabilitation of 21 buildings and reconstruction of 207 new flats (which use renewable energies and ecological systems) in the area of Beit Hanoun, one of the most affected by the 2014’s conflict.

The Representative of the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation Jerusalem Office, Cristina Natoli, took the opportunity to recall that within the new Emergency Programme 2016-2017, 1 M Euro out of 3 M Euro will be pledge for NGOs activities in the Gaza Strip in order to guarantee assistance to a population living in a dire and protracted situation of humanitarian emergency.