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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Ramallah

02/08/2016

DWRC launches a call for proposals for small grants to trade unions, informal group of workers, and CBOs through EU-funded project

Ramallah- Under the project “Enhancing Rights and Freedoms of Palestinian Workers” funded by the European Union; the Democracy and Workers' Rights Center (DWRC), the Palestinian Working Woman Society for Development (PWWS), and Italian NGO (COSPE); launched a call for proposals providing small grants of an amount ranging between 8,000 to 20,000 NIS. The overall available amount for this call for proposals is 210,000 NIS, and the deadline for applying is 29/08/2016.

The call for proposals is open to trade unions, informal group of workers, and CBOs and aims to enhance their capacity in defending their fundamental rights and freedoms, through the implementation of activities to raise awareness of rights, organization and advocacy. The proposals should target women workers and other most vulnerable workers.

In order to assist potential applicants in submitting their proposals, a two-day training workshop was organized in Gaza on (dates), it was attended by 15 male and female trade union and CBO members who were able to acquire basic skills in drafting projects and budgets. The first training day introduced participants to mechanisms for Identifying problems and priorities using the LFA approach, target groups, objectives, results & activities. On the second day of training, participants learned how to prepare an action plan and a budget. Another training course will be held in Ramallah in 06-07/08/2016.

In Mohammed Fathi Haji from the east Gaza association opinion: “the training workshop helped in developing participants’ skills and abilities, and will enhance communication with the donors in the future”.

Khawla Abu Mustafa the president of the kindergarten and daycare centers employees union in the Gaza strip who wishes to apply to the call for proposals said: “we are aiming to improve the situation of our union and strengthen its position among trade unions through this grant, to enable us to implement advocacy campaigns in the future for the application of a minimum wage for kindergarten workers”.

Ibrahim Mahmoud Abu Qaydeh said: “this training workshop is very important, especially at a time when trade unions are very weak in all respects. We hope to obtain a grant in order to strengthen unions’ position, and to improve working conditions for workers”.

The implementation of the project “Enhancing Rights and Freedoms of Palestinian Workers” started in January 2016, and will end in June 2018. It aims to contribute to the protection of human rights and freedom of association and peaceful assembly in Palestine, through awareness and training activities, technical, material and legal support to existing unions and unions under establishment, monitoring, documenting, and reporting violations of trade union rights, discrimination, and inequality issues, and advocacy activities.

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