



CTG

Committed to Good

**IMPROVEMENT OF LIFE IN GAZA
BY DELIVERY OF SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT GOALS
“CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES”**

EVENT REPORT

**Hosted by CTG
Committed to Good**
Gaza – Palestine Territory
Venue: Al Mashtal Hotel,
September 10 & 11, 2018



Since 2016, CTG has been actively engaged in the global discussion surrounding the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which were adopted by the United Nations Member States in the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit in September 2015. This workshop will be the first, of hopefully several steps globally in the near future for CTG, towards the strengthening of a Global Partnership for SDG localization, in order to find common approaches to common challenges linked to sustainable and inclusive local development.

This workshop was a welcome and timely contribution to ongoing discussions about the future of Gaza in the context of the SDGs. It gave all of us who attended an understanding of the challenges faced by Gaza's communities in their quest for an action plan for transformative change.

CTG is committed to supporting and achieving the 2030 SDGs in fragile and marginalized communities. We are confident that working on the SDGs will make a positive difference to people in Gaza by using these goals as a road map for top priority assistance.

The purpose of this event was to exchange knowledge, ideas, experiences and expectations around the challenges involved with achieving the SDGs between multidisciplinary experts and high-level practitioners from United Nations Agencies and International Non-Governmental Organisations (INGOs).

Through a combination of keynote presentations by renowned experts, round tables and parallel sessions, the workshop opened a discussion among the different

organizations and individual experts on solutions for sustainable development to transform society at local level.

It is clear that we need a unified and coherent strategy for building strong and resilient partnerships. In order to make this partnership more effective and sustainable we encouraged the creation of an SDG Council, a permanent and multidisciplinary knowledge network for the implementation of the SDGs, where all stakeholders will learn from each other. The hope is that this Council will enhance cooperation and partnerships between United Nations Agencies, INGOs and local community organizations to support the delivery of SDGs goals and improve the lives of the Gazan people by 2030. The Council will also set up indicators to measure SDG achievement.

"Leave No One Behind" is a central commitment of the SDGs. The people of Gaza hope for proper health services, education, water, electricity and employment.

Only by working together can we overcome the challenges outlined in this report and rebuild an innovative and entrepreneurial private sector for Gaza's resilient communities.

Finally, I wish to extend my thanks to organisers, participants, and visiting people for your kind and active participation.

ALICE LAUGHER
CEO, CTG



WORKSHOP PURPOSE

The primary objective of the workshop is to create a coalition of United Nations Agencies, International and Local NGOs, and the private sector who will brainstorm and hold principal discussions on practical actions, explore solutions and build consensual approaches on the major themes relevant to implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in different sectors throughout Gaza.



EVENT REPORT

MOTIVATION FOR THE EVENT A VISION FOR THE FUTURE

The Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) event in Gaza was held on the 10 and 11 September 2018. The event was put together at the initiative of CTG's Gazan Account Manager Mahmoud Shehada who, further to his involvement in CTG's corporate sustainability policy which ensures that certain SDGs are intrinsically woven into CTG's operations and business plan, felt that the SDGs were not being pushed enough in his home and that driving the SDG agenda could make a real difference to improving the lives of those in Gaza.



The SDGs are a roadmap for change; a plan for everyone, everywhere, aimed at stimulating action over the next 15 years in areas of critical importance for humanity and the planet. SDGs are not a technical intervention but a necessary social process to enable people to respond to the ever present and increasing challenges of today's world. They aim to ensure a good life for all, facilitate real empowerment and social transformation and ultimately produce a more sustainable, just world order. For the SDGs to work, awareness of their content is key as is co-operation of actors from all different walks of society and an understanding by those different

actors of where they can make a difference and the little things they can do to make a change. As James, CTG's COO quoted from Jessie Potter (an educator and counsellor on family relationships):

"IF YOU ALWAYS DO WHAT YOU'VE ALWAYS DONE, YOU ALWAYS GET WHAT YOU'VE ALWAYS GOTTEN."



WHAT WE HOPED TO ACHIEVE

One of the main aims of the workshop was to raise awareness of the SDGs and start the conversation about how everyone in Gaza could work together to move forward.

Three years into the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development globally, countries are translating this shared vision into national development plans and strategies. This workshop aimed to promote the implementation of SDGs in the Gaza Strip and to frame the way forward for Sustainable Development at different levels.

While we understood that the United Nations (UN), in particular, is intimately involved in the SDGs and actions to push them forward, we were not aware of a forum whereby the private sector and other actors were also involved in that conversation. We wanted to give individuals and organisations an opportunity to learn about the SDGs so they could consider

where they can make a difference.

Through a combination of keynote presentations by renowned private sector experts and high-level practitioners from UN Agencies and INGOs, panel discussions and round tables, the conference wanted to open a debate among the different stakeholders on solutions for a sustainable development and how to transform society at local and global level. We wanted everyone to exchange knowledge, ideas, experiences and expectations around the SDGs.

CTG hoped to get across the message that small steps add up. The SDGs can seem overwhelming when you look at them in their entirety. It is isn't possible for everyone to do everything but equally if no one does anything (because the task seems so daunting) then nothing will ever happen. We used as an example how CTG has identified three SDGs where it feels, given its business, it can make a real

difference; in particular, creating the same job opportunities for men and women – changing unconscious bias – and creating a workplace which women can be part of, is safe for women and is conducive to them thriving.

In order to ensure that the conference wasn't just another talking shop but resulted in practical action, we hoped that the event might result in an SDG Cluster. In retrospect we realise that this particular nomenclature is not appropriate as it could get confused with the UN humanitarian response but the concept was a focused, permanent, multi-disciplinary group who would work together to promote the SDGs, who would learn from each other, explore solutions and build consensual approaches on SDG implementation and ultimately would create a series of practical actions. A suggestion post the event, is to call this an SDG Council with the members referred to as SDG Ambassadors.

BRINGING THE SDGS TO LIFE IN GAZA

On the first morning of the event, Dr Maged Abu Ramadan, former Gaza Mayor; Trustee of St John's Eye Hospital and Chairman of Coastal Municipalities Water Utilities (CMWU), gave an illuminating speech about where Gaza currently sits in relation to the SDGs.



Rather than decreasing, poverty is currently on the rise in Gaza



Although, as there are strong family values in Gaza few people go hungry, there are those who need food assistance



The health system in Gaza is facing increasing challenges – struggling in particular with obtaining personnel with the latest training and with electricity cuts which affect the services and the medicines



Most Gazans are educated but the quality of teaching material is lagging behind that in the rest of the world and there is also a tendency to focus on the wrong type of education given Gaza's needs: vocational training to create a skilled, not just an educated, workforce



Gaza currently has enough water but due to mismanagement of aquifers and struggling infrastructure, access to clean water could easily become an issue. Gaza needs to diversify its water sources and in particular invest in desalination to ensure clean drinking water for the future



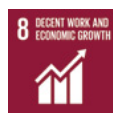
Frequent electricity cuts (Gaza only has around 30% of the electricity it needs) affect quality of life and directly affect areas such as decent work income (e.g. factories can't operate and so people lose jobs)



Population increase means that Gaza has lost its villages – whereas there were 27 villages in Gaza now there are just cities. This urbanization has led to an increase in pollution and rubbish as the infrastructure cannot handle the growth. Infrastructure planning is critical and Gaza needs to expand vertically rather than horizontally



Employment is Gaza's biggest issue – decent work is decreasing



The government cannot always pay salaries. The UN and NGOs together are the biggest employers in Gaza but with the cuts in funding and the rise of issues in other countries these roles could dry up

Import/export restrictions are directly affecting economic growth



Global Interaction is key

Dr Maged highlighted that he personally feels that sharing knowledge about sustainable development is key to assist Gaza in a new way of working; the situation in Gaza is currently deteriorating and so a new approach is needed.

"UN AS A MAIN PARTNER IN DELIVERING 2030 AGENDA AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL"

Basil Nasser, Head of Sub-delegation Gaza for UNDP and Abdullah Hamdani from UNRWA, led a panel discussion around how the UN is one of the main partners for delivering the 2030 Agenda at the national level in Gaza.

The 2030 Agenda strives for a world that is just, rights-based, equitable and inclusive. It commits stakeholders to work together to promote sustained and inclusive economic growth, social development and environmental protection and to benefit all, including women, children, youth and future generations. It is to be implemented in a manner consistent with existing obligations. This new agenda will require an integrated approach to sustainable development and collective action, at all levels, to address the challenges of our time.

The overriding theme of the discussion was that, although Gaza is facing unique challenges to the implementation of the SDGs, change can be made but collaboration between all actors is the key for Gaza; separation creates fragility.

Mr Nasser pointed out that nobody owns the SDGs: the co-operation of those outside of the UN and Government framework is welcomed but they need to be careful not to step on the toes of the humanitarian response and must build on what is already happening.

From UNDP's point of view they see unemployment and access to quality education as the root of all the problems.





OPPORTUNITIES, CHALLENGES AND PRIORITIES FOR THE SDGs

Mamoun Besaiso, Institutional Consultant and Advisor, then led a session where we learnt detail about the current situation in Gaza in relation to specific SDGs.

Mr Besaiso's statistics reinforced the need for action in Gaza; which rather than developing is currently de-developing. The SDGs are ambitious in any situation, let alone in that of Gaza. The SDGs have to be considered separately from the humanitarian agenda and as Mr Besaiso commented, "Now is the time to work together with one agenda." He urged this forum to bridge the gap between the humanitarian agenda and the development one.

Following Mr Besaiso's opening speech the tables discussed certain SDGs in detail further highlighting the issues that Gaza is currently facing:



SDG 4: Quality Education

70%
of schools are already working
double shifts

50
often the amount of children in
each classroom

20,000
more students each year.
At least 20 new schools (and
staff) are therefore needed each
year just to keep up let alone
improve.

There are shortcuts in the curriculum and teaching tools are out of date as is the teacher training so the output is not the same value as it once was. Special needs are not catered for.

Fresh graduates are often not qualified enough for the labour market – there are no in-service training programmes and no extra-curricular activities.



SDG 2: Zero Hunger

Participants stated that although this is not an emergency issue for Gaza, it could quickly become so due to the lack of available land for farming and withdrawal of funding. The continuation of current food assistance is necessary as is the raising of awareness; farmers need to be supported and trained in new farming techniques; vertical city expansion should be encouraged so that farm land is preserved (but also need to consider infrastructure burdens of such growth).



SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy

There is a **70%+ deficit** in electricity supply so it is necessary to replace this with

sustainable, clean and affordable energy solution. The focus should be on solar power – advocacy is needed to encourage donors to invest in solar energy. Participants suggested a national policy for clean energy (e.g. VAT exemption for companies using solar energy) and a push to raise awareness in local communities of positives of using solar energy and variable household energy systems.



SDG 3: Good Health & Wellbeing

Participants felt there is a need to focus on the number and quality of health workers; currently they do not have the right training. They should be sent on external residency programmes so can come back and train others. Not everyone has access to healthcare because of the costs and there is a particular gap in specialised healthcare for women. A decent data system is needed urgently.





PRIVATE SECTOR: A CRITICAL FORCE IN DRIVING THE SDGS

This was a key session exploring private sector involvement in the SDGs. As Dr Faisal Al-Shawwa, owner of Shawwa Trading and Construction Company and Chair of the Private Sector Coordination Council sitting on the panel, succinctly commented:



“THE SDGS ARE NOT JUST FOR THE UN OR THE GOVERNMENT – RELIANCE ON HUMANITARIAN AID DOESN'T ALWAYS CREATE RESILIENCE SO INVOLVING THE PRIVATE SECTOR IS KEY.”

During the panel discussion Dr Shawwa and Isaad Abumallouh, Director of Studies at the Oxford Center (a private school passionate about teaching English to adult Gazans in line with the IELTS curriculum), discussed how private sector businesses cannot ignore the importance of the SDGs. Although, unlike the millennium development goals, the SDGs are not a pure economic concept but are about social growth, businesses still have an important role to play in implementing them.

As the panel discussion showed there are a number of challenges facing the private sector when it comes to their involvement in implementing the SDGs.

- The general view about the private sector needs to be changed – opportunities to make a profit shouldn't be seen as fundamentally negative; Gazans should not be reliant on aid but self-sustainable and without the private sector that goal is not attainable.
- Private sector businesses need to understand that social responsibility is not only their duty but that it is also key to the success of their business (without a developing society there will not be a market for their goods/services); as Dr Shawwa

commented, “Every day is a challenge for the private sector in Gaza but there is a responsibility to take steps every day towards social development; someone has to take the first step and forge the path for others to follow.”

- Private sector businesses need to be educated in social responsibility and assisted in assessing where they can make a difference/have the power to instigate change (focus on the goals that are relevant to their business and look at small and achievable objectives).
- Bigger companies need to incubate smaller ones – provide loans, community development (build schools etc) – and as part of that incubation instill in them the importance of social responsibility.
- The private sector is not currently invited into the forums that exist regarding the SDGs; partnership is the first step to encouraging businesses to implement social responsibility.

As Dr Shawwa and Ms Abumallouh showed there are plenty of private sector businesses that want to make a difference: Dr Shawwa's business has set a strategy with seven priority areas with the aim of improving the economy in Gaza and Ms Abumallouh incorporates SDG 4, 5 and 8 into Oxford Center's business plan.

At the following round tables, the role of the private sector in assisting Gaza in achieving the SDGs was discussed and the view was that the private sector was important because it can:

- Create more opportunities.
- Fill the quality gap.
- Complement the government and UN services.
- Decrease the dependency on international funds.
- Be a driving force for efficient change.
- Private sector has more passion to grow.
- Be more flexible than the Government.

SDG 8: SETTING TARGETS FOR JOB CREATION TO ACHIEVE SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH IN GAZA

As Mamoun Besaiso pointed out in his opening speech, decent work drives sustainable development in and of itself. If Gazans are earning a decent wage then they can put money back into the economy (they purchase better education, healthcare etc).

The current situation in Gaza is the worst it has ever been: to put that in context overall 53.7% of Gazans are unemployed (within that 78.3% of women are unemployed and 75% of youths 20-24). There is an oversupply of qualified graduates in Gaza.

Almost 80% of people are receiving less than the statutory minimum wage and the average monthly wage is less than 674 NIS (\$186*).

It appears that the situation could worsen – the de facto government does not have the capacity to hire more staff and with the withdrawal of humanitarian funding then some of Gaza's biggest employers may struggle to keep their existing workforce let alone expand it.

Mamoun pointed out how reliance on external funding for work is not a sustainable solution and so the private sector needs to be encouraged and involved in the sustainable development discussions.

Out of the round table brainstorm on this issue the following key takeaways were observed:

- The focus of education needs to change – many in Gaza study 'traditional' subjects such as medicine and engineering but this is not where the work is anymore and there is also an issue in that the content of the education received in Gaza is behind that of the global stage. Therefore, although 'qualified',

- graduates are not always fit for work. Technical and language training should be encouraged.
- E-work and the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) sector should be a focus for Gazans: given the global nature of the internet can Gazans look for decent work online?
- Freelancing should be encouraged by the government.
- SMEs and micro enterprises (which currently form 98% of the private sector) need to be encouraged – bringing in global corporates is not the way forward as they won't re-invest in

the Gazan economy in the same way.

- The government should consider tax breaks to support SMEs and micro-enterprises as this in turn creates jobs and funds that can be reinvested back in the economy.
- Larger businesses and donors should consider programmes which give small grants or loans to incubate private sector businesses and thereby create 'decent work'.
- The labour law (and in particular minimum wage) needs to be updated and respected/enforced.

SDG 5: "THE IMPORTANCE OF WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT IN THE WORKPLACE, MARKET PLACE AND LOCAL COMMUNITY"

Azza Qasem a freelance gender expert introduced the topic of gender equality to the conference.

Ms Qasem raised some important cultural challenges to SDG 5. She pointed out that gender equality is often resisted because it is viewed as a 'western' concept.

Ms Qasem's view on gender equality is that it is a multi-faceted concept; it is not purely about men being like women and women being like men but has complexities that tie into poverty, education, culture and independence

Ms Qasem commented that due to the situation in Gaza women are playing more of a role within families, many more women are educated and as more women are in work than before their economic power is increasing. However, Ms Qasem felt that in Gaza they are still dealing with the symptoms of gender inequality not the cause. She raised that the buzzword of gender equality is often seen as a way to get a job or funds from donors (given the worldwide focus on female empowerment) but it is not fundamentally believed in as an idea. In Gaza men are still the overwhelming

majority in positions of power and make the key decisions.

For true gender equality to happen public and social awareness is key, as well as changes in the law to support women's rights (especially when it comes to marriage, custody, divorce and gender based violence).

In the following panel discussion Alice Laughner, CEO of CTG, Osama Abu Eita, Head of Sub Delegation Gaza of UNFPA and Khalil Afranji of Careem (the #1 ride-hailing app in MENA, Pakistan & Turkey) discussed practical steps that they are taking to move gender equality forward:

- Mr Eita felt that the key to true gender equality is investment in access to healthcare, social care and education; investing in women is key to society developing in a sustainable way (statistics show that women who work put more of what they earn back into their family and therefore society).
- UNFPA are working with the government on gender equality and women's empowerment, female-focused health programmes, gender-based violence reporting systems and capacity building.
- At CTG, Alice is working on

changing unconscious bias around the roles that women can do in the workplace (with a focus on conflict-affected countries) through the Female First initiative that has a target of 30% of project-related roles represented by women by 2030. CTG has imposed internal rules for the business regarding the number of female candidates that must be put forward for roles, initiated a female internship programme and a collective action platform called CTG Giving that supports empowerment programmes in the regions CTG operates.

- At Careem, Mr Afranji is also working to change social stereotypes and has set his business a target of 20,000 female drivers by 2020.
- The safety of women is fundamentally considered when Careem designed its service and to take this position further Careem has allocated the fees received from 1million km of trips to support gender-based violence issues. Careem are also investing in the youth of Gaza by giving them assistance with university fees and recruiting young graduates as Careem ambassadors.

CAREEM HAS SET A BUSINESS TARGET OF 20 000 FEMALE DRIVERS BY 2020, IN GAZA.



HOW TO ESTABLISH THE ECOSYSTEM TO MAKE THE SDGS WORK

It was clear from the group discussions in this final session that the objectives regarding implementation of the SDGs need to be developed and defined from the inside. In order to drive ownership and commitment to the changes required, for the SDGs to improve life in Gaza, the analysis needs to be conducted in an integrated way and engagement from stakeholders throughout Gazan society is required.

The tables considered ideas such as:

- Promoting and raising awareness of the SDGs in particular using social media and student engagement.
- More training on the SDGs; in particular training focused on helping people and businesses assess where they can make a difference (make it seem less daunting).
- See if the private sector and other sectors not involved in the current conversations/ working groups surrounding the SDGs can be included in those groups.
- Conduct data assessments to see which SDGs should be focused on to make the biggest difference to the Gazan people.
- Supporting government to figure out ways of bringing academia and government together to engage citizens around the SDGs.
- Look at engaging external financial facilities in targeting their funding/disbursements to clients who are focused on making an impact regarding the SDGs.
- Engage different groups to provide technical assistance to those interested in implementing the SDGs.
- Form a group/council from government, local businesses, NGOs and INGOs – nominate an individual with a strategic point of view/background to lead so there is a focus. Select a committee within this group to monitor and evaluate the implementation of SDGs.



IMMEDIATE OUTCOMES

This workshop was designed as “a call to action” and a way to start the conversation. It is clear from the attendance of 122 delegates over the course of the two days (representing 38 different institutions including UN agencies, INGOs, NGOs, education and training institutions and local businesses) and the contributions of those attendees through the workshop that many in Gaza feel the SDGs are incredibly important to improving life in Gaza and want to continue the conversation about how they can be implemented.

Actions:

CTG suggests the formation of an SDG Council to ensure that both public and private partners work in a coherent way. The Council would bring together contributors from the public and private sectors to experiment and create strategies to unlock Gaza’s development

potential. This SDG Council would promote and create a permanent and multidisciplinary knowledge network on implementation of SDGs, where all stakeholders will learn from each other.

CTG will be responsible for contacting all those who attended to see if they would be interested in joining.

The next event will be aimed at those from the conference who would like to move the SDG Council forward. The event will (i) create a more structured action plan for building awareness of the SDGs in particular amongst the private sector, (ii) come up with a strategy for advocating the involvement of the private sector in the ongoing SDG discussions and (iii) include training on how to select and implement the SDGs in which the individual, business or group can make a change.



SUMMARY: HOPED FOR LONG TERM OUTCOMES

The SDG event in Gaza started a much-needed conversation and opened the discussion on the SDGs to a wider group than it appears has been involved before. The key takeaway from the event is that co-ordination is key to sustainable development and separation only serves to perpetuate or increase fragility.

All the SDGs are interconnected and are a global consensus on what needs to be done for humanity and the planet; the SDGs are not about money but about people. There are issues in Gaza which this forum cannot change but small differences can be made and those hopefully add up to a big difference (what we at CTG call the 'ripple effect'). The SDGs might seem overwhelming but the key is for everyone to make a difference where they can. There

are limits within Gaza as to what can be achieved but as is the case worldwide the Gazans need to work with what they have and just make a start.

Development objectives cannot be determined from the outside. If they are perceived to be, they are doomed to fail. Sustainable development objectives need to be developed and defined from the inside, through an integrated analysis and based on national stakeholder engagement. This will drive ownership and commitment to operate the changes required. Once concrete policy approaches are defined, the targets and indicators would then allow us to measure progress and provide comparable data at a global scale. The technical approaches for alignment and data analysis are indeed crucial, but they should kick in as a result

of the effort to define core challenges and opportunities, including the collective way forward—and not the other way around.

Achieving the SDGs requires collective action – everybody needs to be involved in the conversation. Especially as it appears there is donor fatigue or distraction, engagement of the private sector is key. Private sector, not aid, is the key to creating a sustainable society.

Together, with a vision to reposition the SDG agenda, we will support the SDG Council in cultivating an approach to sustainable development that is focused on leadership, cohesion, accountability and results. **If you would like to be part of the SDG Council or need more information, contact Mahmoud Shehada, mahmoud@ctg.org**



CTG enables humanitarian and development projects in conflict-affected countries through employment services, logistics as well as other contracted services. CTG staff work on projects such as displacement monitoring of refugees in Libya, food security and distribution in South Sudan and advising the UN on the political situation in Somalia. Gaza is one of our areas of operation.

The company is a signatory of the UN Global Compact and has publicly committed to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The chosen SDGs, where CTG believes it can make the most impact, are SDG5 (Gender Equality), SDG8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) and SDG16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions).

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WORKSHOP AGENDA: DAY 1: MONDAY SEP 10, 2018

9am-9.30am	** Registration (tea & coffee) **
9.30am-10am	<p>Alice Laughier, CEO – CTG: Welcome international delegations and participants to the workshop</p> <p>Mahmoud Shehada – Gaza Senior Account Manager: Will provide a background to the workshop and will set out the objectives and outcomes that it aims to achieve. (5 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video (5 min): The Sustainable Development Goals – Action Towards 2030 • Video (5 min): We are CTG: Committed to Good), Morning session: Welcome and scene-setting <p>James Veysey – COO - CTG: Will introduce the Sustainable Development Goals and 2030 Agenda as an important milestone in sustainability efforts to address important issues such as gender equality, decent work and economic growth, and creating peaceful societies and why CTG selected these 3 SDGs. (10 min)</p>
10am-10.30 am	<p>** Key Note Speech **</p> <p>“Bringing the SDG’s to life in Gaza”</p> <p>Dr Maged Abu Ramadan, former Gaza Mayor; Trustee of St John’s Eye Hospital and Chairman of CMWU</p>
10.30am-11am	<p>UN as a Main Partner in Delivering 2030 Agenda at the National Level</p> <p>This session will explore how UN agencies support the local NGOs and the community basic organization to achieve the SDGs. It will explore the strategic plans of SDGs to help Palestinian Authority, NGOs to reimagine solutions to improve service delivery and work toward achievement of the SDGs to supporting country-led and country-owned policies to attain the SDGs.</p> <p>Stage Discussion:</p> <p>Basil Nasser, Head of Sub-delegation Gaza – UNDP & Abdullah Hamdani, UNRWA Represented</p>
11am-11.15am	Q&A session
11.15am-11.45am	** Coffee Break **
11.45am-12.05pm	<p>The Opportunities, Challenges and Priorities of the SDGs for Gaza</p> <p>This session will identify the sustainable development priorities, opportunities and challenges in Gaza. It will explore what is already happening, who is doing what [in respect of sustainable development and the SDGs] in Gaza, and where gaps, overlaps and opportunities for collaboration exist.</p>
12.05pm-12.35pm	<p>In this Round Table Session; we will divide the workshop participants to thematic groups to assess needs moving forward in SDG implementation in Gaza. We will ask the participants to identify issue(s) that would need to be overcome, reference to prioritized SDGs, and specific SDG challenging and opportunities in Gaza. Each group will be discussing the Creation of an “SDG Cluster” and ensuring its establishment will become a value tool to measure SDG achievement in Gaza.</p>
12.35-1.05pm	<p>Presentation from Table leads and brief discussion.</p> <p>Plenary Moderator: Mamoun Besaiso, Institutional Consultant and Advisor – Gaza</p> <p>Table Leads:</p> <p>Walid Mousa; Head of Gaza Office – Save the Children Mohammed Al Sabee; Programme Manager – CHF Loay Al Wihidi; Economic and Justice Lead – OXFAM Mohamed Nassar; Programme Officer – JICA Bilal Musalem; Director – Palestinian Development Centre Hatem Hassouna; Director – Notaf Organisation Dr. Mohammed Abu Raya; Health Consultant – Ard Al Insan Society Mazen Al Sayed – NGO Consultant. Alaa Ghalayini – NGO development Center</p>
1.05pm-1.30pm	** Coffee Break **
1.30pm-2.15pm	<p>Private Sector: A Critical Force in Driving the SDGs</p> <p>This session will explore why sustainable development is important for business, how business can play a central role in implementing the SDGs both at home and abroad, and tools and guidance being developed to support business engagement with the SDGs.</p> <p>In this Session we will show how value would we gain from private sector in supporting SDGs implementation.</p> <p>This presentation is a real example in how private sector support SDG5, SDG8 and SDG16.</p> <p>Panel & Plenary Moderator: Alice Laughier; CEO – CTG</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <p>Faysal Shawa, Business Expert - Gaza Isaad Abumallouh; Director – OXFORD CENTER</p>

2.15pm-2.30pm	Q&A Session
2.30pm-3.15pm	Engaging The Private Sector To Achieve The SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS Roundtable discussion on measuring the private sector's involvement in Gaza and expectations of the private sector as a contributor to the "Force for Good" and attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals. Table Leaders [as before] present Table discussion.
3.30pm-3.45pm	Wrap-up and closing remarks of 1st day. Mahmoud Shehada – Senior Account Manager - CTG
3.45pm-5pm	** Group Photo and Lunch ***

WORKSHOP AGENDA: DAY 2: TUESDAY SEP 11, 2018

9am-9.30am	** Morning Tea **
9.30-9.40am	Reflections on Day 1 – James Veysey, COO - CTG
9.40am-10am	SDG 8: Setting Targets for Job Creation to achieve Sustainable Economic Growth in Gaza <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video (4 min): Sustainable Development Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth • Video (2 min): (Learning about SDG 8), <p>In this Session; we will explore what value would we gain from being able to implement SDG8 in Gaza communities, in which creating decent jobs is one of the fundamental ways in which business supports economic growth and sustainable development.</p>
10am-10.45am	<p>Roundtable discussion on measuring how Gaza is currently achieving goals relating to SDG 8, where are the challenges and what are the priorities for Gaza and what are the best steps to take to achieve economic prosperity.</p> <p>Table Leaders [as before] present Table discussion.</p> <p>Plenary Moderator: Mamoun Besaiso, CTG Consultant and Advisor – Gaza</p>
10.45am-11.15am	** Group Photo and Coffee Break **
11.15am-11.30pm	SDG 5: Strides towards Gender Equality in the Workplace, Marketplace and Local Community <p>Where are we now? Challenges and opportunities in Gaza to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.</p> <p>Azza Qasem – Gender Specialist</p>
11.30-12.15pm	<p>Panel Discussion discussing the importance of women's empowerment in the workplace, market place and local community and the steps organisations are already taking to achieve gender equality.</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <p>Osama Abu Eita – Head of Sub Delegation Gaza of UNFPA</p> <p>Salwa Nasser – CTG Consultant</p> <p>Khalil Afranji, Director – CAREEM Gaza</p> <p>Q&A session</p>
12pm-12.20pm	SDG 16: The Importance of Corporate Governance and Ethical Business Practices in Areas Impacted by Conflict <p>This Session will explore how transparency, accountability, anti-corruption measures and integrity are key to ensure effective participation in the development of a peaceful society. Highlighting the importance of Corporate Governance within institutions and businesses in Gaza.</p> <p>Mr. Wade'e Arabid, Governorate and Ethics consultant – NGO</p>
12.20pm-12.50pm	** Coffee Break **
12.50pm-1.50pm	Impact Measurement: Establishing the Ecosystem required to make the SDGs Work <p>In this roundtable discussion we will clarify and discuss the following points with participants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource mobilization and determining private and public investment for SDGs to be achieved • Preparation of an SDG roadmap that includes main activities to conduct by target deadlines, and formulation of nationally adjusted targets. • Creation/finalization of the SDG indicator framework, capacity building in statistical systems, and promulgation of a data culture and open data. • Enhanced partnerships for SDG implementation, with particular emphasis on private sector involvement, multi stakeholder coordination, and increased awareness among community on the SDGs. <p>Session Moderator: James Veysey, COO, CTG</p> <p>Mahmoud Shehada, Senior Account Manager – CTG</p>
1.50pm-2.30pm	Q&A Session
2.30pm-4pm	** Lunch **