



جامعة الأزهر - غزة  
Al Azhar University - Gaza



**The Center for Development Studies, Birzeit University, in cooperation with its partners cordially invite you to the conference**

## ***Rooting Development in the Palestinian Context***

**Venue:** Dheisheh Refugee Camp, Ibdah Center, Bethlehem, Palestine

Mar Elias Camp, Lebanon; Al-Zarqa Camp, Jordan; Al-Shati Camp – Al Katibah Hall, Gaza  
(all via video conference)

**Date:** Saturday, 26 January 2019

**Time:** 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

**The conference will be held in Arabic without translation, individual lectures will be held in English.**

## Background

For the past 3 years, our APPEAR project *Rooting Development in the Palestinian Context* (<http://rootingdevelopment.com/>) has steadily sought to stimulate debates on Palestinian development by seeking to offer an alternative and critical reading of development after the Oslo accords. The Palestinian youth who lead this debate come from different areas in Palestine as well as from Palestinian communities in Jordan and Lebanon.

The upcoming conference brings together these efforts and seeks to promote critical knowledge as well as a collective dialogue on development. By exchanging practices and experiences, the sessions aim at exploring how current models, practices, resources, and knowledge from different communities can strengthen popular forms of development as well as collective consciousness and practices.

Hence, the conference will create a space of debate between researchers, academics, and community activists in order to exchange knowledge and amplify the views of the youth involved in the project, thus solidifying the role of research and critical knowledge in promoting social change.

The high importance of rooting development in the Palestinian context has demanded the shift to a dialogue based on Palestinian experiences in development within the current economic, political and social contexts.

Aims of the conference are as follows:

- To deepen the understanding of communal experiences and knowledge to solidify a Palestinian vision of alternative development, and
- to link the different knowledge producers and to draw conclusions on three years of work in communal dialogues and activities in the different localities in the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, Jordan, and Lebanon.

<b>Conference Sessions</b>	
<b>Saturday, 26 January 2019, 9:00-4:00pm</b>	
<b>Registration: 9:00-9:30</b>	
<b>Opening session</b>	
9:30-10:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Background about the conference: Ayman Abdul Majeed</li> <li>• Ibda' Center, Welcome Remarks</li> <li>• Linda Tabar, Birzeit University</li> <li>• Helmut Krieger, University of Vienna</li> <li>• Ali Abu Zaid, Al-Azhar University</li> <li>• Kassem Sabah, Mousawat</li> <li>• Thekryat Alhelo, CDC</li> </ul>
<b>First Session: Reflections from the Field – Fieldworkers' Perspectives</b>	
10:15-11:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research in the Diaspora: Experiences in Jordan Islam Jamal and Aseel Khaldi</li> <li>• Research in the Diaspora: Experiences in Lebanon Rawya Mousa and Farah Khatab</li> <li>• Research in occupied Palestine: Experiences in Gaza Samar Haroon and Belal Najjar</li> <li>• Research in occupied Palestine: Experiences in the West Bank Ghada Shafout and Anas Lahaseh</li> </ul>
<b>Break: 11:45-12:00</b>	
<b>Second Session: Alternatives from the Field – Activists' Perspectives</b>	
12:00-1:30	<p>Bassem Tamimi, Salah Khawaja, Fatmeh Brijya, Nesreen Al-Azzah, Khaled Saifi, Amjad Elian, Salma Rashdan and Sufian Shenbari</p> <p>Discussants: Abaher Al-Sakka and Linda Tabar</p>
<b>Third Session: Critical Readings – Researchers' Perspectives</b>	
1:30-3:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Towards Alternative Methodologies and Concepts Ayman Abdul Majeed</li> <li>• Alternative Development: A Marxist Vision Ali Amer</li> <li>• Critical Knowledge and Resistance Development Helmut Krieger</li> <li>• Critical Comparisons: Rooting Knowledge from the Field Abaher Al-Sakka</li> </ul> <p>Discussants: Jamal Juma', Monther Ameerah and Kassem Sabah</p>