Curriculum vitae

**Topics specialisation:**

* Over 25 years of working experience in the fields of: entrepreneurship development, macro economy planning , women business creation, microfinance, peace building and conflict resolution and mediation , monitoring and evaluation.
* Political and economic issues of Palestinian affairs and the Arab-Israeli conflict and Euro-Med partnership .

**Family name**: Ismail

**First names**: Omar Shaban

**Date of birth**: 31st of July 1962

**Nationality**: Palestinian

**Civil status**: married, two boys 22and 18 years old

**Education**: Master degree in entreprenuerial studies from the University of Stirling, Scotland

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Institution(Date from - Date to) | Degree(s) or Diploma(s) obtained: |
| 1994-1995 | Msc in entrepreneurial studies , University of Stirling, Scotland |
| 1980-1984 | BA in accounting, Zaqaziq University, Egypt  |

**Language skills:** Indicate competence on a scale of 1 to 5 (1 - excellent; 5 - basic)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Language | Reading | Speaking | Writing |
| Arabic “ native language  | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| English  | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Hebrew  | 2 | 3 | 2 |
|  |  |  |  |

**Membership of professional bodies:**

* Ex-Vice chairman of Asala for women microcredit
* Board member of Palestine institute for governance
* Founder and director of Palthink for Strategic Studies

**Other skills:** (e.g. Computer literacy, etc.)

* Experienced in Microsoft Office Applications

**Present position:**

Director of Palthink for Strategic Studies

**Years within the firm:**

* Since 2007

**Key qualifications:** (Relevant to the project)

* With over 20 years’ experience in management consultancy & private sector development.
* Regularly writes on various international magazines
* An independent researcher and analyst.
* Participate occasionally in conferences on political and economic issues on Palestinian affairs and the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Euro-Med. cooperation.

**Specific experience in the region:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Country | Date from - Date to |
| Gaza and Wsstbank  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

**Professional experience**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date from - Date to | Location | Company& reference person[[1]](#footnote-1) (name & contact details) | Position | Description |
| * May-Aug 2015
* June 2006- to March 2013
 | * Gaza/Italy
* Gaza
 | * General consulate of Italy
* Jerusalem .
* Mr. LaDavidi Cecilia
* GC of Italy
* davide.lacecilia@esteri.it
* Representative of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the Palestinian Authority
* Contact ;
* Mr. Gert Kampman
* gert.kampman@minbuza.nl
 | *
* Consultant
* Gaza advisor
 | * Advisor to the Italian development cooperation office in Jerusalem to explore and to facilitate the launching of business cooperation in the field of carnation flowers, to be planted in the Gaza and to be exported to Italy. The assignment included arranged and executing a business trip to Italy for Palestinian Flowers’s growers to Italy, met with Italian counterparts.
* Gaza advisor is the main Palestinian contact person for the Gaza related activities of the Netherlands Representative Office the Palestinian Authority. Whereas the consultant will work in assistance of the full range of activities of the NRO, the focus of the assignment will concern the agricultural sector, particularly the facilitation of cash crops and agricultural exports from Gaza to Israel
 |
| March –Dec. 2013  | Gaza | Development researcher network, DRN. Rome ,Italy Tel.: +39 06.581.6074Tel.: +39 06.581.6107Fax: +39 06.581.6390Email: mail@drn-network.comContactMrs. Sara Montys.monti@drn-network.com | National expert  | * National expert and member of the international evaluation team for “Evaluation of the European Union's co-operation with the occupied Palestinian territory and support to the Palestinian people, My involvement in the country Level Evaluation is a National advisor and sharing responsibility for the areas: refugees and civil society and background overview. The evaluation is carried out by a consortium of international consultant firms; MOKORO, ECDPM, Particip GmBH, DRN. The evaluation team leader is Dr. Joseph Saba, FR-director of the World Bank in middle east
 |
| Aug. Dec. 2014 | Gaza and west Bank  | Tetra Tech ARDRef Dr.Rhys Payne, Ph.D.Senior AssociateDemocracy, Human Rights, Rhys.Payne@tetratech.com | Gaza Political Expert/Team Member | * For the Desk Study carried by, who has been requested by USAID, Center of Excellence on Democracy, Human Rights and Governance to conduct a Democracy and Governance Strategic Assessment in West Bank and Gaza? This scope of work calls for the completion of two inter-connected tasks: (1) an assessment of political change and democratization in West Bank and Gaza as relates to decentralization; and (2) the development of strategic and programmatic recommendations to address major barriers to the consolidation of democratic local governance in West Bank and Gaza
 |
| February-May 2013  | Gaza and KeyBank  | Swiss peace and UNDP Contact :Mr. Roland Dittliroland.dittli@swisspeace.ch | National team leader  | National team leader for the UNDP mandated study “Mapping Study on the Situation of the Public Civil Servants in the Health and Education Sectors in the Gaza Strip. The study was carried by Swiss peace. Summary of the study: One of the main consequences of the split in 2007 was that the PA in Ramallah has asked its 70,000 Gaza-based employees not to continue working under a Hamas-led de facto authority on penalty of losing their salaries. The no-show policy led the de facto authorities to replace thousands of schoolteachers and other public sector employees |
| August -September 2008 | Gaza and westbank  | Horizon consultancy [www.horizon.ps](http://www.horizon.ps) |  National expert  | Member of the international evaluation team for the food security and job creation project which was implemented in Gaza by the Job creation program, JCP which comes under the umbrella of the Palestinian President office The evaluation was carried out by a team of three experts of Horizon for Sustainable Development consultant during August and September 2008. The evaluation assignment included meetings 182 farmers, representatives of 20 framers organizations, 4 implementing agencies, crop commodity and livestock specialist, staff of the Job creation project and representatives of the Spanish cooperation, who is funding the Euros 4 million projects.  |
| January-March 2005  | Gaza and WsstBank  | ECORYS Netherlands[www.ecorys.com](http://www.ecorys.com/) <http://experts.ecorys.com/>  | National expert for Exploring opportunities for interventions in the agriculture and fisheries sectors in oPt. | ECORYS was contracted by the NRO to explore opportunities for interventions in the agriculture and fisheries sectors after Israeli disengagement from Gaza in 2005. The service contract was to help ECORYS in conducting a study to assist NRO in identifying its niche in the field of agriculture and fisheries through a) Identifying rapid-impact activities for funding and implementation b) providing an overview of ongoing development and priorities in the agriculture and fisheries sectors, and c) suggesting possibilities for public-private partnership (PPP's) and providing an extensive overview of available funding modalities. |
| 2004-2005 | Gaza and westBank  | UNICEF/Ministry of youth  | Consultant and Member of the Steering committee  | for the National Adolescents and Youth policy, developed by Development Studies Program (DSP) and UNICEF. The project lasted for one and half years (2004-2005). The steering committee was responsible for developing the vision, themes, structure and the methodologies of the policy manual, and preparing a research paper “Poverty, work, unemployment and youth |

**Other relevant information (e.g., Publications)**

* July 2001-December 2009 Gaza Program Manager, Catholic Relief Services, Gaza Strip office
* January 2000-June 2001 UNIDO National Expert, Gaza branch Manager of Palestinian Federation of Industries (PFI.
* January 1995-Decemebr 1999 Small Business Development Officer, UNRWA, Gaza,

Publication

1. January 2008 “Gaza**; what lies ahead** “ Palthink for Strategic Studies <http://palthink.org/en/?p=166>.
2. September 2008 “ **Conflict between Hamas and Fattah reaches into services sectors** “ Palthink for Strategic Studies <http://palthink.org/en/?p=166>
3. September 2008 “ **The shortage of Israeli Shekels in Gaza Strip “** Palthink for Strategic Studies <http://palthink.org/en/?p=170>
4. November 2008 “ **Gaza on crossroads again** “ Palthink for Strategic Studies <http://palthink.org/en/?p=182>
5. January 2009 “ **War on Gaza, Old Questions in need for New Answers”** Palthink for Strategic Studies <http://palthink.org/en/?p=193>
6. February 2009 “ **Propositions to reconstruct Gaza Strip** “ Palthink for Strategic Studies**.** <http://palthink.org/en/?p=201>
7. March 2009 “ **The Palestinian-Israeli conflict: A new perspective**” common ground news agency <http://www.commongroundnews.org/article.php?id=25060&lan=en&sp=0>
8. June 2009 “ **Change is in the Air of the Middle East**” Palthink for Strategic Studies <http://palthink.org/en/?p=251>.
9. March 2010 “ **About Al-Gadhafi’s declaration to wage Jihad against Switzerland**” Palthink for Strategic Studies <http://palthink.org/en/?p=283>.
10. July 2010 “ **Four Years of Gaza Blockade: Some Lessons Learned “** Common ground news agency **:**<http://www.commongroundnews.org/article.php?id=28089&lan=en&sp=0>
11. August 2010 “ **The corporations sector in Palestine (2), the case of the non-banking financial sector**” Palthink for Strategic Studies, <http://palthink.org/en/?p=456>
12. February 2011 “ **For Gaza’s children, act now “** Common Ground News Service (CGNews), [www.commongroundnews.org](http://www.commongroundnews.org)
13. October 2011 “ **Economic freedom in Palestine, still long way to go “** World Economic Freedom seminar , Fraser institue , Turin , Italy.
14. June 2012 “ **Freeing the Middle East from Weapons of Mass Destruction, A Palestinian perspective**” Palthink for Strategic Studies <http://palthink.org/en/?p=624>
15. July 2012” **Gaza blockade!! How much does it cost**! Parallelis, Italy <http://www.paralleli.org/news_dettaglio.php?id=554&a=2>
16. July 2012 “ **The Arab Spring and the future of Euro-Arab relations: a Palestinian perspective**” European policy center, EPC <http://www.epc.eu/pub_details.php?cat_id=2&pub_id=2825>
17. July 2012 “ **PA Financial Crisis: Gaza is not the problem and full transparency is needed**” Palthink for Strategic Studies <http://palthink.org/en/?p=655>
18. October 2012 “ **Hamas and Morsi: Not So Easy between Brothers** “ Carnegie center. <http://carnegie-mec.org/publications/?fa=49525&lang=en>
19. December 2012 “ **Ceasefire Agreements Will Not Work: Activation of the Peace Process is the Solution**:” IeMED ; <http://www.iemed.org/observatori-en/actualitat/opinions>
20. January 2013 “ **Meshaal to Lead Hamas for Third Term**, Al-Monitor <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2013/01/meshaal-lead-hamas-third-term.html>.
21. January 2013 “ **Hamas Budget a Small Step toward Transparency**, Al-Monitor <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/contents/authors/omar-shaban.html>
22. January 2013 “ **New Class of Palestinians Get Rich On Gaza Tunnel Trade “** Al-Monitor . .<http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/contents/authors/omar-shaban.html>
23. February 2013 “ **Palestinian Authority Faces Crisis Over Salaries** “Al-Monitor. <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/contents/authors/omar-shaban.html>.

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1. February 2013 **“ PA Employees in Gaza Key to Reconciliation** “ Al-Monitor**,** <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/contents/authors/omar-shaban.html>.
2. February 2013 “ **Gazans Suffer As Foreign NGOs Refuse to Deal with Hamas** “ Al-Monitor

<http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/contents/authors/omar-shaban.html>

1. March 2013 **“ Gaza Gas Can't Help Palestinians”** Al-Monitor<http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/contents/authors/omar-shaban.html>
2. March 2013 **“ No Prospects for Palestinian Currency”** Al-MonitorMonitor<http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/contents/authors/omar-shaban.html>
3. April 2013 “**Egypt and Hamas Try to Resolve Differences”** Al-Monitor <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/contents/authors/omar-shaban.html>
4. April 2013” **Palestinian Authority’s 2013 Budget Passed Despite Political Rift**” <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/contents/authors/omar-shaban.html>
5. April 2013 “ **What Do Peace Envoys Actually Do in the Middle East**” Am-Monitor <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/contents/authors/omar-shaban.html>
6. April 2013” **Gaza-Sinai Tensions Limit Egypt-Hamas Cooperation**” Al-Monitor

<http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/contents/authors/omar-shaban.html>

1. **Member and co-authors of the series of Policy Briefs for the Middle East Conference on a WMD/DVs Free Zone** was launched in late 2011 by the Academic Peace Orchestra Middle East. 1) The Arab Spring - Its Impact on the Region and on the Middle East Conference 2) Building on Experiences of Mediation in the Arab World - Assessing Positive Conditions for the Middle East Conference. <http://academicpeaceorchestra.com/?p=policybriefs#pb_9>
2. May 2013” **Palestinian Stock Exchange Lacks Public Regulation**” Al-Monitor,

<http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2013/05/palestinian-stock-exchange.html>

1. May 2013 “**Palestinian Investment Fund Needs Reform**” Am-Monitor

<http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2013/05/palestinian-investment-fund-reform.html>

1. November 2013 “**Kerry's Palestinian economic plan another dead end**?

<http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2013/11/kerry-palestine-economic-israel-occupation.html>

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<http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2013/11/gaza-electricity-crisis-sewage-power-israel-egypt.html>

1. November 2013 “**Palestinians sideline EU on peace process**” <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2013/11/eu-europe-palestine-aid-israel-peace-talks.html>
2. November 2013 “**Hamas’s possible options in Facing the Trauma**” Palthink for Strategic Studies, <http://palthink.org/en/?p=1415>
3. March 2014 ”**Hamas budget shows another tough year ahead for Gaza**. Al-monitor <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2014/03/hamas-gaza-budget-economy-finance-blockade.html>
4. July 2014 “ **Opinion: 20 years on, the struggle for Gaza peace drains me of hope**: special to CNN <http://edition.cnn.com/2014/07/25/opinion/mideast-peace-omar-shaban/>
5. July 2014 “**Consequences of the Israeli Blockade of Gaza**” Fairobserver

<http://www.fairobserver.com/region/middle_east_north_africa/consequences-israeli-blockade-gaza-69870/>

1. July 2014 ”**The Gaza Crisis: Timing a War’** Fairobserver.. <http://www.fairobserver.com/region/middle_east_north_africa/the-gaza-crisis-timing-a-war-00357/>
2. August 2014” **Gaza war bill estimated at $5 billion**” al-monitor <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2014/08/gaza-war-reconstruction-infrastructure-destruction.html>.
3. August 2014 “ **Honor the victims: Avoid past mistakes in reconstruction of Gaza** “ Al-Shabaka, The Palestinian policy network <http://al-shabaka.org/sites/default/files/Shaban_PolicyBrief_En_Aug_2014.pdf>
4. October 2014 “**Donor pledges not enough to rehabilitate Gaza**” Al-Monitor <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2014/10/cairo-donor-conference-gaza-reconstruction.html>
5. October 2014” co-author “ **The Case for a Collaborative Council for Gaza's Reconstruction**”Brookings institute, <http://www.brookings.edu/research/papers/2014/10/12-gaza-reconstruction-barakat-shaban>
6. January 2015 **“ Back to Gaza: A New Approach to Reconstruction”** by Sultan Barakat and Omar Shaban, BROOKINGS Institute DOHA <http://www.brookings.edu/research/papers/2015/01/12-gaza-reconstruction-barakat-shaban>.
7. July 2015”**From exchange of rockets to exchange of messages, Analyzing the relations between Hamas and Israel. German Orient-Foundation/German Orient-Institute Kronenstraße 1, D - 10117 Berlin** doi@deutsches-orient-institut.de - [www.deutsches-orient-institut.de](http://www.deutsches-orient-institut.de/)
8. March 2016 “ **Expert opinion to the drafting of the EU global strategy**” ww.iss.europa.eu/publications/detail\_eugs-opinions/article/omar-shaban-founder-and-director-of-p
9. **April 2016“ Arab Spring and the Palestinian Youth Movement: Different Challenges and Priorities.** Presented at Euro-Mediterranean Political Research and Dialogue for Inclusive Policy-Making Processes and Dissemination through Network Participation ”which was held in Brussels on 18th of April 2016 .
10. **May 2016 “**[**New Gaza War Inevitable without International**](http://www.mei.edu/content/article/new-gaza-war-inevitable-without-international-action)**action“** middle east institute[**http://www.mei.edu/content/article/new-gaza-war-inevitable-without-international-action**](http://www.mei.edu/content/article/new-gaza-war-inevitable-without-international-action)
11. **June 2016 “**[**Egypt and Hamas—Cooperation in the Works?**](http://www.mei.edu/content/article/egypt-and-hamas-cooperation-works) Middle east institute <http://www.mei.edu/content/article/egypt-and-hamas-cooperation-works>
12. **July 2016** [**Are the Palestinians Ready for Independence?**](http://www.mei.edu/content/article/are-palestinians-ready-independence)Middle east Institute <http://www.mei.edu/content/article/are-palestinians-ready-independence>
1. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)