Saluting the efforts of Kharayeb Municipality to create inclusive spaces to all community groups, UNDP committed to transform an empty municipal land into a multi-purpose community center, a mini-football field and child-friendly play area.

By end of 2019, UNDP has completed the design and building of the community center – constituting the first phase of this initiative. The design of the space reintroduces long forgotten vernacular building techniques: using building material that is locally procured natural, recycled and unprocessed; using tires and wood for main structures; and relying on clay for plastering and lime for painting. The management office attached to the center is an up-cycled old prefabricated container.

The design also employs cutting-edge eco-friendly architectural solutions: water is supplied through rain water harvesting, electricity is secured through solar panels, and sewage is treated biologically on-site to be used for irrigation; while thermal insulators allow preserving a constant temperature throughout the year, saving the energy cost of heating and cooling. UNDP and Kharayeb municipality are aiming to inaugurate the space by April 2020, with the completion of the mini-football field and play area. The space will welcome active NGOs to organize psycho-social and community empowerment activities, local youth to play football, and all Lebanese, Syrian and Palestinian families living in Kharayeb and its four Palestinian Gatherings to enjoy the play area during the day.

The achievements of this project are made possible thanks to the generous support of our donors:

Active in Palestinian Gatherings across Lebanon since 2012, Improving Living Conditions in Palestinian Gatherings host Communities is a UNDP project designed to strengthen the resilience of these communities, home to 120,000 vulnerable dwellers, whose great majority are Palestinian refugees in Lebanon, in addition to poor Lebanese and Palestinian and Syrian refugees displaced from Syria.

For more information, please contact us: sheeraz.moujally@undp.org  |  Tel: +961 1 384263/4