



Corporate Social Responsibility

# Commitment for Palestine

Cisco Investment Strengthens the Building Blocks of the Information and Communication Technology Industry in the Palestinian Territories



## The issue

The Palestinian Territories are rich with an educated workforce in need of a stronger economic and technology ecosystem to sustain jobs and entrepreneurship



Initiative creates jobs, cultivates an ICT ecosystem, helps break down cultural barriers, and opens up global business opportunities in the Palestinian Territories.

Beginning in 2008, Cisco invested US\$15 million to fuel job creation and economic development in the Palestinian information and communication technology (ICT) sector. Cisco outsourced projects from its Israeli office to companies in the Territories, helped train and mentor business leaders, promoted cross-cultural collaboration among 200 youth, and invested US\$11 million of venture capital in promising ICT companies. In connecting schools and youth centers through wireless networks, Cisco helped build a competitive market for local Internet service providers.



## Networks

### Human Networks:

Government in the Palestinian Territories, multi-national corporations, U.S. State Department, local ICT companies, nonprofits, instructors and students, Cisco business units

### Technology Networks:

Routers, switches, Cisco® IP Communications, Cisco TelePresence® solution

## Jobs / Business Development



77%

of ICT companies expanded research and development teams\*



11 Million

in venture capital committed to ICT businesses (USD)



U.S. Secretary of State Award for Corporate Excellence for Cisco's work in the Palestinian Territories

## Education and Training



200

Palestinian youth gain ICT and leadership skills



20%

increase in students applying for engineering and computer science schools in the Palestinian Territories



52

40 schools and 12 youth centers connected via wireless network

\* According to a June 2011 RTI International survey of 28 members of the Palestinian Information Technology Association (PITA)

you + networks = impact<sup>x</sup>