



In cooperation with



For A Better Tomorrow (FABT)

Supporting communities in Tariq- el Jdeide to overcome division and competing narratives and enhance cooperation.

Tariq-el Jdeide (TJ) and surrounding areas in the western part of Beirut are shared by communities with different sectarian and political affiliations. It is a predominantly Sunni district with a Shia minority. The area has often been the arena for national politics' power struggles and prone to violent clashes. These realities are accompanied by a challenging economic situation and high unemployment rates. Due to the turbulent past and close proximity of groups that historically have considerable tension between them, the area has been deemed at risk for future violent outbreaks.

Our approach

forumZFD and the partner organisation Fighters for Peace (FFP) seek to build participatory structures that help to overcome frustration, apathy and fear of 'the other' which may lead to violence. The project is aimed at different target groups in the area, through three parallel project components. Each component focuses on one aspect of overcoming division and enhance participation in the community. Through working on three target groups, we aim to impact different strata of the communities, and strengthening immunity to violence in the target area.

What we do

Component 1: forumZFD identifies local individuals and groups who desire and have the potential to become agents for positive change in their communities. By supporting them and linking them together, the capacity and network to enhance participation in society, will be strengthened.

Component 2: forumZFD conducts a training series for public and private secondary school teachers to be able to facilitate discussions about the memory of the

Programme	Community Mobilising
Partner Organisation	Fighters for Peace
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Budget (BMZ)	\$ 56.000
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civil war, to reflect on diversity and differences in regards to one's own identity and to foster a mutual understanding of different perspectives on the past.

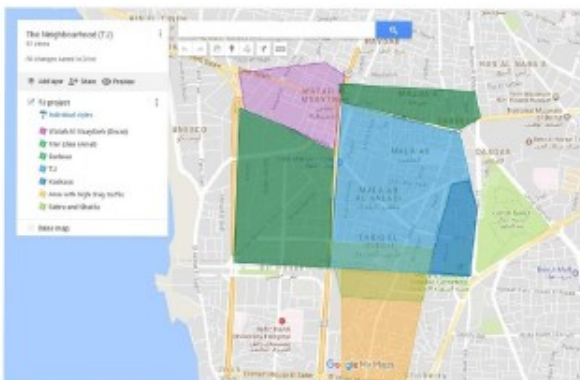
Component 3: FFP identifies and engages with (ex-) fighters in the communities in TJ. Through various activities they are invited to reflect on their past, and supported in processing the impact it has had. Upon working through such processes, individuals have the potential to renounce the use of violence, as well as organise to prevent youth and other community members from resorting to violence.

Our Theories of Change

Component 1: If individuals and groups are able to initiate and drive change for themselves and in their communities, they are less likely to resort to violence.

Component 2: If teachers constructively discuss competing narratives with students it will contribute to mutual understanding, overcoming fear of 'the other' and increase the possibilities for reconciliation.

Component 3: If former fighters have deeply reflected on their past and embraced principles of nonviolence.



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