

مؤسسة تامر للتعليم المجتمعي  
Tamer Institute for Community Education

## Annual Report

Tamer Institute for Community Education

2022



لوحة لبنى طه

حملة تشجيع القراءة في المجتمع الفلسطيني

The National Reading Campaign in the Palestinian Society

2022

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***“The wider the vision, the narrower the phrase.”***  
***Al-Nafri***

In defense of children's right to be amazed and to ask questions, we continue with determination and persistence, with all willingness, clarity, and affiliation to dream in a country that embraces all, regardless of their religious, intellectual and cultural diversity which contributes to national liberation. The year 2022 was not easy for us, as we faced questions regarding thought, philosophy, vision and what we do. Some were more overwhelming than others, but in return, we found our partners in the field, sharing our vision and determination in the ongoing quest to create a free and safe environment that encourages the work of the mind; to think, question, grow, develop, and provoke imagination to find logic and certainty that we form for ourselves and our communities towards a society that is more free, more humane, and respects different cultures, religions, and values.

These were challenges that not only Tamer's community, which seeks to create a free and safe learning environment, faced, but also the Palestinian society as a whole, especially its cultural institutions, with the shrinking of their spaces and freedom, and the absence of the role of official actors in protecting cultural action. We are seeing this state of constraints sustained, and it might become even more severe and polarizing in the coming period. Thus, we have to be ready for it by increasing awareness and understanding of the vision, philosophy and tools of the Institute, and by promoting reading, writing and dialogue among us; between each and every team member and between everyone who works with us and with children and youth. Reading which enriches our day through contemplating it as practitioners, actors and free members of the community should strengthen our feeling of responsibility towards amplifying the voices of children and their suffering, stemming from a safe and free place. As the cultural and genuine societal act continues to clearly contribute to building the national identity and preserving the Palestinian cause and the social fabric from any obliteration or distortion.

Despite all of that, Tamer Institute has witnessed widespread reach to children and young people this year through community partners, with over 550 schools and over 100 community libraries in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Programs and activities focused on self-development and understanding by engaging in various activities, community initiatives, and cultural products, including films such as “Engravings on Stone” and many podcasts chronicling the Pre-Nakba Palestinian narrative and memory, as well as many children's books that archived personal experiences, including the recent aggression against Gaza, whether it was in writing or painting.

Furthermore, within the interventions of the Institute, libraries were developed in remote communities including Kissan in Bethlehem, and Al Rehan in Jenin. The year 2022 also witnessed the diverse production in the Literary and Knowledge Production Unit operating at Tamer Institute. It produced a variety of literary works directed to children and young people, as well as music productions and animations presented to children and young people.

Finally, with determination and persistence, the Institute continues its endeavors to join forces with community and school libraries, as well as youth and cultural institutions, in building a movement to create broader dialogues to protect our Palestinian cultural scene and to encourage a community of children and youth critics who do not stop wondering and asking questions, to contribute to building a free and safe learning community.

Renad Al-Qubbaj,  
Director-General

## About the Organization

Tamer Institute for Community Education is a community educational non-governmental organization established in 1989 in Jerusalem, Palestine as a response to the needs of the Palestinian society after the First Intifada. The Institute mainly targets children, youth, and groups who work with them such as parents, teachers, librarians, and artists among others. Tamer works through its network of community libraries (around 80), its network of school libraries as well as its youth teams. Tamer focuses on disseminating social values and rights like gender equality, inclusion and celebrating differences (on the basis on sex, religion, race, social status, abilities among others), rights to knowledge, expression, and learning, while emphasizing the Palestinian national identity. Tamer Institute has been working with the local and international partners that accumulate to over 300 bodies since its establishment, giving it credibility in the Palestinian community.

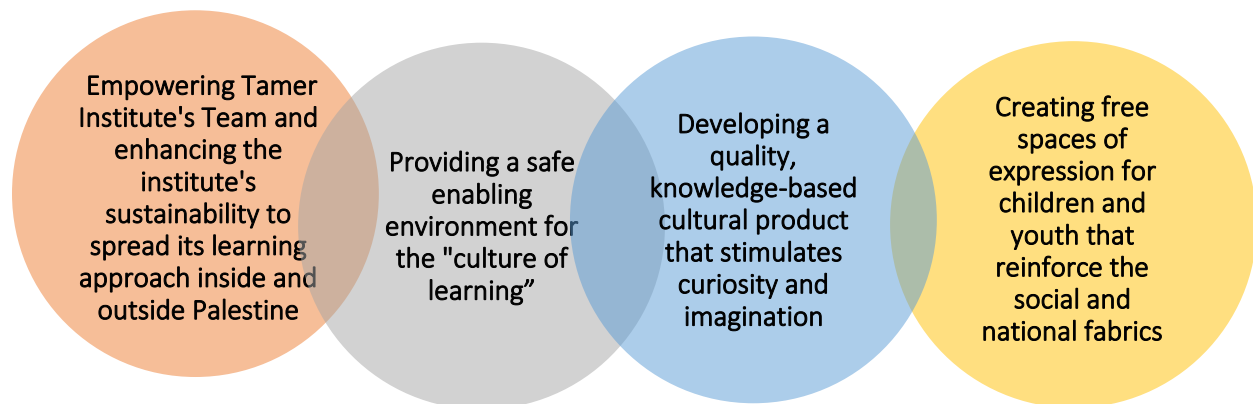
### **Vision:**

Towards a free and safe Palestinian learning Society

### **Mission:**

To Encourage and deepen opportunities of learning among children, young adults and people who work with them.

## Strategic Goals



## **General Assembly and Board of Directors**

### **Board of Directors**

Tamer Institute conducted four official and regular meetings in addition to informal meetings to follow up on the attacks against the Institute related to the activity in Al-Aqsa School for Girls in Al-Ram City. Members of the Board of Director endorsed the Institute's executive plan and budget, as well as the selling of a piece of land belonging to the Institute to be used to cover the remaining payment for the purchased headquarter. Several of the board members were active in different committees such as the reading committees, the developing policy papers for early childhood committee, and revision of worksheets and studies documenting Tamer's approach in protection, inclusion, and culture of children committee.

In addition, the board of Directors discussed the emergency projects and its relation with Tamer's Identity, as well as the preparation for the General Assembly meeting. They also approved the salary scale suggested by a private company based on a comparative study with similar civil organizations in the same sector. This current year represents an increase in the organization's budget through new contracts.

### **General Assembly**

The periodic General Assembly meeting was conducted on June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022, in Tamer Institute HQ in Ramallah. The technical and audit reports were approved, and the board of directors had the mission of assigning an auditor for the year 2022. Furthermore, the renewal of Tamer Institute's board of directors' membership was unanimously approved for the board of directors for the next two years by the following:

1. Abla Nasser 2. Muna Sha'ath 3. Mahmoud Al-Atshan 4. Shahenaz Al-Far 5. Morris Bakla 6. Abeer Musleh 7. Yomna Al-Batran 8. Eyad Masrouji 9. Sadeq Khadoor.

## **Strategic Goal 1: Creating free spaces of expression for children and youth that reinforce the social and national fabrics.**

Under strategic goal 1, the report will be illustrating 3 points:

1. National Reading Campaigns (National Reading Week, Baba Read to Me, I donated a Book).
2. Programs within the Institute (Children's Literature Program/ Network of Community Libraries, Youth, Learning, and Protection)
3. Social Initiatives (from House to House)

### **First: National Reading Campaigns in the Palestinian Society 2022**

#### **National Reading Week:**

Under the slogan “Together, We Will Regain the Home and the Fishing Rod”, Tamer Institute for Community Education, launched the National Reading Week for the year 2022, to encourage reading in the Palestinian community, in response to a series of extended dialogues and intellectual brainstorming discussions with its local partners operating in the fields of education, culture and community development across Palestine. Our partners, individuals and institutes, youth and adults, men and women, boys and girls, coming from villages, cities, Bedouin communities and refugee camps, discussed the Palestinian local context and the events it contained that threaten the notion of the “Home”, physically and conceptually, especially in light of the uprising in Sheikh Jarrah, Yatta among other areas in addition to the repercussions brought by the Israeli Aggression on Gaza which are still present at different aspects. They also discussed hopes of liberation and solidarity following the united spirit of Palestinians everywhere, in the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, and the 1948 areas that was revived in light of all events.

#### **Baba Read to me Campaign:**



*"Deprivation is not the answer to sense the value of things in life, but rather being aware of the deprivation. The experience of imprisonment that I write from is not the solution that I propose to you to dedicate time for your children. In this short intervention, I try to give some examples from my experience as a father in prison, which was a short one. Despite it being an experience of deprivation, it was filled with ethical dilemmas that enriched the soul of Milad and other children, to the extent that we too learned from them the basics of life when we teach them, for a child notices voices, tones, facial expressions and body language from which they draw an image and establishes a position" ...*

In the words of the prisoner Walid Abu Daqqa from his recent letter “No Door”, Tamer launched its annual “Baba Read to Me” Campaign for this year, inspired by the sound echoing from all areas of Palestinian existence, from all Palestinian neighborhoods, cities and villages. Even from prison cells, came a growing and impulsive sound of life and preservation of existence, memory, and identity. A sound driven by hope, trying, and belief in the ability to act and move in the face of silence and stillness.

The campaign included many activities such as **Me and My Father in a Picture**, **The Dad Calendar** and **Dad Come Play with Me**, and other activities.

For more information about the campaign, please click the links below:

First: [Promotional clip for Baba read to Me](#)

Second [Promotional clip for Baba read to Me](#)

The campaign targeted the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and Jerusalem, and had nearly 18,000 participants who were children, accompanied by 5000 family members, in addition to 280 local partners from different community and school libraries as well as cultural and social centers who participated in the campaign and did 455 actives.

## I Donated a Book Campaign



Tamer Institute’s youth teams ended the year 2022 with a campaign titled “I Donated a Book”, as part of the national reading campaign held by the institute annually. The campaign aimed to collect books from people wishing to donate them to support community and school libraries in remote locations or to build new community libraries in

remote locations. This campaign emphasized the values of giving, volunteering, and initiation. Youth teams worked on the “I Donated a Book Campaign” by preparing for it and collecting books from all over the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, and Jerusalem. The Youth teams started off by knocking on doors in search for books left on shelves, and assigning book collection points in various areas of the West Bank, Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip in cooperation with 30 partners from the local community. Tamer youth also invited people wishing to donate through their Facebook page and specified libraries as book collection points in different areas. The youth teams collected 2,536 books and donated them to 7 community libraries with the help of 163 young people.

### **Nowwar Nissan Festival in Partnership with Community Based Organizations**

Tamer participated this year in Nowwar Nisan’s Festival under the slogan “We are Back” in cooperation with the Ramallah Municipality. Activities included a book fair in the Ottoman Court and a variety of activity corners. Activities included an interactive exhibition for the works of Palestinian artists revolving around Tamer’s book “A Visual Trip into Palestinian Art”; a clay workshops on Tamer’s book “The Little Lost Penguin” and a clay and drawing workshop centered around the comic “Corona Diaries”.

### **Second: Youth**

During 2022, Tamer Continued Fostering an environment that empowers youth in various teams to freely express themselves This was achieved through creating diverse cultural, knowledge-based, and human experiences, that could enrich their experiences and move their passion towards self-expression through different arts. Additionally, they learnt to analyze topics and issues they were exposed to in their lives whether it was issues related to themselves, their identify, sense of belonging, or their inquisitions. Tamer meets with its youth teams on a weekly and monthly basis. In total in 2022, 76 meetings were conducted with 49 young men and 89 young women.

Tamer’s Youth teams are:

#### **Serb:**

A youth Group using theatrical drama as a tool to ask social questions in a safe space for them, like asking questions on sexual abuse.

#### **Nakheel:**

Nakheel Youth Group met several times to discuss books, novels and movies in community libraries and gardens in addition to other community spaces. One of the topics discussed was Domestic Violence and How to Handle it. They had an important role in the National Reading Campaign in the Palestinian society since they mainstreamed the activities.

#### **Yara’at:**

The group met monthly in 2022 and throughout the year, the Yara'at Literary Team lived a series of experiences that support literary and knowledge-based production through intellectual learning paths that promoted reading, writing, and self-expression. During the Gaza International Airport initiative and searching for identity, their literary products took on a special form in the search for the right to movement, travel and discovering the meaning of borders. The produced texts are included in the Yara'at annex published in Al-Ayyam Newspaper in the following link: [Yara'at Literary Appendix](#).

### **Banafsaj:**

During 2022, Banafsaj Youth Team developed a number of intellectual paths in search of the meaning of identity and its manifestations including on oneself as well as locally and internationally through different intellectual dialogues to form meaning.

### **Youth Teams Productions: Gaza International Airport initiative**

After the repeated state of aggression that we have experienced in the recent period, the question asked by the northern Nakheel team was: *"Why do we not have an airport?"* A whole generation was asking *What is meant by "airport"? Do we even have an airport?* These questions were the driving factor to come up with an initiative that included hosting people who worked in the airport during the time that it was functioning. It was then that Tamer started the search for their histories and stories and making them into various artworks.



The Gaza International Exhibition was launched on March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022, and continued until March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Its activities included the national reading campaign "Together, We Will Regain the Home and the Fishing Rod". 14 female artists and 8 male artists participated in the exhibition, in which 35 paintings, 25 photographs, 5 texts from the Yara'at were displayed in addition to a song by Voices Youth Team. During the four days of the exhibition, it was attended by 640 people.

### **The Two Immigrants Play**

In cooperation with artists Jamal al-Razi and Hussam al-Madhoun, and directed and prepared by the Palestinian artist Naim Nasr, a theatrical performance titled "The Two Immigrants" was carried out on Gaza Red Crescent Society stage in the presence of 105 (58 female, 47 male) young and interested people. The Play was based on a 1974 text by Polish writer Slavomir Mirojek and it addressed feelings of pain and fear of expatriation or alienation.



### **Ghassan Kanafani Path:**

"I will continue to struggle to reclaim the Homeland because it is my right, my past and my only future, because in it I have a tree, a cloud, a shadow, an alight sun, clouds raining lush... and hard-to-unearth roots ". Ghassan Kanafani

Within the context of the remembrance of the Palestinian Writer Ghassan Kanafani, Banafsaj Team worked on various sketches that affirmed the Palestinian identity to form a full-fledged mural of Ghassan Kanafani's literature and to translate his texts into works of art from the a youth perspective.

### **Filmmakers Path:**

Within the framework of developing knowledge based and cultural production, 24 young people worked on a developing a production path for documentary filmmaking in order to stimulate curiosity and imagination. They produced a total of three films inspired by the stories of aggression against the Gaza Strip. The youth team experienced working as filmmakers and had their training in the field. For more information about the films, please click the link [Films for the Filmmakers Path](#)

### **Voices from Palestine Youth Team**

Voices team from Palestine experienced a literary path with Amanda & Frederikke, about feelings and thoughts, homeland, dreams, relationships, and all ideas that contributed to building oneself, to document feelings, disorders and how to regulate them in the surrounding circumstances. This resulted in the production of the book "A House Made of Sticks", which contained literary texts produced by the youth team. The book can be read by clicking on the link [A House Made of Sticks](#)

### **Ghassan Kanafani Podcast**

The youth teams, which included 63 young women and 37 young men, worked on the production of literary, artistic, and photographic materials, emulating the Palestinian identity of Ghassan in his novel telling the story of Ghassan, the writer. The youth work was made into 5 podcast episodes. You can be follow it by clicking on the link: [Ghassan Kanfani Podcast Path](#)



For listening to the Ghassan Kanafani podcast, please click the blow links:

[Oh home song](#)

[Episode: Forever](#)

[Episode: The Others](#)

[Episode: The Land!](#)

[Episode: The Human is an Issue](#)

### **Engravings on Stone**

Tamer Institute formed 6 youth groups with a total of 122 young people divided between Bethlehem, Jenin, Jerusalem, Gaza, Acre, and Lebanon. 18 meetings and 31 paths were held for the 6 youth groups were they had an intellectual path with Tamer to research and explore inscriptions and ornamentations in archaeological sites. This was an entry point to collect oral narratives about origins of the engravings and the variable stories and myths. Through this path, the youth produced 3 films and 2 podcasts which were presented in Khalil Sakakini Cultural Center- Ramallah and were broadcasted on Tamer social media, this was to increase youth awareness and encourage them to exchange experiences in the field.

### **Youth Camps**

49 youth from the Gaza Strip participated in this path (22 F: 27 M). The 2022 Youth Camp addressed “The digital space within our public and private space.” At the beginning, this path also included planning inside our own space to form broader understanding of the concepts dealt with in the path.

**Strategic objective 2: Developing a quality, knowledge-based cultural product that stimulates curiosity and imagination.**



The year 2022 witnessed diverse production from the literary and knowledge-based productions unit in Tamer Institute. These productions varied between printed literary works directed at children and youth, and audible productions and animations presented to children and youth as well.

In 2022, within the research production of children's and young people's literature, a number of periodicals of Tayf was issue were the Child Literature Resource Centre.

**First:** Research Papers and Seminars

During 2022, the Institute completed the research study titled “Neglect and Protection of Refugee Children.” The research was conducted in Jordan and the Gaza Strip in which a number of Tamer Institute youth in Gaza participated in cooperation with the British University of Bath. The Institute discussed the research through a seminar in which Tamer Institute for Community Education concluded the project.

**Second:** Cultural Productions

**a. Tamer Institute Paper Productions during 2022**

**What becomes of Eid?**

**Category:** Picture book



**Text and Illustrations:** Children of Sea and Oranges  
**Design:** Khaled Jaradeh

**Publication year: 2022**

**About the book:** A book illustrating the stories of Gaza’s children who lived through a third aggression in their few years of life in 2021. The book tells the children’s story of the days of Eid during the aggression, where their plans and preparations for the Eid holiday were stolen and lost.

## I loved books and I founded libraries



**Category:** Book  
**Text:** Mary Fasheh  
**Editing:** Naeem Al Khatib  
**Design:** Adwa' Design Co.  
**Publication year:** 2022

**About the book:** A book that corresponds to Tamer Institute for Community Education's goals of opening the various windows of knowledge through introducing the biography of the librarian and expert in library studies Mary Fasheh, where she tells her pioneer experience in the field.

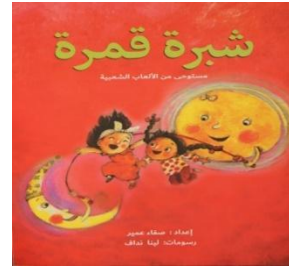


## My Heart Resembles the Moon

**Category:** Picture book  
**Text:** Mohammad Al-Zaqzoq  
**Illustrations:** Children of Sea and Oranges  
**Design:** Mohamad Al-Haj  
**Publication year:** 2022  
**About the book:** An interactive book that focuses on the family as the main component that supports the social and national fabric. The concept of family is based on integrative roles between its members and the supportive role each member plays towards other members. This concept surpasses the limits of a small house to include the society as a whole that supports and stand with its members, in addition to the acts of

protection and mutual support it provides.

## Shabara Qamara



**Category:** Picture book  
**Text:** Safa' Amir  
**Illustrations:** Lina Naddaf  
**Publication year:** 2022

**About the book:** An interactive book titled Shabara Qamara that is inspired by traditional games where we present the world of traditional songs and games that forms an essential part of the Palestinian heritage in a book that brings future Palestinian generations closer to its culture and heritage.

## The Sunbird's Nest



**Category:** Picture book  
**Text :** Ala'a Tartir  
**Illustrations :** Victoria Tartir.  
**Publication year:** 2022.

**About the book:** This book traveled with the children in the journey of the Palestinian Sunbird for a tour in the Palestinian lands and governorates where the child is introduced to the relationship between the Sunbird and his nest and land.



**Time**  
**Category:** Pictured book  
**Text:** Anna Sofie Allerman,  
**Illustrations:** Anna Jacobson  
**Translation:** Elizabeth Moustrap

**Editing:** Hala Shrouf  
**Publication year:** 2022.

**About the book:** the book "Time" demonstrated the dimension and nature of time itself as one of the most important and inevitable dimensions during one's life.

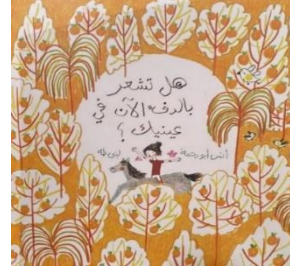
### On Ayman and His Butterflies



**Category:** book for young adults  
**Text:** Mohammad Nabulsi  
**Illustrations:** Sundus Abdulhadi  
**Publication year:** 2022

**About the book:** A story for young adults on the late Palestinian dancer Ayman Safiah, and his memories related to accompanying butterflies and how his life has moved around them since his birth. It also talks about his passion for modern dance until the sea pulled him in.

### Do you feel the Warmth Now in Your Eyes Now?



**Category:** Picture book  
**Text:** Anas Abu Rahma  
**Illustrations:** Lubna Taha  
**Publication year:** 2022

**About the book:** It is the story of the Artist Jumana Al-Husseini for children and youth narrated through her eyes and what she has produced from works and artistic models.

### Ghassan Kanafani... The Eternal



**Category:** book for young adults  
**Text:** Mahmoud Shuqair  
**Design:** Hanin Khairi  
**Publication year:** 2022

**About the book:** In collaboration with the Palestinian Ministry of Culture, Tamer Institute has published this biography on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the assassination of the great Ghassan Kanafani. The book addressed Kanafani's life targeting young adults.

### Palestinian Visual Journey



**Category:** book for young adults  
**Text:** Rula Khoury and Ahmad Nabil  
**Illustrations:** Maya Chami  
**Publication year:** 2022

**About the book:** Tamer Institute chose to represent 30 artists for children and young adults in a book demonstrating their biographies and works. The book

explains their artistic styles and connects them to the bigger Palestinian case through the emancipation path from occupation and colonialism. It draws their attention to the path of searching for a better life and a higher beauty. It provides children and the readers with an opportunity to cultivate their artistic knowledge with entertainment and experience.

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### My Mouth's Taste: An Autobiography of Taste



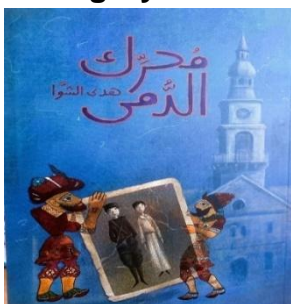
**Category:** book for young adults  
**Text:** Ahlam Bsharat  
**Illustrations:** Rehaf Batanji  
**Publication year:** 2022

**About the book:** I like the taste of my mouth and I do not take it for granted. I only give it new recipes with new tastes when it comes out of desire and willingness for them. This made me careful towards experimenting with food, especially the dishes that I grew up with and thus they, like a sponge, filled themselves with memories. A novel and an autobiography in which the writer follows her autobiography of taste and its connection to her childhood and memories.

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### The Puppet Master

**Category:** book for young adults

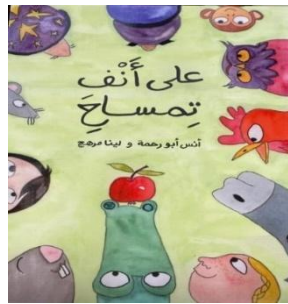


**Text:** Huda Shawwa  
**Cover:** Abdallah Qawariq  
**Publication year:** 2022  
**About the book:** A novel that Tamer presents to young

adults that takes us to the times of the First World War with the story of the Armenian boy Mahran, who arrives at Aleppo in Syria after a journey of displacement from his town of Mardin in Turkey, which was the Ottoman Empire back then, through stops of misery.

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### On a Crocodile's Nose



**Category:** Picture book  
**Text:** Anas Abu Rahma  
**Illustrations:** Lena Merhej  
**Publication year:** 2022

**About the book:** A story for early childhood that opens the door to queries and imagination. It starts with an apple tree, how it lives, what surrounds it and the events it goes through every day. The journey ends with a magician that changes it until it jumps on a crocodile's nose.

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### Sawdust



**Category:** Picture book  
**Text:** Mohammad Nabulsi  
**Illustrations:** Dima Abu Elhaj  
**Publication year:** 2022

**About the book:** A story revolving around the artist Abdul Hay Musallem when he was a child and a young adult. It follows the beginning of his passion in clay and mud to produce art works using sawdust in his childhood before the diaspora. This story was part of the Palestinian Art Series.

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## I Follow a Thread



**Category:**

Picture book for young adults

**Text:** Alaa Qarman

**Illustrations:**

Haya Halaw

**Publication**

**year:** 2022

**About the**

**book:** A picture book focusing on the “in-between times”. It tells the experience of travelling between living times and between questions on self-identity. It is a journey in space and time. It is nostalgia for both the past and the future and going back and forth between them.

## B. Tamer Institute's Digital Production for 2022

### Gaza International Airport Initiative

The online exhibition of Gaza International Airport initiative was launched on Tamer Institute's website. 14 female artists and 8 male artists participated in the exhibition where 35 painting, 25 pictures, 5 text by Yara'at and a song by Voices team were presented.

### Filmmakers Path

Three documentaries were produced, inspired by the stories that came out from the aggression against Gaza. To watch the documentaries, please click on the link: [Filmmakers Path Movies](#)

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### Voices Team from Palestine

A book titled "A House Made of Sticks" was produced and it included literary texts produced by the youth team. You can read the book by clicking on the link: [A House Made of Sticks](#)

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### Ghassan Kanafani Podcast

To listen to the Ghassan Kanafani Podcast episodes, please click the links below

1. [Oh home song](#)
  2. [Episode: Forever](#)
  3. [Episode: The Others](#)
  4. [Episode: The Land](#)
  5. [Episode: The Human is an Issue](#)
- 

### Engravings on Stone

Through this path, 3 films and 2 podcasts were produced and played in Khalil Sakakini Cultural Center in Ramallah and published on the Institute's social media websites.

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## C. Tamer Institute's Theatrical Productions During 2022

### The Two Immigrants

In cooperation with artists Jamal al-Razi and Hussam al-Madhoun and directed and prepared by the Palestinian artist Naim Nasr, a theatrical performance titled "The Two Immigrants" was carried out on the Gaza Red Crescent Society stage.

#### **Third:** Translations:

During 2022, Tamer Institute contracted different publication houses from different countries in order to translate different productions into various foreign languages. The publication houses were in Brazil, Iran, Denmark and Canada. The translations included various books, as clarified below:

#	Title	Country	Publishing House
1	Wonder Travels in Mysterious Lands	Brazil	Editoria Tabla
2	Wonder Travels in Mysterious Lands	Iran	Atraf Publications
3	Wonder Travels in Mysterious Lands	Denmark	Jensen & Dalgaard
4	Dantella	Brazil	Editoria Tabla
5	Little Lost Pengiun	Brazil	Editoria Tabla
6	The Lilac Girl	Brazil	Editoria Tabla
7	A Story that begins and ends with Imagination	Brazil	Editoria Tabla
8	To English- The Lilac Girl	Canada	Bookland Press – Canada
9	To French- The Lilac Girl	Canada	Bookland Press – Canada
10	My name the Butterfly	Iran	Michka Publications
11	The Lilac Girl	Iran	Hossein Shahmoradi – Amir Kabir Publishing

#### Fourth: Texts received by the Publishing Unit in 2022

The email of Tamer's Publishing Unit received 31 manuscripts sent from different areas of Palestine and the Arab region. The manuscripts varied between texts intended for children or for young people and varied in terms of quality and topics.

The below table illustrates the received manuscripts:

No.	Total number of Manuscripts Received During 2022	Total Number of Manuscripts Received from Palestine	Total number of Manuscripts Received from Arab States	Total number of Manuscripts Received from Female Writers	Total number of Manuscripts Received from Male Writers
1	31	24	7	23	8

#### Fifth: Music Album Productions



In continuation with the Institute’s work on singing stories, Tamer Institute produced 2 music albums for children, which are:

Faheem’s Mirror, which was a singing production for the book titled ‘My Heart is a Forest’. It was considered the first of the singing productions directed at children in a specialized and professional manner. This work was achieved in partnership with musician Faraj Suleiman, writer Majd Kayal and the child Faheem Abu Hilu. The album complemented Faheem’s first album project and continued to enhance the voice and perspective of the child in rushing to adventures, amazement, and big little questions. To listen to the album, please click [Faheem’s Mirror Album](#).

The Institute also launched the album "Shabara Qamara” which included 10 songs inspired by Palestinian traditional Folklore. To listen to the Albums please click: [Shabara Qamara](#).

### **Sixth: Tamer Institute’s Digital Presence:**

Since the beginning of 2022, Tamer Institute sought to enhance its digital website in order to make it more accessible and develop the data and information presented on the website. Through the website, Tamer Institute uploaded digital productions such as the youth exhibitions. Here are some links relating the Institute’s online presence:

1. Tamer Institute: [tamerinst.org](http://tamerinst.org)
2. Gaza International Airport Exhibition: ([tamerinst.org](http://tamerinst.org)).
3. Mediterranean frequencies: [tamerinst.org](http://tamerinst.org)

Additionally, the social media platforms Facebook and Instagram received high-level engagement and shares, that contributed to raising awareness of the Institute activities and facilitated interaction on different levels. In general, this was facilitated by the digital releases, the digital library, children’s participation, and others. Below is a table illustrating Tamer Institute’s presence on Facebook and Instagram since the beginning of the year 2022.

	Facebook	Instagram
Page reach	764,565	95,831
New Followers from the beginning of the year	2,450	1,438
Total Followers	116,521	4,270
Visits to the page	21,576	4,693

### Age, Gender, and Geographical Distributions

In the table below, you can see the digital engagement based on geographical distribution, and it shows clearly that Tamer Institute reached different locations in the Arab world in addition to Turkey, as almost 55% of followers and engagements were located outside of Palestine and the Occupied Lands of 1948.

Age and gender distributions for followers is below:

Geographical location	Percentage of Followers
<b>Palestine</b>	41.6%
<b>Algeria</b>	23.8%
<b>Egypt</b>	8.1%
<b>Tunisia</b>	6%
<b>Occupied Palestinian Lands of 1984</b>	3.7%
<b>Morocco</b>	3.6%
<b>Iraq</b>	2.8%
<b>Jordan</b>	2.6%
<b>Lebanon</b>	1.8%
<b>Turkey</b>	1.1%

### Seventh: Book Launch Events

Tamer Institute launched 9 books in 2022, whether through face-to-face events or through digital launch events. The following is a review of all their face-to-face and digital events organized by the Institute in 2022:

## The launch event of the book “The Little Lost Penguin”



On Wednesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023, Tamer organized a digital launch event for the book “The Little Lost Penguin” via Zoom: The book was written by Huda Shawa, and illustrated by Walid Taher. The launch included a critical review for the book and the illustrations presented by Anastasia Qarwani. The children’s reactions voices were reflected in productions and then collected and presented by Iman Madi, in different storytelling and discussion workshops in the community libraries. For more information about the launch event, please

click the link [The launch of the book “The Little Lost Penguin”](#)

## The launch event of the book “A story Hidden in the Attic”



Tamer organized the event for the launch of “A Story Hidden in the Attic” on April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022, via ZOOM. The book was written by Annastasia Qarwani and illustrated by Sasha Haddad. The launch event included a critical reading presented by Huda Shawa. The children’s reactions voices were reflected in productions and then collected and presented by Hiba Saeda, in different storytelling and discussion workshops in the community libraries. For more information about the launch event, please click the link : [The launch of the book “A story Hidden in the Attic”](#)

[”علوية Attic”](#)

## The launch event of the book “Sawdust”



On Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022, Tamer organized a book launch via ZOOM for the book “Sawdust”, written by Mohammad Al-Nabulsi and illustrated by Dima Al-Haj. The launch event included a critical reading. The children’s reactions voices were reflected in productions and then collected and presented by Mohammad Al-Zaqzouk, while a presentation of the illustrations was done by Mohammad Saleh Khalil. For more information about the launching event, please click the link: [The launch of the book](#)

[“Sawdust”](#)

### The launch event of the book “Thunderbird”



On Sunday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Tamer Institute organized a face-to-face and via Zoom launch event in the Child Literature Resource Center in Ramallah for “Thunderbird (V3).” The book was written by the author Sonia Nimer, and Alice Yousef presented a critical reading of the three volumes of the book. For more information, please click on the link: [The launch of the book “Thunderbird ”](#)

### The launch event of the book “Encyclopedia of Palestinian Folk Tales”



On Wednesday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Tamer Institute organized the launch event for the book “Encyclopedia of Palestinian Folk Tales” in the Institute’s Headquarters face-to-face and via ZOOM. The launch was attended by the researchers and the writers Sharif Kanaaneh and Nabil Alqam. The meeting was led by Renad Qubbaj. The meeting was also broadcasted on Facebook. For more information about the meeting, please click the link:

[The launch of the book “Encyclopedia of Palestinian Folk Tales ”](#)

### The launch event of the book “The Secret of the Sword”



On October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022, Tamer organized a face-to-face launch event in Khalil Sakakini Cultural Center for the book “The Secret of the Sword”, written by the prisoner Walid Daqqa. The event included a word by the Writer, interventions by Ilyas Khouri and Abdelrahim Alsheikh, a book signing by Sanaa Salama, the prisoner Walid Daqqa’s wife, and his daughter Milad. For more information about the event, please click [The launch of the book “The Secret of the Sword ”](#)

### The launch event of the book “My Mouth’s Taste: An Autobiography of Taste”



On October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Tamer Institute organized a launch event for the book “My Mouth’s Taste: An Autobiography of Taste” in its Headquarters in Ramallah. The book is written by Ahlam Bsharat and Illustrated by Rihaf Al-Batniji. The event included a critical reading presented by the Writer, Translator, and Professor at Birzeit University Ibrahim Abu Hashhash. For more information about the event, please click the below link

[The launch of the book “My Mouth’s Taste: An Autobiography](#)

[of Taste ”](#)

## Eighth: Seminars and Roundtables

Tamer Resource Center hosted several seminars in the last few months, and they were:

### A seminar on violence against children with Adeem Masarweh:



Child Literature Resource Center in Tamer Institute of Community Education organized a seminar, on March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022, titled “Violence Against Children and Young Adults, between Parents and Teachers’ Influence.” The seminar was conducted via ZOOM and the hosting author was Dr. Deema Masarweh, who has a PhD from Oxford University focusing on violence against children and young adults as well as parenthood in the political context. For more information about the seminar, please click [A seminar on violence against children with Adeem Masarweh](#)

### A seminar on Virtual Space with Suzan Abu Ghaida and Ala’ Qarman:



The Child Literature Resource Center in Tamer Institute of Community Education organized a seminar on Virtual Space on March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022 via ZOOM. The seminar was led by the authors Suzan Abu Ghaida and Ala’ Qarman. The Institute had launched a book titled “Follow the Thread” in 2022, written by Ala Qarman, which focused on the time in-between, the transitioning time from a place to another and from a journey to another. It reflected the feeling of “not belonging” to a time or place and the nostalgia to both the past and the present. For more information about the seminar, please click [A seminar on Virtual Space with Suzan Abu Ghaida and Ala’ Qarman](#)

### [Suzan Abu Ghaida and Ala’ Qarman](#)

### A seminar during “Naqsh Al’a Hajar’s” project on the main historical engravings of the city of Akka and Bethlehem with Ali Habib Allah and Osama Al Ayasseh:



On Saturday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022, the Child Literature Resource Center in Tamer Institute of Community Education organized a seminar titled Naqsh Ala’a Hajar (Engravings on Stone) via ZOOM through a project with the same title Funded by the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development and with supervision from the Welfare Association, together with the Palestinian Heritage Center and The Arab Culture Association. The aim of this seminar was to learn more about the main historical engravings of the cities of Acre and Bethlehem. For this seminar, the Child Literature Resource Center hosted the researchers Ali

Habib Allah and Osama Al Ayasseh and they were interviewed by Bahaa Al-Jabaa. For more information about the seminar, please click the link :[The “Naqsh al Hajar” seminar](#)

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## **Ninth: Awards**

### **Palestinian Ministry of Culture’s Award for Palestine’s Social and Humanities Studies**

This award was won by the book “Encyclopedia of Palestinian Folk Tales” by Sharif Kanaaneh and Nabil Alqam and produced by Tamer.

### **Arab Children’s Book Publishers Forum Award**

Tamer Institute’s book “This is why Rayyan Walks Like This” by Yehia Ashour, illustrated by Abdullah Qawariq, won the Middle Childhood Category. Two of Tamer’s books were also nominated for the honor list of the International Board on Books for Youth (IBBY) among the top titles in Palestinian child literature for the year 2022. The first nominated book is ‘the Cat Feather” by Haifa Sawarkeh for its quality of illustration by Amaal. The second nominated book was “Jerusalem and I: An Autobiography” by Hala Sakakini for the quality of its translation by Hala Shrouf.

## **Tenth: Regional and International Exhibitions**

Visiting Bologna Book Fair and Cultural Centers in Paris:

The Bologna Book Fair was held for the first time in three years since the COVID- 19 pandemic, which still affected attendance this year as many publishing houses apologized for not being able to attend the Fair, due to it. Ahmad Ashour represented the Institute in the fair where he helped the Institute keep up with all the new international book updates. He also networked, connected with new publishers, and helped chose new books for translation. Moreover, Ahmad Ashour visited libraries, cultural centers, publishing houses and a radio station in Paris and its suburbs.

Arab Publishers' Conference:

Tamer Institute participated in the annual event that is dedicated to the international publishing sector within the “Arab Publishers' Conference” in its 6<sup>th</sup> year in a digital age, which is held annually at the fringe of the Sharjah book fair for three days. The conference discussed the opportunities and challenges facing the sector, the future of digital publishing in the Arab World, the international emerging markets to advertise audiobooks, and other subjects. And over three days, the conference allowed publishers and copy and distribution rights experts to gain knowledge about the new perspectives and trends in publishing and to participate in inspiring important talks given by the elites of the international publishing world.

The first day events included a session on how to benefit from the \$300,000 Translation Grant provided by “Sharjah Writers Authority”, exclusively for participants in the Publishers' Conference. The Institute was able to sign contracts for four books to be translated from Arabic into other languages. This did not mean that Tamer Institute had received the grant yet, as it is pending the results. Moreover, The Arab Conference of Arab publishers was organized, which discussed the reality of reading in the Arab region. The conference lasted for two days.

### **Strategic Goal 3: Providing a safe enabling environment for the "culture of learning."**

Tamer Institute continues to build a supportive environment to enhance the culture of learning in Palestine, focusing primarily on community libraries as places for learning in a free, safe and child-friendly space. In general, Tamer Institute considers community and public libraries in Palestine as free and safe spaces for children, young people, and the families who attend them. They are spaces that can embrace their questions and ideas, where they can exercise their right to learn and develop knowledge in a variety of activities that encourage speaking and exchanging of opinions. Libraries guarantee the right to express and practice various expressive art activities and liberates self-expression. Hence, the importance of community libraries as third space which encourage speaking and learning and allow children and young people to be integrated into diverse human and knowledge-based experiences that help them recover and confront. The form of interventions for 2022 was mainly based on:

1. Capacity Building and trainings (Child Literature Program, Community Library Network, Protection Program and learning program)
2. Physical interventions and improvements
3. Provision of Supplies to the Network of Community Libraries

#### **First: Capacity Building Path and trainings (Children’s Literature Program, the network of community libraries, Protection Program and Learning program)**

A total of 11 training workshops and learning sessions in 80 community libraries with emphasis on inclusive learning and child protection were conducted in 2022. They targeted 103 caregivers (96F, 7M). One of those interventions was working with children and families in community libraries using a number psychological and emotional relief activities that utilize visual arts, which enhanced the notion of libraries as third spaces in their lives. By the beginning of March, a training was conducted by the German artist Patricia Touma, which focused on mental health, visual and performing arts, as well as recycling, and how to use them in order to utilize them for activities with children and young adults in a way that encourages creative expression, as well as linking them with children and young adult stories produced by the Institute.

In July 2022, Tamer Institute conducted its annual “Library Days” in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, and as part of its annual activities the network of community libraries worked on organizing Library Days together with librarians of the Network. The focus of the Library Days this year was group work patterns inside the libraries and what relates

to that from practices that have to do with public spaces surrounding the library and its role as a third space in its community. Art, mental relief, and free activities were mixed as part of their activities during the Library Days. A total of 65 librarians (61F, 4M) participated in the activities.

During 2022, four additional libraries were formed in Bethlehem and Ya'bad- Jenin. And 4 expertise-sharing sessions were held between these new libraries. Additionally, 50 schools in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip were targeted by Tamer Institute's team through the Ministry of Education and UNRWA. Teachers, pedagogical supervisors, and educational facilitators were trained on using literacy and numeracy manuals through play as well as training in the student's educational needs package (SNAP), in addition to inclusive education strategies, protection mechanisms, training in the application "CTO", and training in utilizing Children's literature in education. Taking in consideration the high number of trainees which reached more than 200, without taking into account participants from other projects, this varied group could be looked at from a number of angles, as it was clear that a considerable number of participants came into the training with ample interest in the Institute, and a readiness and motivation to learn, all of which helped the training relate to them individually as they cared and were interested in the world of childhood, children's literature, or literature in general.

## **Second: Physical interventions and improvements**

During 2022, 8 schools in Bethlehem, Jenin and East Jerusalem had physical interventions, reaching 1959 children (1126F, 833M) from all grades, as well as 148 schoolteachers and staff. A committee including members from Tamer Institute (the project manager, the area coordinator and a consulting engineer, the engineer of the Ministry of Education (MoE) and the principal of each school) and the committee members conducted field visits to all schools targeted by the intervention and compared plans with actual implementation. The interventions included improving the electricity, water, internet networks, rehabilitating the playgrounds, outside walls and classrooms, improving access for Children with Disability (CwD), solving the issue of condensation, procurement of some items like curtains and improving the light for classrooms, among others. The interventions will be finalized in 2023.

In addition, physical improvements were completed in 4 libraries in the Gaza Strip: Al Hara Library in Deir Al Balah, Women Programs Library in Khan Younes, Women Program's Library in Rafah, and Rafah's Municipality Library. They were provided with shelves for books and desks. Additionally, in cooperation with Imar Association for development and rehabilitation and the Child Cinema Initiative, a child cinema was opened in Khan Younis in the north of the Gaza Strip. This launch came as a culmination of joint efforts aiming at enhancing spaces for children's self-expression.



### **Third: Provision of Supplies to the Network of Community Libraries**

In partnership with various publishing houses or organizations such as “Book Aid” and Manna House. In 2022, Tamer Institute continued to support community and school libraries, cultural and social centers, kindergartens, and Palestinian universities (University of Palestine, Open University of Jerusalem, and Gaza University) with various lists of books including Tamer publications and books from other publishing houses. In total, 3201 books were provided to 92 community libraries and 100 school libraries within Tamer Institute’s network.

### **Fourth: Network of Community Libraries**

#### **Reading and Expressive Arts Path:**

During 2022, the Network of Community Libraries held approximately 1,000 activities targeting both children and young people, with the total number of participants reaching 2,641 in both the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Activities were based on art as a way of expressing oneself, ideas, and feelings in a safe environment with the aim of reducing tension and improving social communication means through activities such as expressive arts workshops which focus on producing expressive tools from recycled materials, shadow theater, making a theater in a box and other creative means.

This was in addition to the expressive writing workshops for mental relief, within the path of “What becomes of Eid?,” which was carried out with 346 children in 8 community libraries in the Gaza Strip. It is worth mentioning that a book under the same title was produced showing the stories of the children of Gaza who lived through the aggression of the occupation in 2021 for the third time during their few years of life. In their writing, the children mentioned Eid which they lost, and their thoughts and plans for their stolen holiday.

### Schools Activities:

During 2022, Tamer Institute, in cooperation with 26 schools in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, enhanced the culture of informal education as it barely existed in the curriculum. They implemented varied and purposeful activities, such as hosting community members, writers, storytellers, artists, and theatrical performances. 35 theatrical performances were performed inside the schools and the number of children attending was 5126 children as well as 140 teachers.

### Math Clubs:

Creative learning and life skill tools were used to teach mathematics in order to facilitate the understanding of the material for the third and fourth grades in 28 schools in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

### Developing and rolling out child friendly Code of Conduct at schools:

Children from the first to the fourth grades in 17 targeted schools in the West Bank participated in activities to develop a code of conduct. Children shared their feelings and fears and highlighted aspects of their physical and emotional environment that they considered as a priority in their safe and healthy environment through expressive arts. Total number of children who participated in the activity reached up to 2276 children.

### Remedial Education:

This activity targeted children in the second and third grades who suffered from learning difficulties in Arabic and Math. Each targeted school conducted 32 learning sessions. The schools included schools in Jerusalem, West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Subject	Total No of Children	CwD	No. of Female Children	Number of Male Children	Number of Sessions	Number of Female and Male teacher Beneficiaries
Mathematics	2738	132	1354	1384	2480	70
Arabic	The Same target Beneficiaries of mathematics classes				2544	73
Total	2738	132	1354	1384	5024	143

### Summer Camps:

#### The Nature Club, Hadara Badara Camp and Atta Al Marbuta Camp

A variety of expressive arts activities were implemented based on existing artistic elements from the Institute's productions and characters. Camps activities included storytelling, discussions, expressive arts, handicrafts, popular and kinetic games, child cinema, and leisure and educational trips.

Camp	No of Youth and Children Participants	CwD	No. of Female children and Youth Participants	No of Male children and Youth Participants	Number of Camps	No. of Family members
Hadara Badara	366	21	235	131	----	47
Atta Al Marbuta	2269	117	1420	849	27 camps	
Nature Club	9		4	5	5 sessions	14

#### **Strategic Goal 4: Empowering Tamer Institute's Team and enhancing the Institute's sustainability to spread its learning approach inside and outside Palestine**

##### **First: Endorsement of Internal structures, Systems, Policies and Culture**

During 2022, Tamer Institute for Community Education continued to meet with its team in accordance with the concept of sustainability endorsed by the Institute. This included a monthly meeting conducted in the Resource Center inside the Institute in Ramallah, where the field coordinators and office team members were able to meet. Tamer Institute's team in the West Bank and East Jerusalem also met regularly with the Tamer Institute's team in the Gaza Strip via Zoom. Those monthly meetings included reading articles and books, and discussions between all the team members. The child's perspective was always the basis of Tamer Institute's approach, and it was discussed in relation to the Institute's projects during the monthly meetings. Furthermore, Tamer Institute conducted one meeting with the general assembly in 2022 where the Board of Directors (BoD) was elected for 2022-2023, in addition to 5 meetings with the Board of Directors.

##### **Second: Tamer Institute is supportive of its team and capable of diffusing its learning approach**

1. **Developing the MEAL System:** The Institute worked with an external consulting firm to update their monitoring, evaluation, accountability and learning system (MEAL). Additionally, Training workshops for the team were held in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and a new manual was prepared, which helped to strengthen the Team's capacity to design new projects and use monitoring and evaluation tools.
2. **Communication and Digital Media Strategies:** Tamer Institution collaborated with JEEL Media for Social Media and Communication Consulting. This included analysis of their Internet presence, brand identity, propaganda and solidarity campaigns,

verbal brand identity, and media messages. A form was also added to review responses to the website.

3. **Library and Borrowing System:** Tamer Institution continuously works to improve its library and borrowing system. During 2022, 247 members benefited from the system and a total 715 books were borrowed, in addition to continuously promoting the use of the system.
4. **Advocacy and lobbying and communication plan:** Tamer Institute provided training in advocacy, lobbying and communication to team members. This positively impacted national reading campaigns and improved access to social media. Meetings were held with partners to promote participatory education, inclusive education, and child protection.
5. **Developing Tamer Institute's website:** The website was enhanced in order to improve user experience, including adding more information about brochures and reading materials, creating an archive of reading campaign posters, and adding services such as online registration for Tamer Library membership and volunteer opportunity openings.

Tamer also updated its website during the reporting period to include a section on inclusivity policies, including inclusion and pluralism policies, gender, prevention of harassment, sexual exploitation and abuse, and child protection. These policies have also been added to the contracts of existing staff by adding an attachment and translating them into Arabic.

### **Third: Diversified funding resources for the Institute**

**Communications with Selling Networks:** This act was achieved in order to sell Tamer Institute's publications and increase the partial contribution of publications to core budget.

During 2022, Tamer Institute sold publications to 5 points such as Duam Platform in Korea and Kutubee Platform in Jordan. Tamer also sold publications in Frankfurt and Iran, in addition to selling rights for Yehia Ashour's book "That is why Rayyan Walks Like This."

### **Infrastructure:**

- a. **Solar System:** Tamer Institute has developed a solar system for its office in the Gaza Strip.
- b. **Rehabilitation:** Tamer Institute rehabilitated the garden in its office in the West Bank for it to be a safe space for children, parents, and youth, and to hold activities in the outside space.

After a year of planning, designing and construction, Tamer Institute for Community Education opened its new community park in November 2022, which was funded and executed by the GIZ. The park provided a safe space for young people and children to carry out all kinds of activities and games. Located in

downtown Ramallah, the park was cultivated in a joint effort by the Tamer Institute team within the project titled “Enhancing Youth and Children Program in Palestine.”

