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| **SOCIAL CHANGE DOMAIN** |
| **PROGRAMS**  |
| **Strengthening Palestinian-Israeli civil society (Nasij)** | **Contending with Crime and Violence in Arab Society** | **Jewish-Arab Partnership** | **Gender Equality & Religious Freedom** | **Equality and Partnership in the Negev** |
| **Safeguarding Human Rights and Democracy** | **Future Vision** | **Miscellaneous** |
| Put in here the Map of Programs AND Pie of Program Including Otherיובל האם יש פאי עדכני לחברה משותפת? האם יש טעם לפאי כי בעצם אין תכנית? |
| **The organization was established in: 2000**

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| **NIF Funding Type** | **Past Years of Support** |
| General Support | - |
| Project Support | 2015-2020 |

**DA Support (in 2023):** $109,952**Rapid Response Support (in 2023/24)** $100,000**Link to Organizational Website:** [**https://ajeec-nisped.org.il/?page\_id=17021&lang=en**](https://ajeec-nisped.org.il/?page_id=17021&lang=en)**Link to Proposal:** <https://nif.my.site.com/Portal/a0NSb0000020t9p> |
| **INTRODUCTION** |
| **Brief description of Project/Organization:** AJEEC-NISPED (Arab-Jewish Center for Equality, Empowerment, and Cooperation – Negev Institute for Strategies of Peace and Economic Development) is an Arab-Jewish organization for social change that was established in the Negev in 2000. The organization consists of a joint team of Arabs and Jews who work together to create an equal, shared society, which allows Arabs and Jews to realize their potential and express their identity and culture fully. Currently, the organization operates in civil society all over Israel. |
| **The overall current expected impact of the program as a strategy for advancing NIF’s overall mission of a just and democratic Israel is:** AJEEC’s mission is to create equal, inclusive, and flourishing societies through innovative activities in three key areas: Youth (15–25) and Leadership Development, Arab-Jewish Partnership, and Community Resilience. The Arab word “AJEEC” means “I am coming towards you” and represents the leading principle of the organization, which aims to get to know, explain, understand, join forces, and move forward together for a better common future for both Arab and Jewish societies. |
| **The grantee uses strategies of:** * Educational programs and peer learning to promote a shared society
* Activist and teacher training
* Dialogue between Arabs and Jews
* Traditional and social media
* Public campaigns
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| **Organization goals and relevant benchmark outcomes:**The main goal is advancing a shared society in Israel and establishing a real partnership between Palestinian Arab citizens and Jewish citizens of Israel. Interim outcomes towards achieving this goal include: * Significant expansion in the number of participants in the programs and in activities that foster dialogue and the building of a shared society.
* Creation of new partnerships between neighboring municipalities.
* Reaching new target audiences who will engage in meaningful dialogue processes.
* Professional development of the organization's staff and members of the Scout Association who operate a wide range of dialogue programs through ongoing training in dialogue facilitation.
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| **Added value of this grant (for the project and in general) include that:**AJEEC is a joint Jewish-Arab organization that operates a wide range of projects aimed at promoting shared living between Jews and Arabs in Israel. The organization successfully reaches thousands of people who participate in various projects, particularly in extended educational programs focused on shared living for school children, teachers, university students, participants in a year of voluntary service, and the community at large. Supporting the organization and strengthening its range of activities to promote shared living will enable an increase in activity scale. With this increase, it will be possible to reach tens of thousands of people, advance shared living in Israel, and foster civil collaborations. |
| **EXPECTED PROGRESS** |
| **Overall Expected (1-2 Years) Impact:** * The organization will professionalize the staff involved in various projects that aim to promote a shared society and shared living.
* The organization will significantly increase the number of participants in all its various programs (see details and metrics below).
* The organization will successfully reach new audiences and create at least one new partnership between neighboring municipalities.

Below are examples of expected outcomes and outputs in projects related to a shared society.**Expected Strategic Activities (and Outputs):*** Approximately 25–30 paid senior coordinators will be trained in the facilitation of dialogue and social initiatives and will, in turn, guide at least 20 groups of young adults.
* Gap Year 1: 20 groups (10 Scouts and 10 AJEEC) and approximately 500 youth (11th grade) and young people in a service or gap year (18–20 years old) will participate in a series of three to four uninational meetings and six joint seminars. They will then establish and lead joint initiatives in pairs of adjacent groups ("sister groups").
* Sister group meetings—meet, get to know, experience, and act together: 20 groups will meet in the first year in 6 joint one-day annual seminars, that will offer experiential and bonding activities, trips, and learning to accept the diversity of identities and build a common society.
* Ten new or renewed initiatives will be led by the "sister groups" in which hundreds to thousands of youth will participate. The successful experience of the implementation of the joint initiatives will be a catalyst for the promotion of additional initiatives in the future.

**Expected Measurable Outcomes:** * Professional peer learning and professional partnership that will lead to joint activities.
* The joint professional training for the group coordinators in facilitating dialogue meetings will expand the number of professionals in the field of shared society and will help create a special language and unique profession in this field.
* Graduates of the programs will continue to accompany the local initiatives they were partners in even after the end of the service year/gap year/high school. Summit meetings of alumni will be held in the years following the completion of the program in order to preserve the partnership, maintain contacts with peers, and undertake local initiatives.
* The successful experience of the implementation of joint initiatives ‏ between Palestinians and Jews will be a catalyst for the promotion of additional initiatives in the organizations.

**Indicators and Tools that the grantee/we will use for tracking progress:** Questionnaires, interviews, and follow-up meetings with staff and participants.Indicators of success * Significant professional and interpersonal relationships were created that enable the continued development of significant joint action.
* A new and renewed cadre of group facilitators in general and dialogue groups in particular has been created that promote shared living.
* A new and growing circle of participants was exposed to dialogue tools.
* New and creative initiatives have been developed that promote joint action and shared living that become beacons of inspiration.
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**2024 General Support Grant Budget**

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| **General Support Expenses**  | **2024** |
| Annual Organizational Expenses in US Dollars | $10,210,000 |
| NIF Grant in US Dollars  | $100,000 |
| % of NIF Grant out of Total Organizational Budget | 1% |

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| **Anticipated 2024 Organizational Income** | **$** | **%** |
| Total Assured | $ | % |
| Total Likely | $ | % |
| Total Pending | $ | % |
| Recommended NIF Grant | $100,000 | 1% |
| **Total Anticipated Organizational Income** | **$10,210,000** | **100%** |

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| **RECOMMENDATIONS** |
| **2024 Staff Recommendation**: $100,000 **Staff Analysis of Risk vs. Opportunity:** High opportunity/low risk. This is a well-established organization that has been leading projects that promote shared living between Jews and Palestinians in Israel for many years. The organization is led by a joint team of about 200 Arabs and Jews who work together to create a common and equal space. The joint action promotes dialogue, understanding, and joining forces to create a better future for all, allowing Arabs and Jews to live together while preserving each unique identity and culture.The organization has a large budget, most of which is already secured. A general grant from the foundation to support the organization will allow it to expand its work in the field of shared living and reach new populations on a larger scale with minimal risk.**Explain Staff Recommendation:** The staff recommends giving Ajeec-Nisped general support that will allow it flexibility to work on promoting shared society between Palestinians and Jews in Israel and to promote equality for Palestinians in Israel. Ajeec-Nisped runs many projects for ‏various populations in the areas of shared society that are important for NIF, such as “Talking the Change”: Encounters between Arab and Jewish Young Adults, including identity encounter sessions, accompanied before and after by single-identity preparation and processing sessions to encourage integration of the lessons of the encounter into the day-to-day life of each group; “Educators on the way” with the aim to develop a new layer of educators that speak the language of shared society; “Arab-Jewish Gap Year” that is a full year of joint study, dialogue, and community service for Arab and Jewish high school graduates in the Negev, Ramla, and Lod. A general support grant will allow the organization greater flexibility and room to maneuver to deal with all these projects of importance for NIF.**Additional current grants to same recipient in other programs:** None**.****Recommendation of Board/Grants Committee 2024:**  |