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Newsletter Fall 2025

Join SIPP Online

Dec 7th!

11am MST, 1pm EST, 8pm IST

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Small Projects • Big Impacts • Bringing Hope

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SIPP 2025 Community Update

Join us for the online 2025 Community Update!



Date: Sunday, December 7th



Time: 11:00 am – 12:15 pm MST / 1:00 – 2:15 pm EST



Location: Online via Zoom

Grab your coffee, settle in, and be part of something meaningful! Mark your calendars. This isn't just an update—it's a chance to go *behind the headlines* and hear directly from people working on the ground, including a partner working in **Gaza**. You'll hear directly about our mini-grants and other programs from several of SIPP's partners—remarkable Palestinians and Israelis who have continued to work

on multicultural projects throughout the war. We'll also share exciting news about what's ahead and will offer an opportunity for questions and answers.

Your presence matters. While this event is free and open to all, your support helps us continue funding grassroots projects that create real impact. Even if you can't attend, please consider making a donation—every contribution brings us closer to a sustainable future.

[Register Here](#)[Donate to SIPP](#)

Empowering Women, Jumpstarting Hope in Gaza!

Sustainable Israeli-Palestinian Projects (SIPP) is thrilled to announce a new collaboration with the **Arava Institute of Environmental Studies** (AIES, an Israeli NGO) and **Damour for Community Development** (Damour, a Palestinian NGO) to launch the "**EmpowHer**" initiative under the larger [Jumpstarting Hope in Gaza](#) (JHG) initiative.

The EmpowHer initiative promotes vital community development, economic resilience, and individual agency in war-ravaged Gaza. It is designed to provide financial support to displaced and vulnerable women in the Al-Mawasi humanitarian zone of the Gaza Strip, helping them establish small, home-based businesses.

SIPP's financial support will kickstart **three small-scale women empowerment and moneymaking projects** that support four women entrepreneurs selected by Damour:



Baked Goods Project: This project will support two women in establishing a small bakery operation to produce fresh bread and pastries for the local community. It includes providing a locally-made oven, basic kitchen tools, shared display

equipment, and an initial stock of raw materials. 🍰

Cake & Ma'amoul Project: This project supports one woman who will produce cakes, sweets, and traditional Ma'amoul for celebrations and daily consumption. Key equipment includes a gas oven, baking trays, and essential utensils. 🥒

Pickles & Fermented Food Project: Supporting one woman, this project focuses on producing pickles and fermented vegetables, a traditional and high-demand food staple in Gaza. Supplies include cooking pots, jars, storage containers, and starter supplies of vegetables.



Fareed Mahameed in Colorado

Five SIPP Board members were fortunate to meet with **Fareed Mahameed**, the Assistant Director for the Center on Transboundary Water Management at the Arava Environmental Institute, during his Colorado visit in October. Fareed shared insights into his water purification and environmental education efforts in Israeli Bedouin communities, and we explored potential future collaboration.



During his visit, SIPP connected Fareed with [Mighty Water](#), a Colorado-based non-profit that supplies very inexpensive household-scale water filtration kits to areas such as Uganda, Rwanda, Nepal, the Amazon Basin, Ukraine, and the Navajo Nation.



Impact: As a result of that meeting, Fareed agreed to evaluate one of Mighty Water's filtration kits for possible use in the West Bank and in Gaza.

Mini Grants Spotlight: The Community Garden in Jaffa

In 2025, SIPP awarded seven mini-grants which are now completed. We will be announcing the 2026 mini-grant recipients in December. In this issue we want to shine a spotlight on one of the 2025 mini-grant recipients, **The Community Garden in Jaffa**. This garden project provides sustainable education and outreach to Jewish and Arab communities and families.



Run by Jaffa non-profit [The Orchard of Abraham's Children](#) (OAC), participants learn more about the human, cultural, and ecological fabric of Jaffa through a diversity of group activities both in and beyond the garden. OAC brings people together across different cultures by sharing personal stories, meals, and time in the garden.

SIPP's support in 2025 helped the Orchard:

Host a vibrant series of community activities in their garden, highlighted by three major events—the winter hike at Nahal Rubin National Park, the Annual Orchard Spring Festival, and the end-of-year celebration—each drawing 80 to 100 participants. **Conduct a rich program of workshops** drawing 50 participants in each session:



A three-part series on seasonal cycles (propagation, planting, and communal cooking over an open fire) 3 new permaculture sessions (focusing on soil care, companion planting, and water-harvesting design)

Together, these encounters foster mutual understanding, challenge misconceptions, and build bridges across communities by engaging hundreds of community

members of all backgrounds and ages, strengthening shared learning, creativity, and connection.

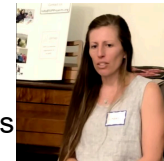
“Through our shared educational work — where 1,000 children, parents, and staff, both Jewish and Arab, learn, live, and grow together — we are creating meaningful change and a living alternative for a more balanced and humane future in this region.” – Ora and Ihab, OAC Founders

Regional Advisory Committee Update

SIPP welcomed new Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) members Jawdat Kasab, Tareq Nassar, Menucha Saitowitz, and Lindsey Zemler. The RAC is hoping to help SIPP organize a networking conference for our past and present partners in the region.

Small Group Gathering with Lindsey Zemler

In July, SIPP hosted a small gathering in Boulder with RAC member Lindsey Zemler. Lindsey lives in Tel Aviv and works at the [Eastern Mediterranean International School](#) (a previous SIPP mini-grantee) as the Sustainability Programs Coordinator and the school's Mission Coordinator, as well as a teacher of Environmental Systems and Societies. As part of the program, we discussed current challenges and opportunities for peace-building in the region.



If you are interested in hosting or attending a small gathering where you live, please contact us at info@SIPProjects.org.

Boulder Rotary Peace Faire

In September, SIPP sponsored a table at the Boulder Rotary's second annual Peace Faire in downtown Boulder. This proved to be a special opportunity to share our work with the community and meet others involved in peace efforts.



Donations

Peace is a verb. Peace requires all of us to act. SIPP accomplishes our work through the volunteer efforts of our board members and others, and by raising funds to support important projects. We work hard to minimize our expenses and ensure accountability of grantees and donees.

But we need more funds to be more effective. **Act through us by making a donation today.**

If giving money is not your thing, we invite you to explore other ways to partner with us. Contact us at info@sippprojects.org.

Donate to SIPP

