

 Early Warning System

DFC-2024-PSBLIBANKOFP

PSBLI Bank of Palestine PSC



## Quick Facts

<b>Countries</b>	Palestine, West Bank, Gaza
<b>Specific Location</b>	West Bank
<b>Financial Institutions</b>	US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC)
<b>Status</b>	Active
<b>Bank Risk Rating</b>	C
<b>Borrower</b>	Middle East Investment Initiative ("MEII"); Bank of Palestine ("BOP")
<b>Sectors</b>	Finance, Industry and Trade
<b>Investment Type(s)</b>	Loan
<b>Investment Amount (USD)</b>	\$ 20.00 million
<b>Project Cost (USD)</b>	\$ 193.70 million



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## Project Description

According to the Bank's website, the project involves the provision of loan guaranty and financial lease guaranty facility for micro-, small-, and medium-sized enterprises ("MSMEs") operating in and households located in the West Bank.

By partnering with local lenders and lessors to de-risk financing MSMEs, the Project will not only increase access to finance in the short term but will increase local financial institutions' confidence in future lending to this enterprise segment. DFC technical assistance ("TA"), operating in coordinating with MEII's existing TA program, will support both the partner financial institutions ("FIs") and MSMEs. The Project is particularly expected to benefit women-owned enterprises through the adoption of strong gender targets, partnership with new FIs targeting women borrowers, and business development support to women micro entrepreneurs. Additionally, the Project will expand eligibility for coverage to home improvement loans for the first time, expected to represent 15% of the guaranty cover.



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## Early Warning System Project Analysis

DFC loan portfolio guarantees for financial intermediaries to expand their MSME portfolio are screened as a Financial Intermediary C (FI-C) for environmental and social assessment. These downstream investments are expected to result in minimal adverse environmental and social impacts. Therefore, all those downstream investments have been pre-screened as low risk and further review and consent is not required for these investments.



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## Investment Description

- US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC)

\$150 million (12-year total facility tenor, 8-year downstream loan origination period), \$20 million (BOP allocation)

## Financial Intermediary

Financial Intermediary: A commercial bank or financial institution that receives funds from a development bank. A financial intermediary then lends these funds to their clients (private actors) in the form of loans, bonds, guarantees and equity shares. Financial intermediaries include insurance, pension and equity funds. The direct financial relationship is between the development bank and the financial intermediary.

- [Bank of Palestine](#) (Financial Intermediary)
- [Middle East Investment Initiative-Palestine](#) (Financial Intermediary)



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## Private Actors Description

*Middle East Investment Initiative - MEII* is a non-profit organization that leverages public and private resources to deliver finance and technical assistance programs.

*Bank of Palestine* was one of the first banks to be established in Gaza in 1960. BoP is currently the largest national bank in WB&G operating as a universal bank with the largest network of 56 branches and offers a broad range of products and services to corporate, Small and Medium Enterprises, retail and micro customers. The Bank is listed on Palestine Securities Exchange with the main shareholder, the Shawa family, directly owning 25.7% of BoP's capital. Other major shareholders include Palestine Investment Fund, Blakeney Investment Fund (UK-Based), Qais al-Ghanim Group (Kuwait) and IFC.



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## Contact Information

*No contacts available at the time of disclosure.*

### ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Unlike many other development finance institutions, DFC does not currently have an access to information policy.

Under the United States Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), DFC is obliged to respond to reasonably formulated requests for Agency records. However, DFC may apply exemptions from release to certain types of information and may charge fees in responding to requests. DFC has a designated FOIA officer who is trained in how to respond to requests and implement the law. You can learn more about filing a FOIA request at: <https://www.dfc.gov/foia>

### ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM OF THE UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE CORPORATION (DFC)

The Office of Accountability is an independent office that addresses complaints about environmental or social issues related to DFC-supported projects. The office provides communities an opportunity to have concerns independently reviewed and addressed. If you submit a complaint to the Office of Accountability, it may assist you by either seeking to address your problems by facilitating a problem solving dialogue between you and those implementing the project and/or investigating whether the DFC complied with its policies to prevent environmental, social, human rights, and labor harms.

You can find more information about the Office of Accountability at: <https://www.dfc.gov/who-we-are/office-accountability>



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## Bank Documents

- [Project Disclosure](#) [\[Original Source\]](#)





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### Other Related Projects

- DFC-2024-PSBLICAIROAMM PSBLI Cairo Amman Bank
- DFC-2024-PSBLIQUDSBANK PSBLI Quds Bank
- DFC-2024-PSBLIBANKOFJ PSBLI Bank of Jordan
- DFC-2024-PSBLIJORDANAH PSBLI Jordan Ahli Bank
- DFC-2024-PSBLITHENATIO PSBLI The National Bank