

threatened Palestinian activists with personal harm and injury for engaging in dialogue with Israelis. Palestinians have been called "collaborators" and "traitors" for dealing with Israelis, particularly during periods when Israel continues to commit human rights violations in the occupied territories (home demolitions, confiscation of ID cards, closure, detainment of political prisoners, etc.).

- (3) A third limitation on the CFDD is CIDA's own mandate going into Phase 3. Jonathan Laine, Deputy Head and Head of AID in the Canadian Representative Office in Ramallah, Palestine, points out that "official CIDA policy equates peace with the official Peace Process", particularly the Oslo II Agreement, a highly controversial process that has failed in many of its key objectives.<sup>13</sup> However, as a result of the absence of "quantifiable results" in Phase 1 and 2, of the CFDD, emphasis in Phase 3 will be more closely linked to the five final status issues (Jerusalem, final borders, waters, refugees and Jewish settlement) of the peace negotiations. Laine argues that important areas that have the potential to influence public opinion such as education, governance, and the media are not final status issues, and thus their exclusion from the next phase of CIDA funding is a problematic issue that needs further evaluation.
- (4) The last major issue raised by the participants, particularly the Palestinians, is the reproduction of power and domination in CFDD projects themselves, related in part to the use of language. For example, the application process to CFDD funding is in English. In Israel, English is taught as a second language from primary school onwards. However, in Jordan and Palestine, command of the English language (speaking, reading and writing) is mostly limited to elites. The application process therefore, prejudices the average Palestinian who either does not speak English or is illiterate. Naseef Mu'allam, Director of the Palestinian Centre for Peace and Democracy, argues that as a result, "most projects have been dominated by Israelis, both in terms of submitting a proposal, designing the activity, and receiving funding" to the detriment of equality, respect and joint benefit for all.<sup>14</sup>

### Policy recommendations:

In light of the aforementioned challenges to CFDD projects in Israel, Palestine and Jordan, the following is a list of concrete policy recommendations:

- (1) In order to reach the grassroots, it is necessary for CFDD funding to become a more proactive process. This may be problematic during a time of scarce resources and "donor fatigue" since it would involve larger staffing of individuals that would venture out into the field to actively

---

<sup>13</sup> Jonathan Laine, Deputy Head and Head of Aid, Canadian Representative Office, in interview with Jacoby, August 8, Ramallah, Palestine, in English.

<sup>14</sup> Naseef Mu'allam, Director, Palestinian Centre for Peace and Democracy, in interview with Jacoby, August 3, 2000, *Dahiet al-Bareed* (Israeli checkpoint), East Jerusalem, West Bank, in English.