

Ref no 13	Project title		<i>West Bank and Gaza Micro-Finance Project II, "ISAMI"</i>				
Name of legal entity	Country	Overall project value (EUR)	Proportion carried out by legal entity (%)	Name of client	Origin of funding	Dates (start/end)	Name of consortium members, if any
Massar Consulting and Technical Services	Palestine	3,818,835	% 15	- Microfinance sector	USAID	Dec. 2000 – April 2004	Chemonics International
Detailed description of project					Type of services provided		
<p>An initiative aimed at strengthening micro-finance institutions in Palestine.</p> <p>ISAMI—meaning “self-starter” in Arabic—was designed to enhance the potential for rapid growth of microlending, and to make the availability of this product and related financial services a permanent and sustainable feature. This was to be accomplished through seven major components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing an association to represent the interests of the microfinance industry • Harnessing human capital through training for microfinance practitioners • Raising public awareness of microcredit and what it can do for the economy • Creating linkages within the microfinance sector, particularly between commercial banks and non-profit microcredit providers • Building a credit bureau so microfinance providers can make more informed lending decisions • Sponsoring studies, seminars, and analyses to improve understanding of the microfinance sector and established lending practices • Promoting commercially viable financial services by strengthening existing microcredit products and introducing new ones <p>Massar has been contracted to provide studies, seminars and research to ensure that micro-finance institutions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip utilize their resources efficiently. In this respect, Massar also designs, develops and delivers training activities in the fields of business planning, marketing and finance and advises on strategic and business planning, including financial projections for micro-finance institutions (MFIs).</p>					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administrative and Logistical support • Training • Research • Technical advisory • Financial management support 		