

## **Call for Proposals: Bringing Social Changes and Creating New Business for Gaza's Future**

Japan Gaza Innovation Challenge (JGIC) is pleased to announce the launching of its second call for proposals for the 2017 Gaza Entrepreneur Challenge (GEC) Contest. JGIC, in partnership with United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), is inviting proposals from social entrepreneurs interested in partnering with us to use innovative ideas to create new business and services that meet the needs of people in Gaza. The contest aims to nurture leaders for the next generation and foster reconstruction and self-reliance in Gaza through the projects to cultivate and support entrepreneurs who have innovative ideas to solve social issues in the area. The winning prizes are:

- 5,000 USD;
- Technical support by Japanese firms making full use of JGIC's network;
- Management advice by local mentors, JGIC, and volunteers of social workers;
- Japan Tour if the political situation permits, the leader of the winning team will be invited to Japan tour.

JGIC hosted the 2016 GEC Contest that aimed to improve the living conditions in Gaza. Two of the ten competing teams were tied first place. One was the "Green Cake" Project which is on developing a new bricks-mixture by adding coal ashes. The other was the "Sketch Engineering" Project presented a solution for carrying heavy weights on stairs: a three-wheel stair climber. For more information on the first contest, please see UNRWA's announcement:

<https://www.unrwa.org/newsroom/press-releases/unrwa-celebrates-winners-gaza-entrepreneur-challenge>

To submit the proposal, please read the website for GEC Applicants at <https://gazachallenge.org/index.php/for-applicants/> and follow the instructions.

**Please submit your proposals using the application form on the website at**

**<https://gazachallenge.org/index.php/for-applicants/> before July 7, 2017 for consideration. If you have questions, email us or review the FAQ site at**

**<https://gazachallenge.org/index.php/2017/05/24/faq-to-gec2017/>**

Contacts:

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