

During the 2013-14 reporting period, Islamic University of Gaza (IUG) engaged in a number of activities that underscore its on-going commitment to UNAI and its principles. The following examples stand out as particularly notable:

A training course in sign language at its Assistive Technology Center (ATC) was designed to prepare the University to receive and integrate hearing-impaired students during the 2014-15 academic year. This year, the course graduated 24 IUG instructors.

The UNESCO Chair at IUG organized a stargazing event to explore features of sunspots, the moons of Jupiter, Gemini, Cancer and star clusters. Dr. Suleiman Baraka, UNESCO chair holder in IUG's Astronomy, Astrophysics and Space Sciences department hopes that the observatory will give residents a hands-on opportunity to learn more about space and astronomy while providing an opportunity to share their passion for the stars.



IUG's Irada Program—which received funding through the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the Islamic Development Bank—has implemented the Tamkeen project, which aims to rehabilitate, train, and provide financial assistance to people with disabilities living in the Gaza Strip. Furthermore, the project aims to economically and socially integrate disabled people into Palestinian society, increasing the confidence of community members to be active in the area's on-going development process. 70 disabled Gaza Strip residents will be selected and trained in different

vocational courses, including carpentry, furniture upholstery, furniture painting, and woodcarving. The Tamkeen project has already rehabilitated around 400 disabled Gaza Strip residents through vocational and academic training, aiding their search for good jobs and integration into Palestinian society.

Links:

[Islamic University of Gaza Homepage](#)

[More information on the Tamkeen Project](#)