Neighborhoods in Change – a Theory of Change

Project Objective	Improve quality of life in the neighborhood for the population generally & for at-risk populations in particular, by empowering activist communality, education, culture, welfare & personal security & improving the public space.				
Target Population	 Mission-driven communities, neighborhood leadership & local activists. Youngsters & young families (18-35), children & youth (0-18). Local at-risk populations (at risk children & youth, at-risk elderly individuals, et al.). The entire population of the neighborhood. 				
Pilot Neighborhoods – Selection Criteria	 Number of communities in the neighborhood – 4 & over. Number of community members – at least 50 cumulatively (at least 12 on average per community). Projects run by the community – at least 6 projects (cumulatively), & at least 1 per community over the last two years. Fields addressed by the communities in the neighborhood – at least one project addressing the core areas of the project & at least two projects addressing at-risk populations. Neighborhood socio-economic rating – statistical areas 1-10. Local authority socio-economic rating – 1-6. Authorities rated 7 will be accepted subject to a letter from the welfare department explaining the need – review of the number of inhabitants being supported. Neighborhood size & geographical boundaries – 8,000-12,000 inhabitants within the geographical boundaries. In towns of up to 25,000 inhabitants, a defined activity area will be delineated, but we will allow dwelling within the town even outside of the defined area, provided at least two communities dwell within the defined area. 				
The Need	 The primary needs that exist in these neighborhoods: Absence of a broad perspective & a comprehensive analysis of the neighborhood's needs. Shortage of satisfactory general & social services, notably in the fields of education, culture, welfare, community build-up & organization & public spaces. Abundance of at-risk populations living in the neighborhood, & conversely – shortage of activities & services for those populations, notably for at-risk children, youth & elderly inhabitants. A negative image of the neighborhood among established inhabitants, absence of a sense of belonging & neighborhood pride. Absence of strong, solid populations & strong young families. 				

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The Rationale

The program is a long-term, broad perspective neighborhood intervention program based on the understanding of the existence of a need to initiate a change in the neighborhood system so as to bring about a profound, long-term change in the neighborhood. The changing of the neighborhood will be effected as a result of combined action by the local authority & the local inhabitants. For this to happen, a critical mass should be produced of inhabitants who are active, entrepreneurial, influential & involved vis-à-vis the local authority on the one hand, while on the other hand establishing long-term cooperative alliances with the local authority. Accordingly, the action model of the program places the emphasis on:

- Charting the needs of the neighborhood & the at-risk populations in the neighborhood & developing a strategic plan for the neighborhood.
- Establishing a critical mass of mission-driven community members, youngsters, & a network of active inhabitants who will deal with the development & implementation of a range of neighborhood solutions & initiatives that would provide a response to the needs of the local population & the needs of the at-risk populations in particular.
- Consolidating a neighborhood leadership that would be a part of the setup making the decisions regarding the neighborhood (in cooperation with the local authority).
- Establishing meaningful, long-term partnerships with the local authority & various other elements (government ministries, philanthropists, civil society organizations...) that would lead to a significant increase in investments in the neighborhood.
- Establishing a leadership forum to lead the process while integrating the activities of the professionals & various other elements at the neighborhood level.
- Developing a range of neighborhood solutions & initiatives in the fields of education, welfare, culture, personal security & improvement of the public space, according to the needs of the neighborhood population & the at-risk populations in particular.
- Monitoring & supporting all of these activities by a media effort that would relate, externally & internally, the story of the change taking place in the neighborhood & bring about a change in the image of the neighborhood.

The activities will be actively monitored & supported by the Shahaf Foundation & the Special Enterprises Foundation who would provide the process not just with financing, but also with experience, professional & administrative know-how & the ability to integrate the project & rally partners to join it.

The Logical Model

Input	Activity	Short-Term Results – up to Two Years	Intermediate Term Results - 3-4 Years (During Pilot)	Long-Term Results – 5-7 Years
Coordinator	Establish partnerships (with the local authority, government ministries, civil society organizations, philanthropists, business sector) & raise resources for the neighborhood (through meetings)	 The municipality will invest the budget it pledged in the project activities Increased awareness of the project among the elements in the various sectors, increased willingness & interest to participate in the project Investments starting to pour into the neighborhood as a result of the partnerships with organizations already operating in the neighborhood 	 Increase in the investment of resources in the neighborhood (in project activities) by the authority, beyond the initial pledge Investments will come into the neighborhood from elements who did not operate in the neighborhood in the past Progress will be made with regard to transparency & inhabitant involvement initiated by the authority (regarding the policy & implementation) 	Authority Level Results Models for cooperation between the local authority & civil society (including sharing of information) will develop The authority will undertake to finance at least 50% of the project cost following the end of the pilot The authority will maintain the neighborhood know-how databases, update them & assimilate the use thereof by the various departments The authority will develop new solutions & services beyond the ones budgeted by the project. Civil Society Level Results The neighborhood leadership (made up of communities & inhabitants & representing the civil society) will operate independently in the neighborhood, in cooperation with the local authority The neighborhood leadership in cooperation with the local authority will develop a strategic plan for the neighborhood for the next five years & assume
Coordinator	Establish a partnership between the mission-driven communities in the neighborhood (through meetings & joint activities)	 A joint forum of the communities will be established Cooperative alliances between the communities (communities to assist one another in their respective projects) will be established The community forum will become a major element of the leadership forum 	 The leadership forum will gradually shift to independent operation Joint projects of the communities & other elements will be initiated 	
Coordinator	Establish, provide professional support & coordinate a leadership forum (made up of members of mission-driven communities, community activists, & local authority elements) & dedicated teams	 The leadership forum takes part in the development of the long-term plan for the neighborhood (in cooperation with the local authority) The leadership forum will assume responsibility for the 		

Professional Support Coordinator	Chart the neighborhood's needs during normal times & emergencies, develop a neighborhood strategy & support the implementation of the plan	 implementation of the plan & for raising support from the local authority The leadership forum will endeavor to ensure transparency & to become involved in the local authority's decision-making process (policy & implementation) 		responsibility for the implementation thereof Increase in the number of activist communities operating in the neighborhood & in the number of members of new & established communities Increase in the number & diversity of civil organizations & activists in the neighborhood Numerous services in the fields of education, culture & welfare will operate in the neighborhood, providing solutions to the needs of the population generally & of atrisk populations in particular General Neighborhood Results The physical aspects of the neighborhood (associated with the project activities) will improve sense of having an address to turn to, of getting noticed, of suitable solutions to the needs becoming available with regard to quality, standard & availability) The attractiveness of the neighborhood to youngsters
Professional Support Coordinator	Establish/empower the neighborhood leadership	A leadership that meets on a regular basis has been established / consolidated	The leadership develops interfaces & cooperative alliances with the local authority Representatives from the forum become a part of the neighborhood leadership	
Budget Coordinator	Develop & implement a range of neighborhood solutions & initiatives in the fields of education, welfare, culture, personal security & improvement of the public space, according to the needs of the neighborhood population generally & at-risk populations in particular	The communities in cooperation with community organizations/ activists will lead the establishment & operation projects that would provide solutions to the needs in normal times & emergencies, supported by the project, & to the needs of the at-risk populations in particular	The projects are consolidating – additional funds raised, activity hours extended, the number of beneficiaries increased The number & diversity of activists from among the various populations of the neighborhood expand Fulfillment of privileges for at-risk populations improves The consumption of services by the at-risk populations in the community increases	
Coordinator, Community Coordinator,	Establish at least one new mission-driven community (a community of locals or a	Operate a new mission-driven community in the neighborhood (10 persons minimum)	The new community is consolidating (has institutions, mechanisms, goals & objectives)	

Professional Support, Budget	community imported from the outside)	The community will initiate the establishment of a partnership with the local authority	 Cooperative activity with the local authority The community operates a neighborhood project 	& young families from outside will improve Incoming migration of youngsters & young families will increase (or negative migration will decrease)
Coordinator, Network Coordinator, Budget	Establish & coordinate a network (a network of activist inhabitants, or a network to develop community resilience) in cooperation with the welfare department, according to a model that is suitable for the neighborhood	 A network (at least 30-50 persons) exists, network mechanisms (management team, organizational structure) have been established The network undertakes at least 2 community-social/welfare initiatives (e.g. emergency operation, community cultural events, various pastime activities, etc.) 	 Neighborhood inhabitant participation expands (the diversity of the populations participating, the diversity of participation types & the scope of participation) Community resilience improves 	
Coordinator	Develop & maintain information & know-how databases regarding the neighborhood	The know-how databases will be used regularly to plan the activity in the neighborhood & monitor the changes taking place therein	Assimilate the use of know- how & information in the planning processes of the neighborhood & the local authority	
Coordinator, PR Firm	Rebranding of the neighborhood (public relations, advertising)	Neighborhood inhabitants' sense of belonging & pride enhanced Inhabitants' awareness of all of the activities taking place in the neighborhood increased	Improvement in the image of the neighborhood as a good place to live in among youngsters & young families from outside the neighborhood Improvement in the image of the neighborhood in the eyes of the local authority, as a neighborhood worth investing in, a developing neighborhood	