



The Palestinian Graduate Tracking System

Informational Brochure for Graduate Tracking System (GTS)

With support from the World Bank, the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MOEHE) has developed an electronic Graduate Tracking System (GTS) in all Tertiary Education Institutions (TEIs) in the West Bank and Gaza and at MOEHE to collect information about graduates and their transition and fitness into the labor market. GTS is an important component of the Education-to-Work Transition Project (E2WTP) financed by the World Bank and which aims to improve the quality to bridge the gap between TEIs and the labor market.

GTS – developed and implemented by New Soft for Programming and Information Technology -allows TEIs to design surveys and target them to specific student groups within the institution and to graduates who left the institution as well as major employers in the labor market to capture a variety of information and opinions including information about their:

- 1. Educational choices in terms of TEIs, degrees, courses and specializations;
- Post-graduation employment and how difficult/easy it was to find a job;
- 3. Fitness between educational training and the skills needed in the job market;
- 4. Suggestions regarding educational curricula, methods and specializations;
- 5. Changes to career and professional choices after graduation.

National Surveys

The **GTS** allows MOEHE to design national surveys in collaboration with TEIs and distribute them to all TEIs to collect mandatory national information about TEIs, students and graduates. This information will be useful to TEIs and MOEHE as it will provide a national view of the education system, its integration with the labor market and the economy and highlight the areas that need development and improvement. In particular, MOEHE has designed three mandatory surveys that were distributed to all TEIs to collect such information:

1. Student Survey: aimed at students in the final year of their study before graduation.

Pages Num	er : 1 Sections Number : 7 Questions Number	r:20
age		
ersonal information		
) Personal information		
he name	The name	
hone / Mobile Phone	Phone / Mobile Phone	
mail Profile	Email Profile	
our e-mail I got from the university	Your e-mail I got from the university	
Phone / Mobile Phone to a relatives	Phone / Mobile Phone to a relatives	
mail to a relatives	Email to a relatives	
City / village / camp I have lived before you join the iniversity name	ر لم الله	Ŧ

2. Graduate Survey: aimed at graduates one year after their graduation from the TEI.

Page	s Number : 1	Sections Number : 6	Questions Number : 44
7			
graduate Information			
sic information alumnus			
ent's name	student	s name	
ne / Mobile Phone	Phone / M	Iobile Phone	
ail	E-mail		
e / Mobile Phone to a relatives	Phone / M	Nobile Phone to a relatives	
il to a relatives	Email to a	relatives	
/ village / camp who currently live in the r	city / villa	ge / camp who currently live	e in the name
province	ر ام الله		Y
ne of the country if you are outside Palest	ine Unknow	n	Ŧ



3. Employer Survey: aimed at local and international employers of Palestinian graduates.

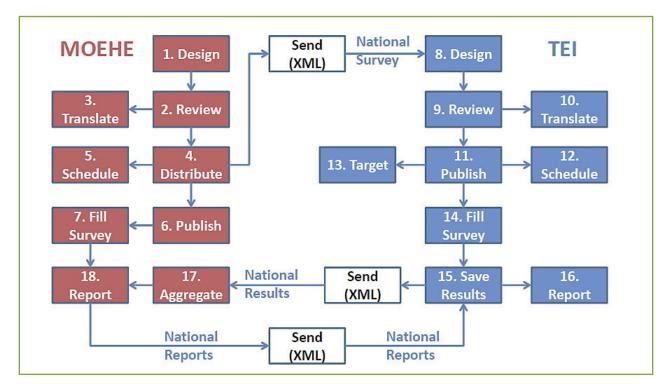
Pages Numbe	er : 4 Sections Number : 5	Questions Number : 19
Page 1 Page 2 Page 3 Page 4		
nstitution info		
Q 1) Institution info		
Name	Name	
Phone	Phone	
Mobile	Mobile	
Country	Unknown	×
If the country of Palestine, the name of the city, the	رامالله	•
village where the company exist	11111	1111111

GTS is a powerful tool for TEIs and MOEHE to inform educational policy and course/curriculum development. The tool is implemented at each TEI for use by the administrators and faculties of that institution for any special purpose that involves collection data through surveys. The system is integrated with a centralized **GTS** that is used for publishing national MOEHE surveys to institutions and to collect survey results from them. This will enable MOEHE to create a national historic database about students, graduates, employers and in the future staff working in TEIs.

The data collected by TEIs and the data collected nationally by MOEHE will be available for researchers in a variety of formats to enable the analysis of educational trends and to derive KPIs important for educational policy and program formulation. The tool could be used to assess the impact of specific programs or policies on the educational system and the labor market. The tool offers a number of standard reports based on metrics derived from the three MOEHE surveys, but administrators can design new KPIs and reports from the data or export the data in standard formats for analysis by external third party tools like SPSS.

GTS Features

GTS was designed and implemented as a distributed system, installed at MOEHE and at each TEI in Palestine, for a purpose. **GTS** was envisaged as a data collection tool for each TEI to meet their local needs and purposes. But the local **GTS** is integrated with a national **GTS** at the Ministry to help collect mandatory data at the national level: The Ministry data will be available (sent back) to TEIs, to enable them to benefit from national data collected at other similar institutions. The **GTS** therefore serves both local and national needs for information about the education system.



It is important to note the following key features about this system:

- 1. The local **GTS** implemented can be used to design and publish any survey the TEI needs: the information collected will remain private to the TEI, not accessible to MOEHE or other TEIs.
- 2. The national **GTS** can be used to design and publish any survey the Ministry needs, not just those surveys aimed at TEIs. The information collected from such surveys or their results can be made accessible to TEIs if the Ministry makes them public.
- 3. The integrated **GTS** between MOEHE and TEIs is limited to national mandatory surveys published by the Ministry to all or to specific group of TEIs: the information collected from such surveys will have a local copy at each TEI and be aggregated in a national database at MOEHE.
- 4. **GTS** enables collaboration in the design and review of surveys among a group of designers/ authors before publishing it. This will enable TEIs to consult departments, faculties and staff before finalizing a survey. It will also enable MOEHE to consult with TEIs before finalizing a national survey.
- 5. **GTS** data will be version controlled to enable the evolution of surveys from year to year and to facilitate the accurate analysis of historic data collected over a number of years. Both local and national surveys will be given a version code that uniquely identifies each survey, its target audience and its publishing cycle.
- 6. **GTS** is implemented on local infrastructure at the TEI or the Ministry using their Web and database systems to host the tool and store its data. **GTS** can be accessed over the public internet or through the local intranet of the TEI/MOEHE.
- 7. In cases where some TEIs lacked the technical infrastructure or skills to host or support **GTS**, the Ministry provided an alternative centralized hosting for their **GTS** on MOEHE infrastructure: in such cases only authorized TEI staff can access and use the system via secure internet link.
- 8. **GTS** is secured via the security infrastructure and policies and procedures used at TEIs/ MOEHE for securing their admissions and administration systems. When external access is needed like when publishing a public survey, the surveys are published on the public web site of the TEI/MOEHE.

- 9. The electronic exchange of data between MOEHE and TEIs is secured using HTTPS protocol.
- 10. **GTS** is integrated with internal student and staff administration systems at each TEI. This enables **GTS** administrators to import student, staff and course data necessary for targeting a specific survey to a specific audience and for filling automatic data fields.

The Survey Design Tool

GTS is a web-based system for designing and publishing surveys. It supports the most common types of questions that you can meet in such surveys including:

- 1. Binary yes/no questions;
- 2. Multiple choice questions;
- 3. Group common answer category questions;
- 4. Conditional jump question (if answer is A jump to question X);
- 5. Open text questions (numbered list or free text).

Question List		Question	
Ο	C	Question Type	Multi-Choice •
Single-Choice	Multi-Choice	Q 20) Question Text	Enter your question
			Question Descriptions
Free Text	Numbered List	Answer Choices	
			Enter Your Option
Yes No	Matrix Rating		Click to add option
Personal Information		Add an "Other" Ans Field Require an Answer	wer Option or Comment
		Question	
			Create Cancel

GTS supports designing a new survey using two approaches: design from scratch by adding questions to an empty survey, or design from template, by editing questions from a previous survey. The tool enables authorized designers to add, remove or edit questions in a survey. It also enables the institution to define different roles in a publishing workflow that includes:

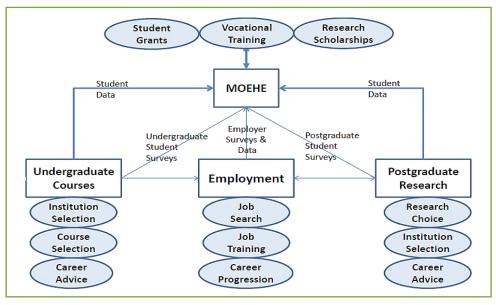
- 1. Designer: authorized to create and design new surveys;
- 2. Reviewer: authorized to review a designed survey and make changes to it;
- 3. Translator: authorized to translate a survey from one language into another;
- 4. Publisher: authorized to publish a reviewed survey for use by its target audience;
- 5. Distributor: authorized to distribute a national survey from MOEHE to TEIs;
- 6. Analyst: authorized to view survey results or reports generated from it.

The **GTS** administrator can define and add new roles to suit the particular survey being designed. **GTS** uses icons to make it easier for designers and reviewers to create and edit surveys.



Benefits & Beneficiaries

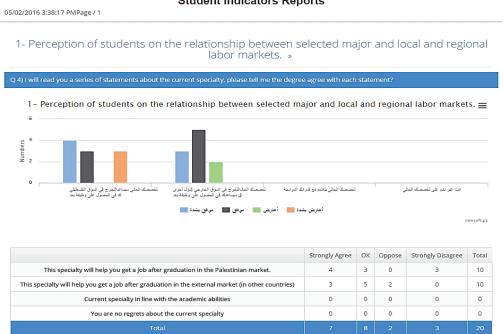
GTS will benefit a number of groups interested in the quality and efficiency of the education system in Palestine but its benefits will depend on how it is utilized by TEIs and how the data collected will be presented and used.



The ultimate beneficiaries from this system are students. The GTS and the data it collects has the potential to improve students'

- 1. Choice of institutions and study programs;
- 2. Choice of career and profession;
- 3. Job opportunities and career growth;
- 4. Satisfaction with the educational experience;
- 5. Choice of further training/research/higher education.

These benefits extend to parents in advising their children on education and career choices.

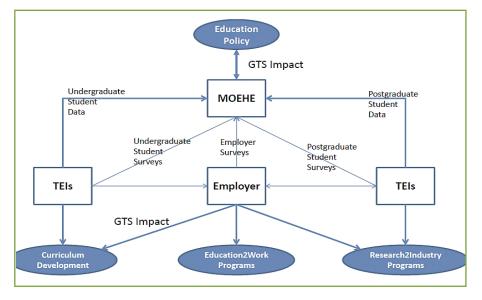


Student Indicators Reports



The direct beneficiaries from the system are the education institutions themselves. TEIs will be able to use **GTS** and the data it collects it to improve:

- 1. The range of courses, degrees and specializations they offer;
- 2. Curricula and content of existing courses and specializations;
- 3. Teaching methods and techniques;
- 4. Practical and technical training with industry-partnerships;
- 5. Capacity to secure funding for proposed programs/developments;
- 6. Capacity to monitor and evaluate performance (of staff, programs, changes).



MOEHE will benefit from **GTS** as the governing institution responsible for education policy, accreditation and training. Using the data collected national MOEHE will be able to:

- Enhance the specification, publishing, collection and analysis of data from stakeholders;
- Evaluate the performance of the education system in Palestine compared to other countries;
- Support proposed educational policies and programs with empirical historic data;
- Monitor and evaluate the success of specific public or private educational interventions;
- 5. Publish performance data to the general public and students to increase awareness about educational options, choices and courses to study in Palestine.

Employers and the labor market will also benefit from any improvements to the educational system resulting from **GTS**. In particular employers will be able to:

- Provide feedback to MOEHE and TEIs about the quality and performance of graduates;
- 2. Select graduates from institutions with relevant courses and higher quality;
- 3. Prepare and manage the training of new graduates;
- Partner with TEIs to develop joint professional training or internships for students;
- 5. Partner with TEIs to support research and development in particular areas.

Survey Responses Report

Total Responses : 23	Questions Number : 21	Quest	Pages Number : 1
igree with each one	ise indicate to what extent you agre	current major, please ind	ing are a set of statements about your o
	estinian labor market	luation in the Palestinia	will help you getting a job after grac
	Ratio	Count	Answer
	43.5 %	10	Strongly disagree
	43.5 %	10	Disagree
	4.3 %	1	Agree
	8.7 %	2	Strongly agree
Strongly disagree Disagree Agree Strongly agree			
	or market	eign/regional labor mai	will help you getting a job in the for
	Ratio	Count	Answer
	34.8 %	8	Strongly disagree
	47.8 %	11	Disagree
	8.7 %	2	Agree
	8.7 %	2	Strongly agree
Strongly disagree Disagree Agree Strongly agree			
			match your studying abilities
	Ratio	Count	match your studying abilities Answer
	Ratio 52.2 %	Count 12	
			Answer
	52.2 %	12	Answer Strongly disagree
	52.2 % 30.4 %	12 7	Answer Strongly disagree Disagree
	52.2 % 30.4 % 8.7 %	12 7 2	Answer Strongly disagree Disagree Agree

newsoft.ps

For more information please contact us at the following address:

Ministry of Education and Higher Education, Directorate General of Development and Scientific Research Ramallah, Palestine

Tel.: +970 2 2982605, E-mail: msalahat@mohe.gov.ps