

Project Update: May 2009

This spring season in mountains of Palestine was exceptional in natural beauty especially after a long period of drought of rain. The peak time of blooming of wild flowers was during March and April. This is a summary of activities undertaken by the project.

Field trips were organized in the wild of the mountains and slopes of Bani Naim. The participants were Al-Quds university scientists and students, school students, members of the public from the local community and local community leaders.

Establishing the biodiversity garden is under construction, using natural stones and introducing wild plants and conservation of native plants within the site of construction. It is highly important to note that natural topography was considered during the landscaping with the advice of specialized engineers, local builders and workers.

The natural museum was enriched with many plant and rock specimens. During the field trips, all visitors enjoyed the activities that are going on and performed scientific and social activities as part of the ecotourism. In every visit or trip I explained and offered detailed information on the project, questions, answers and discussions were fruitful. All participants showed their respect and appreciation to Rufford Small Grants Foundation for the support and to trigger such an important project in the conservation of nature in Palestine.



Left: Blooming peak of wild flowers in middle mountains of Palestine. Right: Poppy collection from the wild during a field trip.



Lecture given in the museum with collected plants.