GWN Community: East Jerusalem

Name of project: Ecologically Constructed Garden and Grey water Reuse System, Surbaher Elementary School for Girls, East Jerusalem

Environmental & Educational Benefits:
- Building facilities from recycled waste reduces the volume of waste that goes to the landfills, but it also means decreasing the amount of dangerous chemicals that seep into the soil and pollute the water and air due to improper waste disposal.
- Learning about ecological building practices help youth understand how to cater to the everyday needs of communities while minimizing negative environmental impacts and creating and sustaining mutually beneficial relationships with all elements of the local ecology.
- Reusing the water for irrigation, which will save the fresh water for drinking purposes only.
- Reusing greywater removes the need for the energy and chemicals used to produce pure drinking water - unnecessary if all we're going to do is water the plants with it or flush it down the toilet.

Date of Construction: 2012

Team: Surbaher Youth Water Trustees, FoEME Community Coordinator, Independent contractor.

Materials: cement, blocks, sand, soil, old broken glass, plants.

Description:
- The greywater recycling system recycles the grey water from the school sinks and the drinking fountain for use in flushing the toilets.
- The ecological garden was built in the inner courtyard of the school and includes local medicinal plants, flowers and trees in the outside garden. The structures include a wall from tires on the western side of the school and planters from tires to plant flowers beside the western wall of the school.
- The medicinal plants will be watered using the already existing rainwater harvesting system at the school. The flowers and the trees will be watered with recycled greywater.

Pictures: