



غرفة تجارة وصناعة محافظة بيت لحم  
Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce & Industry



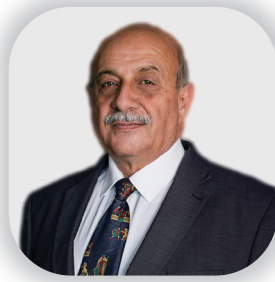
# Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce & Industry

## Yearly Report 2021

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# Members of the Board of Directors



**Dr. Samir Hazboun**  
**Chairman of the Board**



**Mr. Khaled Al Dara'wi**  
**Senior Vice President**



**Mr. Majed Hamideh**  
**Secretary**



**Mr. Adel Hodali**  
**Treasurer**



**Mr. Yousef Rahhal**  
**Deputy Secretary**



**Mr. Khader Kheir**  
**Board Member**



**Mr. Ali Thawabteh**  
**Board Member**



**Eng. Issa Moussa**  
**Board Member**



**Mr. Jamal Handal**  
**Deputy Treasurer**



**Mr. Moussa Hroub**  
**Board Member**



**Mr. Rajwan Ibdeir**  
**Board Member**

## Letter from the Chairman of the Board of Directors

In light of the preparations for the chamber's 70th anniversary, as well as the twenty years of obtaining the ISO 9001:2015 quality certificate and its continuity and success with periodic audits, and our Board of Directors' continued commitment to the principles of transparency and good governance, we begin a new chapter in our journey at Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

We at the Chamber continue to place our members of the General Assembly at the forefront of our priority and interest list, as well as expanding the Chamber's role in dealing with economic issues, particularly those involving laws, instructions, and regulations that affect the work of various economic sectors, such as the Corporates Law and the amendments to the Additional Value Law.... and others

We've worked hard to make Bethlehem Chamber stand out in its performance and work, and we'll continue to do so in terms of utilizing all available resources to serve the business community, particularly in light of the economic conditions and challenges that have cast a pall over trade, services, and industry, necessitating the development of innovative solutions.

The Chamber of Commerce's Board of Directors has taken it upon itself to develop a clear action plan to address all challenges facing all economic branches, including tourism, trade, industry, agriculture, and services, in order to reach a clear strategy to address obstacles through collaboration with various ministry directorates and official and representative institutions, based on the Council's belief in the importance of private-public partnerships.

We have worked to involve members of the General Assembly in the Chamber's future and successes, as well as expanding the services provided to our members and the various economic sectors, and providing all means of support to unions and specialized federations to achieve gains and face any decisions that may affect the business community and the governorate's economy.

The diligent work also continued in supporting female business owners and developing plans and programs for the purpose of achieving economic independence for women. Our efforts also focused on strengthening various vocational training programs to meet the needs of the various economic sectors for qualified cadres and to confront the high unemployment in the governorate, Which had a significant impact in achieving a very high percentage of the Chamber's work plan for the past year, and distinguishing our participation at various levels in the governorate such as being a member of the Governorate Emergency Fund, the advisory board and cooperation with professional syndicates, specialized groups or institutions of higher education.

The Chamber has continued to fulfill its societal obligations by assisting numerous institutions and individuals in the pursuit of sustainable development through the reduction of poverty and unemployment.

We are presenting this report as a comprehensive assessment of what has been accomplished in the previous year, as well as a plan for the coming year, in which we will work to expand our business community services and strengthen the Chamber's partnerships with all government and local agencies, as well as private sector institutions.

I am glad to express my gratitude to the Chamber's Board of Directors and employees, as well as the members and supporters of all those committees.... We hope that we have met everyone's expectations and contributed to the establishment of a solid economic foundation.

Together, towards strengthening our economy.

**Dr. Samir Hazboun**  
Chairman

## Introduction

Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce and Industry is the governorate's principal representative of several economic sectors, as well as the voice that expresses the financial and business community's numerous activities and sectors, with a long history since its establishment in 1952 AD. The Chamber's role has evolved quantitatively and qualitatively as one of Palestine's oldest chambers of commerce, as it has kept up with the Bethlehem Governorate's various stages of expansion and economic and social development over the years.

The Chamber plays its pioneering and national role through its board of directors and its executive and administrative staff, in addition to the sectoral committees (commercial, industrial, tourism and businesswomen's committee) and committees emanating from the board of directors (training committee, ISO, governance and financial committee), which participate in preparing the chamber's work plan, work and daily follow-up the member's needs.

All of these, and more, constitute to form an integrated and interconnected entity that can deliver a variety of services and perform its relevant role. Therefore, the Chamber, in this context, defends the concerns and interests of the private sector and works to state its positions on all issues that may affect the activity and vitality of this sector. And work to present and suggest solutions to the problems and challenges in cooperation, coordination, partnership and direct dialogue with various authorities as well as relevant official bodies, in a way that contributes to support the private sector overcome its crises, raise its capabilities and capabilities, and increase the percentage of its contributions to improving and developing the economy.



## Vision

A Chamber with an outstanding performance to achieve sustainable economic prosperity.

## Mission

We strive to provide high quality services to our members and the local community through the provision of counseling, guidance and capacity development using technological methods. We represent our members effectively, as well as protect their interests. We also work on initiating partnerships with civil society organizations and the private and public sectors, raise the capacity and quality of local products and promote them, and focus on persons with special needs, women and youth.

## Philosophy and Values

BCCI's philosophy is to encourage the spirit of teamwork and initiative among members, employees and institutional cooperation, to achieve sustainable economic development in the local community. BCCI believes that its activities are the derivative of members' needs and priorities, and has therefore committed itself to a set of values that assist it in achieving its vision. These values include but are not limited to, integrity, accountability, transparency, integration, change and adaption, openness, social responsibility, professionalism and adherence to international standards in performance.

## Strategic Goals

1. To encourage economic activities in the various sectors in the governorate.
2. To raise the performance level of BCCI in the governorate.
3. To promote communication between Board members, the local community and donor organizations.
4. To develop and expand BCCI's financial resources.

## Figures and Indications for the Year 2021



79 awareness  
publications were  
posted



298 news  
were published



9034 services  
were provided



26  
International  
specialized exhibition  
were published



8310 Likes  
on FB page



9,567 SMS  
were sent



13 economic  
workshop and seminars  
were conducted



15 professional  
and administrative  
training were  
executed



58,350 Visits to  
BCCI's web page



Information for  
scientific research  
purpose were  
provided  
13 times

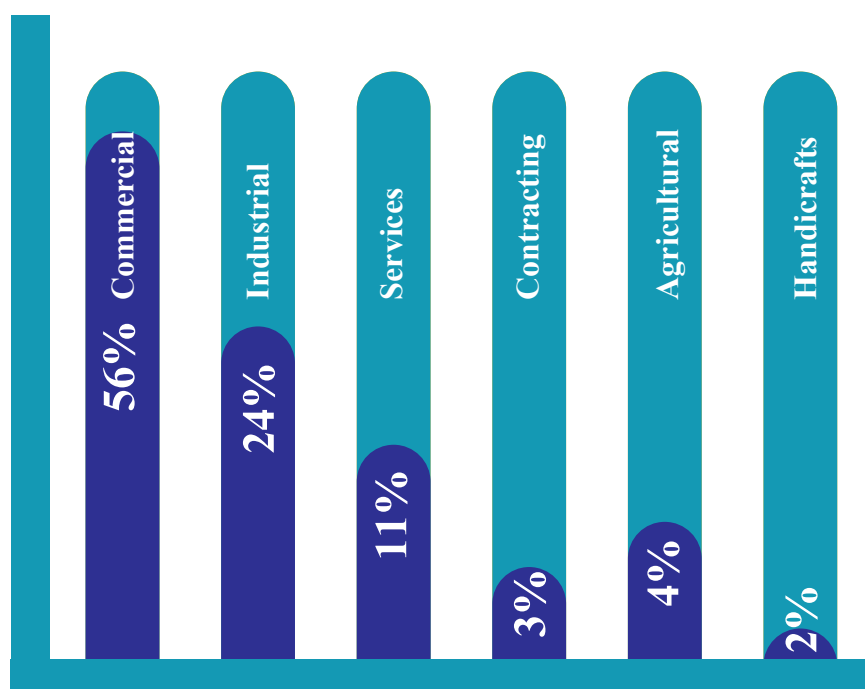
## Membership and Services for the year 2021

Total number of BCCI's members 1733

152 New Member

General Assembly Memberships during 2021 according to Economic sectors classification

Economic sectors	Economic Sectors Classification						Total based on Economic Sector
	Special	Excellent	First	Second	Third	Forth	
<b>Commercial</b>	5	189	287	356	141	0	<b>978</b>
<b>Industrial</b>	4	149	85	141	30	6	<b>415</b>
<b>Services</b>	22	53	33	54	29	2	<b>193</b>
<b>Contracting</b>	0	34	14	6	0	0	<b>54</b>
<b>Agricultural</b>	0	5	13	26	15	0	<b>59</b>
<b>Handicrafts</b>	0	3	7	11	11	2	<b>34</b>
<b>Total Based on Classification</b>	31	433	439	594	226	10	<b>1733</b>

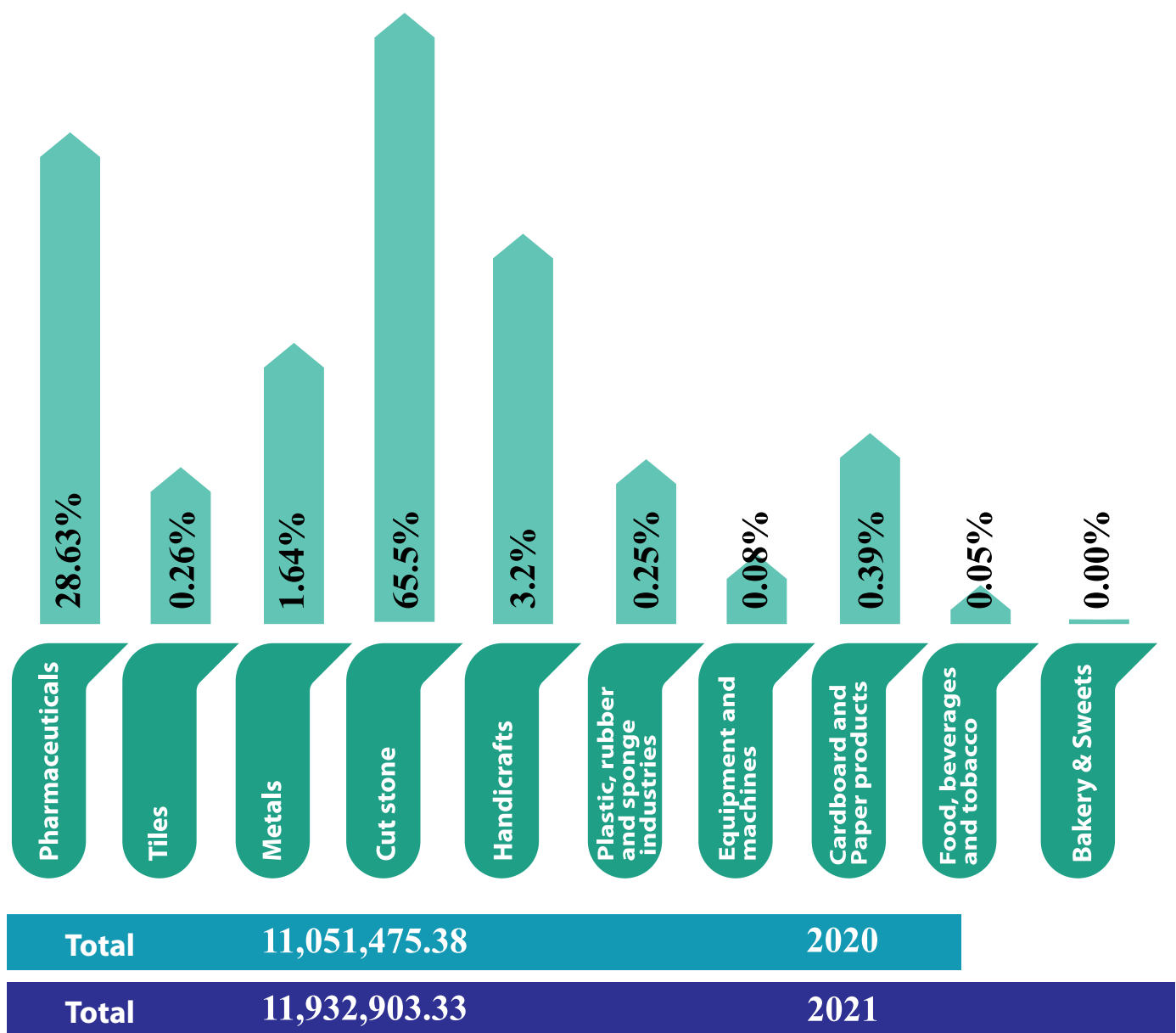


Members classifications upon grades



## Certificate of Origin

Exports constitute an important element for the Palestinian national economy in general and for Bethlehem Governorate in particular, which plays an important role in facing the deficit in the trade balance. The following is a summary of the most important export movement, as the year 2021 witnessed an increase in the value of exports compared to the year 2020, and the percentage of stone exports formed the highest percentage of exports from the governorate, followed by the percentage of exports of chemicals and medicines, while 564 certificates of origin were issued in 2021 with a value of 11,932,903.33 dollars compared to 2020, in which the number of certificates amounted to 699 certificates, with a value of 11,051,475.38 dollars.



## Sectoral Committees

Referring to Article No. 53 of the Palestinian Chambers of Commerce, Industry, and Agriculture system, as approved by the Palestinian Council of Ministers decision which states: “The Chamber shall form sectoral committees in it, to coordinate with the Federation Council, with specialized federations and relevant authorities that represent various specialized economic sectors within



and establish mechanisms for their fair representation in sectoral committees,”. These committees were formed by the Chamber with the goal of maintaining constant communication with members of the General Assembly and their representation within various economic sectors. They are also involved in the formulation of general policies and strategic goals, as well as participating in many of the Chamber’s activities.

## Internal Monitoring “ISO 9001:2015”

Passing the ISO 9001:2015 quality system external audit for the nineteenth year in a row without recording any substantive or secondary observations, as this specification is one of the basic axes upon which institutions are built to enhance the principles of leadership, risk management, and business continuity in order to serve strategic directions with the goal of continuously improving and meeting the needs of the members of the General Assembly.



## Good Governance

Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce and Industry has been keen since the beginning of 2018 to implement the governance policies within the internal administrative system in the Chamber, due to that the Board of Directors took the decision to establish the Governance Committee on 13/11/2018 and approve the Code of Governance and define the most important scope of work. As it began during the year 2021 to transfer its experience and consolidate the concept of governance among its companies from the members of the General Assembly in cooperation with the Office of Assistance and Technical Support (Monsha'ti) , through many direct activities in this scope or centered in support of governance programs and applications, which had a great impact on the companies.

## Social Responsibility

Over the past years, the Chamber of Commerce has sought to ensure the continuity of its contribution to social responsibility towards the local community and its institutions through many contributions and initiatives that emphasize the consolidation of the concept of social connection and human interdependence between members of society on the one hand and the business sector and the local community on the other. Such as:

- Contributing a computer to the Syndicate of Journalists, emphasizing the commitment of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry in consolidating the concept of community partnership with the local community and its continuous and permanent cooperation with national institutions, as well as in appreciation of the efforts of the journalists and their union, as well as the risks and difficulties faced by journalists in carrying out their mission.
- Presenting four Smart TV screens to Al-Sakhrah Elementary School in Beit Fajjar, emphasizing the importance of communicating with educational institutions in the different geographical locations in the governorate and the need to spread awareness for school students about national industries and introduce private sector institutions, in line with the Palestinian curricula related to national and social upbringing.
- Providing medical supplies to the emergency committee of Aida camp in support of the efforts of the popular committee and the institutions of Aida camp in launching this initiative and establishing a medical emergency committee to follow up on all cases infected with Corona virus inside the camp and its surrounding areas, and emphasizing the need to transfer the experience to other areas in the governorate to benefit, this is in light of the increasing cases of infection with the virus and the inability of health and medical institutions to maintain the capacity to deal with the number of infections.



AlShayeb Auditing & Accountancy Co.  
Certified Public Accountants

## Independent Auditor's Report (Cont.)

### *Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements(cont.)*

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Association's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Association's ability to continue as a going concern.
- If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditors' report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditors' report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Association to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

AlShayeb Auditing & Accountancy Co.  
Independent Member of Geneva Group International  
Jamal Abu Farha  
Engagement Partner

Jamal AlShayeb Abu Farha  
C.P.A  
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Bethlehem  
28 May 2022



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Independent Member

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Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI)  
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

**Statement of Financial Position**

(All amounts are in NIS)

	<u>Note</u>	<u>December 31, 2021</u>	<u>December 31, 2020</u>
<b><u>Assets</u></b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and Cash equivalents	3	2,139,799	2,133,186
Inventory		-	9,112
Pledges receivable	4	182,514	122,771
Accounts receivable		54,378	5,644
Prepaid expenses		2,949	3,199
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>2,379,640</b>	<b>2,273,912</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
Fixed assets, Net	5	3,833,505	3,923,266
Investments	D.2	148,405	148,405
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<b>3,981,909</b>	<b>4,071,671</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>6,361,550</b>	<b>6,345,583</b>
<b><u>Liabilities and Net Assets</u></b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Accounts payable	6	190,265	168,260
Outstanding checks		79,924	6,220
Accrued liabilities	7	90,572	81,851
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>360,761</b>	<b>256,331</b>
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>			
Accumulated Employees' Severance Benefits	8	379,720	440,822
Employees' Provident Fund		249,405	205,382
<b>Total Non-current Liabilities</b>		<b>629,125</b>	<b>646,204</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>989,886</b>	<b>902,535</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>			
Unrestricted net assets		1,333,176	1,169,984
Temporarily restricted net asserts (for projects)		158,684	337,643
Temporarily restricted net asserts (for fixed assets)		3,879,804	3,935,421
<b>Total Net Assets</b>		<b>5,371,664</b>	<b>5,443,048</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>		<b>6,361,550</b>	<b>6,345,583</b>

The accompanying notes constitute an integral part of the financial statements.



  
 Chairman, Board of Directors      Treasurer

Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI)  
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

**Statement of Activities**

(All amounts are in NIS)

	Note	Total	
		2021	2020
<b>Revenues</b>			
Membership Subscriptions	10	708,098	640,700
Service Fees	11	526,525	631,281
Income from Activities and Rentals		18,710	7,620
Other Income		109,374	1,801
<b>Total Revenues</b>		<b>1,362,707</b>	<b>1,281,402</b>
Net Assets Released from Temporary Restriction	12	682,703	120,609
<b>Revenues and Net Assets Released from Temporary Restriction</b>		<b>2,045,410</b>	<b>1,402,011</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>			
Salaries and Related Benefits	13	741,794	834,744
Program Direct Expenses	14	904,773	428,902
General and Administrative Expenses	15	276,707	351,374
Financial Expenses, Net	16	(102,431)	(69,332)
Depreciation	6	116,991	113,279
<b>Total Expenditures</b>		<b>1,937,835</b>	<b>1,658,967</b>
<b>Net Assets during the year</b>		<b>107,575</b>	<b>(256,956)</b>
Temporarily Restricted Contributions and Donations	12	599,740	439,277
Net Assets released from temporary restriction		(682,703)	(120,609)
Reclassification		(95,996)	-
<b>Changes in the Temporarily Restricted Net Assets</b>		<b>(178,959)</b>	<b>318,668</b>
<b>Changes in Net Assets for the Year</b>		<b>(71,384)</b>	<b>61,712</b>

The Accompanying notes constitute an integral part of the financial statements.



**Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI)**  
**Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

**Statement of Changes in Net Assets**  
 (All amounts are in NIS)

	Unrestricted Net assets	Temporarily Restricted Net assets		
	General	Projects	Fixed Assets	Total
<b>Net Assets as of 31/12/2019</b>	<b>1,371,323</b>	<b>18,975</b>	<b>3,991,038</b>	<b>5,381,336</b>
Increase in net assets during the year - statement B	61,712	-	-	61,712
Changes in the Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	(318,668)	318,668	-	-
Released from temporary restriction	55,617	-	(55,617)	-
<b>Net assets as of 31/12/2020</b>	<b>1,169,984</b>	<b>337,643</b>	<b>3,935,421</b>	<b>5,443,048</b>
Increase in net assets during the year - statement B	(71,384)	-	-	(71,384)
Changes in the Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	178,959	(178,959)	-	-
Released from temporary restriction	55,617	-	(55,617)	-
<b>Net assets as of 31/12/2021</b>	<b>1,333,176</b>	<b>158,684</b>	<b>3,879,804</b>	<b>5,371,664</b>

The Accompanying notes constitute an integral part of the financial statements.

Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI)  
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

**Statement of Cash Flows**

(All amounts in NIS)

	December 31,2021	December 31,2020
<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>		
Changes in net assets for the year	(71,384)	61,712
<b>Adjustments to reconcile current year changes in Net assets to net cash provided by operating activities:</b>		
Depreciation	116,991	113,281
	<b>45,607</b>	<b>174,993</b>
<b>Change in Working Capital</b>		
Increase ( decrease ) in inventory	9,112	6,360
Increase ( decrease ) in pledges receivable	(59,743)	(103,796)
Increase ( decrease ) in accounts receivable	(48,734)	(3,887)
Increase ( decrease ) in prepaid expenses	250	3,771
Increase ( decrease ) in accounts payable	22,005	(18,468)
Increase ( decrease ) in outstanding checks	73,704	(14,868)
Increase ( decrease ) in accrued expenses	8,721	(12,475)
Increase ( decrease ) in employees' provident fund	44,023	41,604
Increase ( decrease ) in employees' severance benefits	(61,102)	87,215
<b>Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities :</b>	<b>33,843</b>	<b>160,449</b>
<b>Cash Flows from Investing Activities :</b>		
Decrease in investments	-	-
Purchase of fixed assets	(27,230)	(8,860)
<b>Net Cash Used in Investing Activities</b>	<b>(27,230)</b>	<b>(8,860)</b>
<b>Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>	<b>6,613</b>	<b>151,589</b>
<b>Cash and Cash equivalents at the beginning of year</b>	<b>2,133,185</b>	<b>1,981,598</b>
<b>Cash and Cas hequivalent at the End of year ( see note 3)</b>	<b>2,139,798</b>	<b>2,133,187</b>

The Accompanying notes constitute an integral part of the financial statements.

## Conclusion

This report may not reflect everything that Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce and Industry accomplished during the year 2021, as stated previously this is a summary of the most prominent activities and events that were implemented, but eventually it is an eloquent and honest expression of organized work, effort of cooperation between the Board of Directors and the staff to achieve the strategic goals that the management of the Chamber seeks to achieve despite all the obstacles caused by the Corona pandemic and its effects on all aspects of life locally and internationally.

Respect and appreciation to all our team that work to raise the level of performance in the Chamber in order to continue implementing programs, courses and meetings, and conducting plans for discussion, research, and providing solutions and visions for issues in all economic fields and private sector affairs in Bethlehem Governorate.