



Improved livelihoods,
nutrition and empowerment
of rural women and their
families affected by the
COVID-19 crisis in Minya
Governorate



PROJECT CODE
OSRO/EGY/102/CAN



RESOURCE PARTNER
Canada

CONTRIBUTION
USD 2 174 100



IMPLEMENTATION
1/09/2021–31/07/2023



TARGET AREAS
Minya Governorate (Atf Haider,
Elshaikh Massoud, Burtubat,
Dair Garnous, Sharouna,
Bani Moussa, Abiouha, Masart
Malawi, Tinda and Derwa villages)



BENEFICIARIES
2 912 households (13 104 people)

KEY PARTNERS
Ministry of Social Solidarity (MoSS),
Ministry of Agriculture and
Land Reclamation, Directorate
of Social Solidarity, Directorate
of Agriculture and Land Reclamation,
Directorate of Local Government,
non-governmental and community
organizations.



Objective

To improve the food security and nutrition of vulnerable rural women and their households, particularly those most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and help them build resilient livelihoods.

Activities implemented

- Updated Minya Governorate's existing socioeconomic, biophysical and cropping systems data.
- Developed five curricula and prepared 60 sets of training materials and 982 sets of extension materials to train master trainers and Farmer Field School (FFS) facilitators to promote climate-smart agriculture (CSA), post-harvest management (PHM) and good agricultural practices (GAP) principles.
- Trained ten female master trainers on the FFS approach, who in turn trained 20 FFS facilitators to effectively guide the implementation of the FFS.
- Established 40 FFS to enhance 982 rural households' agricultural practices and improve their livelihoods.
- Established 40 demonstration plots in the ten project villages to serve as practical learning spaces and provide hands-on training for the 982 households.
- Established 20 greenhouses for joint use, benefiting 300 FFS households who were able to apply greenhouse cultivation techniques.
- Distributed 200 experimentation kits to 200 FFS households to enable them to apply their newly acquired knowledge and skills in a practical manner, further enhancing their agricultural practices.



- Rehabilitated the MoSS training and human resources centre in Minya to support its capacity-building activities, benefiting all community organizations across the governorate.
- Developed five farmer business school (FBS) curricula, 60 training material sets and 40 sets of extension materials to train FBS facilitators and promote profitable and sustainable agrifood processing ventures.
- Trained ten master trainers on modern agrifood processing, PHM, GAP principles and the FBS approach, who in turn trained 20 female FBS facilitators to guide the implementation of FBS.
- Distributed 500 livestock packages comprising 610 goats and sheep, 3 000 ducks, 105 tonnes of livestock feed and 500 medicine packages to 500 FBS households to enable them to generate income through livestock rearing.
- Distributed 300 dairy processing kits composed of butter churners, bushels, colanders, cream separators, knives, pots and thermometers to 300 FBS households.
- Distributed 200 income-generating activity kits comprising a combination of clothes, detergents, grocery items, fruits and vegetables, livestock feed, sewing machines and shoes to 200 FBS households.
- Established ten rural community kitchens in the ten project villages and equipped them with the necessary equipment, utensils and containers.
- Trained 230 households on food processing, storage and labelling, as well as business management, marketing, GAP, nutritious foods and healthy diets.
- Implemented 20 nutrition awareness campaigns mostly at the community kitchens to educate participants about the importance of nutritious food and healthy eating habits.

Results

- Enabled 982 households to adopt innovative and improved agricultural production techniques (PHM, CSA and GAP), contributing to increased food production and a reduction in pre- and post-harvest losses.
- Enhanced the agricultural production skills of the same 982 households, enabling them to produce an estimated yield of 15.8 tonnes of vegetables/year.
- Enhanced the knowledge of 300 FFS graduate households of greenhouse cultivation techniques, creating potential income streams for them through the production of fruits and vegetables and seedlings.
- Promoted the use of compost and animal manure and reduced the reliance on chemical fertilizers through the implementation of integrated soil-plant nutrient management practices.



- Supported the organization of capacity-building activities for all community organizations across Minya, thanks to the rehabilitation of the MoSS training centre.
- Enabled 500 households to generate income through livestock rearing, with each household projected to sell an average of six adult sheep, six goats and 165 poultry per year.
- Enabled each of the 300 households receiving dairy-processing kits to produce an estimated 70 kg of butter and 12 kg of cheese/month, thanks to the distribution of 300 dairy processing start-up kits.
- Enabled 200 households receiving income-generating activity kits to produce an average of 12 bedsheets/month and repair five clothing items/week.
- Enhanced the knowledge of the 1 000 FBS households of micro and small enterprise development essentials, small business management, GAP principles, contract farming and marketing techniques.
- Contributed to the creation of approximately 700 jobs, benefiting 700 households.
- Enabled 1 982 households to establish a network of connections between target villages, community organizations, a supermarket chain and various food industry firms in Minya to market their produce.
- Enhanced the knowledge of 230 households of food processing, storage and labelling, as well as business management and marketing, enabling them to produce typical Upper Egyptian food from local resources and improving their income-generating capacity.
- Improved nutrition awareness of 2 212 out of 2 912 beneficiary households and promoted the consumption of nutritious foods and the adoption of healthy diets.
- Supported the restoration of rural livelihoods and contributed to strengthening the resilience of 2 912 beneficiary households.
- Contributed to the economic empowerment of female farmers and challenging gender stereotypes that restricted women’s participation in income-generating activities outside their homes and ownership of businesses.
- Established a model governance structure and provided an evidence base for other resource partners interested in replicating and expanding the project’s interventions.

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