



Support small-scale dairy farmers, sheep herders and internally displaced people in the northwestern part of the Syrian Arab Republic to improve dairy and vegetable production, preserve livestock assets, prevent malnutrition and increase livelihoods' resilience



PROJECT CODE
OSRO/SYR/002/IIC



RESOURCE PARTNER
International Islamic Charity Organization

CONTRIBUTION
USD 502 387



IMPLEMENTATION
15/02/2021–14/02/2023



TARGET AREA
Aleppo and Idleb governorates



BENEFICIARIES
2 275 households (14 871 people)



KEY PARTNERS
Watan Foundation

Objective

Increase the productive assets of 2 250 livestock-keeping and farming households in northwest Syria and improve their livestock breeding and farming skills to ultimately strengthen their resilience.

Activities implemented

- Provided animal health consultations, fertility treatment, artificial insemination services and pregnancy diagnosis in cattle and sheep, benefiting 1 275 livestock-keeping households.
- Established six mobile veterinary units that carried out 8 552 veterinary visits (4 058 in Aleppo and 4 494 in Idleb).
- Distributed veterinary supplies and equipment to the implementing partner, Watan Foundation, to carry out project activities.
- Trained 1 275 livestock-keeping households on cattle and sheep breeding techniques and provided each with an information brochure (1 275 in total).
- Created a WhatsApp group for animal health technicians and livestock keepers to exchange information and knowledge and bridge the gap between available veterinary services and the needs of the livestock keepers.
- Organized a training of trainers' workshop for 21 veterinarians and animal health technicians to enhance their skills in artificial insemination and livestock fertility treatment.
- Distributed 1 000 homestead gardening kits (composed of 500 g of bean seeds, 60 cucumber seeds, 500 g of parsley seeds and 60 zucchini seeds) to 1 000 internally displaced people and female-headed households in the host community.
- Trained 1 000 farmers on improving their home gardening skills through the organization of 20 workshops.



Results

- Improved cow fertility, thanks to the provision of animal health consultations, fertility treatment, artificial insemination services and pregnancy diagnosis.
- Achieved a pregnancy rate of 85 percent in artificially inseminated cows and increased ewes' lambing rate, thanks to the provision of medroxyprogesterone hormonal sponges.
- Improved dairy productivity of 2 100 livestock, resulting in the production of an additional 3.5 million litres of milk for household consumption.
- Contributed to avoiding premature culling of at least 850 dairy cows, protecting the productive livestock assets of smallholder dairy farmers worth USD 3.6 million at market prices, thanks to the provision of livestock health services.
- Contributed to improving the health of livestock and narrowing the gap in veterinary services reported by beneficiaries, thanks to the establishment of six veterinary mobile units.
- Enhanced the knowledge of 1 275 livestock-keeping households on livestock breeding practices, thanks to the organization of training sessions.
- Improved the skills of 21 veterinarians and animal health technicians in artificial insemination and livestock fertility treatment.
- Enabled 1 000 farming households to cultivate 57 ha of land, expected to produce 740 tonnes of vegetables, thanks to the provision of 1 000 homestead gardening kits.
- Improved the home gardening skills of 1 000 farming households, thanks to the organization of 20 workshops.
- Supported livestock-keeping households in increasing their productive livestock assets.
- Contributed to boosting agricultural production in northwest Syria and improving the local population's access to nutritious food, reducing malnutrition.
- Enabled livestock-keeping and farming households to save and sustain their livelihoods, contributing to strengthening their resilience, reducing their need to resort to asset depleting mechanisms and helping them become self-sufficient.

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