



Socio-economic stabilization and resilience building for vulnerable Bedouin households in the West Bank and Gaza Strip

OSRO/GAZ/100/JPN

Working for: 1 662 female and male farmers and workers, their associations, and communities in the targeted area.

Working to: Improve socio-economic stability of Palestinian men, women, and youth in the vulnerable herding communities.

Total Investment: USD 975 000

Project Duration: March 2021–August 2022

Food insecurity in the West Bank and Gaza Strip (WBGS) is chronic, as it directly relates to the political dimensions affecting most drivers of economic growth, including access to land, water, markets and jobs.

More than 27 500 herders, half of which are Bedouins, are living in Area C of the West Bank (WB). The livelihoods of these communities are greatly undermined due to restrictions on spatial planning/development, demolitions and forced displacement, and limited access to land, water and markets. Additionally, COVID-19 has affected herders who depend primarily on selling dairy products (mainly between March and July) and lamb meat (from May to August, during feast time). Hence, empowering herding communities retains a significant economic, dietary and cultural importance, as their production is an important source for food, livelihood, and income generation WBGS.

FAO has taken a comprehensive approach to human security by addressing the root causes that threaten social cohesion through a project funded by the Government of Japan to provide agriculture-based livelihood support to men, women and youth in herding households affected by human-induced and natural shocks.

At the community level, the project will provide necessary in-kind support and technical capacity-building to women and youth in vulnerable herding communities to effectively access markets through the optimization of the potential of their production through activities including the following:

- Distribution of small-scale farm management inputs (animal health and supplement materials and items, salt blocks, wool and hooves secateurs) in the WBGS
- Distribution of energy blocks that is used for lamb nursery rooms and household heating in winter
- Distribution of mobile plastic water tanks in the WB
- Delivery of technical trainings and coaching to men, women and youth to improve their skills in animal husbandry, animal feeding and farm management
- Delivery of small-scale animal units such as rabbits and poultry in the Gaza Strip
- Provision of food processing equipment including dairy processing tools in the WB



Thirty-one-year-old Lina Al-Buraim from standing next to her rabbits received as part of the intervention. Khan Younis, Gaza Strip © Nader Abu Saada/2022

Members of the targeted communities will have improved resilience against environmental shocks through in-kind support, of which 200 women and youth specifically will be enabled to realize quick impact, profitable, market-oriented, and sustainable income generating activities in the livestock value chain

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