



“Market-oriented and sustainable high value crops development in the West Bank and Gaza Strip”

Project code: OSRO/GAZ/207/NET

Donor: Netherlands

Contribution: USD 9 368 974

Implementation: 01/01/13 – 31/12/16

Target areas: West Bank and Gaza Strip



Contact

Ciro Fiorillo, Head of Office, FAO West Bank and Gaza Strip. Ciro.Fiorillo@fao.org

Dominique Burgeon, Director, Emergency and Rehabilitation Division. Dominique.Burgeon@fao.org

- Objective:** To sustainably improve the capacities and self-reliance of small- and medium-scale farmers to cultivate, market and export high value crops (HVCs) in order to compete in national and international markets.
- Key partners:** Ministry of Agriculture, Union of Agricultural Work Committees, Palestinian Businesswomen’s Association and Mount of Green Olives.
- Beneficiaries reached:** 27 cooperatives (21 farmers’ cooperatives and six women’s cooperatives).
- Activities implemented:**
- Facilitated 814 training courses on good agricultural practices (GAPs)-related subjects and over 4 000 extension visits to 1 489 farmers.
 - Distributed 860 seedlings of ten fruit tree varieties, 25 000 seedlings of two pineapple varieties, 30 000 seedlings of three vegetable varieties, 10 kg of climbing peas and 800 kg of potato tuber for four improved potato varieties.
 - Cultivated 928 dunums with 17 HVCs in compliance with GLOBALG.A.P standards.
 - Certified 21 farmers’ cooperatives in accordance with GLOBALG.A.P standards, including 1 359 farmers owning 3 833 dunums of land.
 - Exported 14 300 tonnes of HVCs and locally sold 31 000 tonnes by 2016.
 - Handled, transported and marketed 8 955 tonnes of HVCs collectively under full control of farmers’ cooperatives.
 - Established two HVC producer associations, in addition to 18 HVC farmers’ cooperatives.
- Results:**
- Enhanced the capacity of HVC farmers to apply cost-efficient and product quality-based improved agricultural practices throughout the entire HVC production chain.
 - Supported 1 489 farmers (804 in the West Bank and 685 in the Gaza strip) to efficiently and sustainably adopt GAPs through the cultivation of HVCs in 4 063 dunums.
 - Produced 2 490 tonnes of GLOBALG.A.P certified HVC for local and external markets.
 - Reduced water consumption for HVC production by 15 percent in 2015–2016 compared with 2012–2013 and energy consumption (fuel and electricity) by 20 percent.
 - Produced 36.3 tonnes of high quality processed food, of which 20 tonnes were exported locally and 16.3 tonnes marketed locally.
 - Diversified HVC portfolio to enhance resilient marketing by introducing new feasible and highly demanded crops and varieties.
 - Promoted commercial GLOBALG.A.P and product quality certification approaches.
 - Enhanced post-harvest marketing and certification service delivery systems for farmers’ cooperatives and promoted cooperatives’ capacities to effectively manage the supply chain.
 - Established unified, sustainably self-reliant and gender-balanced associations for HVC producers.
 - Optimized the efficiency of irrigation by training farmers on irrigation practices.
 - Enhanced capacity and self-reliance of women’s cooperatives to sustainably grow, process and market HVC.