



Project Highlights

GEORGIA

“Restoration and improvement of agriculture-based livelihoods and food security for new internally displaced persons (IDP) settlements and returnees in the Area Adjacent to South Ossetia (AASO)”

Project code: OSRO/GEO/902/EC

Donor: European Union

Total contribution: EUR 2 million

Implementation: 03/08/09 to 02/06/12

Target areas: Area Adjacent to South Ossetia

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Objective: To assure the food security and improve the livelihoods of vulnerable conflict-affected people in Georgia through the recovery and establishment of agricultural production and provision of solutions for improved irrigation sources and supply.

Key partners: Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Refugees and Accommodation, local authorities, contracted service providers and World Food Programme.

Beneficiaries reached: The project reached 4 806 conflict-affected IDP and returnee families.

Activities implemented:

- 2 914 IDP households in 32 settlements received livelihood packages to support water harvesting and livestock production (poultry, rabbits, small ruminants and pigs), including apiculture.
- 1 860 IDP and returnee families benefited from the rehabilitation of infrastructure and the establishment of irrigation networks from existing and new water sources.
- 1 924 IDP and returnee households were assisted through cost-sharing interventions, through which families invested in horticulture, livestock, mechanization, irrigation, orchards and post-harvest production.
- 293 IDP households benefited directly from post-harvest activities, including improved storage facilities.

Impact:

- 15.8 percent increase in the average food-group intake (from November 2010–November 2011), thus improved levels of nutritional diversity and food security.
- 6.5 percent decrease in households using coping mechanisms in the same period.
- 7 percent rise in people engaged in agriculture as their main source of income compared pre-conflict levels.
- Increased food availability and income, including USD 157–428 per harvest from honey through free and cost-shared livelihood packages, respectively.
- High offspring numbers obtained through livestock activities, including a 16 percent increase for cattle, 90 percent for poultry and 250 percent for rabbits from cost-shared animals.
- Net increase in yields resulting from the availability of irrigation water, particularly for maize, potatoes and beans.