



Social stability and resilient livelihoods for Syrian refugees and vulnerable Jordanian host community farming families

Project code: OSRO/JOR/801/JPN

Donor: Japan

Contribution: USD 1 million

Implementation: 01/04/2018 – 31/03/2019

Target areas: Irbid, Al Mafraq and Zarqa governorates



Contact

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Objective: To increase social stability and improve the food security, livelihoods and employment opportunities of vulnerable, crisis-affected Syrian refugee and Jordanian host families by leveraging the agricultural potential within the targeted areas.

Key partners: Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), National Agriculture Research Centre (NARC), Business Development Centre, Nippon International Cooperation for Community Development and the World Food Programme.

Beneficiaries reached: 454 households, of whom 145 Syrian refugee families and 309 Jordanian host families.

Activities implemented:

- Undertook rapid skills and market assessments for host communities in order to identify potential agri-food products as the basis for home-based/micro agri-food businesses.
- Conducted 25 feasibility studies from which eight product categories were selected for home-based/micro and group-based/small-scale agri-food enterprises.
- Developed beneficiary selection criteria and identified project beneficiaries in the three targeted governorates.
- Led six introductory meetings in the three targeted governorates, aimed at raising awareness of the project, and to collect baseline data regarding beneficiaries' socio-economic status.
- Identified and trained a cadre of trainers from MoA and NARC.
- Developed and carried out a training for beneficiaries and facilitators on various topics (production of jam and pickled vegetables, packaging, food safety and hygiene, entrepreneurship, etc.).
- Selected a list of tools that were delivered in the form of kits to each beneficiary who completed the training successfully to be used for food production.
- Held three exhibitions to market beneficiaries' products.
- Facilitated the official registration of 42 home-based food-processing businesses.
- Provided beneficiaries with USD 100 upon completing the training; a voucher valued at around USD 300 to purchase tool kits for food processing; and USD 271 after receiving tool kits to initiate production.

Results:

- Promoted self-reliance and sustainability by providing beneficiaries with the technical knowledge and required business skills thanks to the training and tools distributed to produce high quality food and enhance their livelihoods.
- Improved beneficiaries' income; about 80 percent of the beneficiaries expanded their operations into small agri-businesses.