



**“Enhancing the resilience of farmers’ livelihoods in Area C of Qalqiliya, Jericho and Tulkarem governorates through improved water availability and management”**

**Project code:** OSRO/GAZ/305/UK

**Donor:** United Kingdom

**Contribution:** USD 1 978 974

**Implementation:** 01/02/14 – 31/03/16

**Target areas:** Jericho, Qalqiliya and Tulkarem governorates in Area C of the West Bank



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**Objective:** To improve the food security and livelihoods of vulnerable farmers in Area C of the West Bank through improved water availability and management for agricultural purposes.

**Key partners:** Ministry of Agriculture, Palestinian Water Authority and Palestinian Hydrology Group.

**Beneficiaries reached:** 1 220 vulnerable farming households (approximately 6 832 people).

- Activities implemented:**
- Rehabilitated one groundwater well, through the provision and installation of a submersible pump, column pipes, dressers, electrical control panel and other electronic devices, sensors and fittings.
  - Distributed pipes, fittings and connection accessories for the rehabilitation/replacement of 57 km of existing water conveyance systems (of which 26.8 km were complete replaced).
  - Distributed replacement parts for irrigation networks (i.e. high density polyethylene pipes, low density polyethylene lateral pipes and plain lateral pipes) and iron chelates foliar, and drip, organic and inorganic fertilizer to 1 220 households.
  - Conducted 60 in-field training sessions for all beneficiaries, covering on-farm water management, irrigation techniques, repair of lateral irrigation networks and fertigation.
  - Developed and facilitated the adoption of water supply schemes at each of the 15 targeted sites.
  - Supported the creation of 15 irrigation water supply management committees.

- Results:**
- Improved water availability while helping farmers to optimize the use of this water for irrigation.
  - Increased beneficiaries’ awareness of water scarcity issues and better equipped them to improve efficiency in the use of water resources.
  - Made available an additional 711 320 m<sup>3</sup>/year of water: replaced/rehabilitated pipes reduced water leaks, reclaiming 40 percent of the pumped water supply (616 320 m<sup>3</sup>); rehabilitation of one well restored its pumping capacity from 0 to 95 000 m<sup>3</sup>/year.
  - Enabled beneficiaries to irrigate 3 818 dunums of land during the 2015/16 agricultural season by optimizing the use of the 1 635 800 m<sup>3</sup> now available across all sites. This is projected to yield 26 726 tonnes of vegetables – enough to generate a net profit of USD 2 672 600 per season (USD 2 190.6 per farmer).
  - Enabled the creation of a sustainable mechanism for reducing and preventing the escalation of community tensions related to water usage through the creation of 15 well user and operator committees.