



**“Strengthening the resilience of food insecure households through food production support
in the Syrian Arab Republic”**

Project code: OSRO/SYR/607/NOR

Donor: Norway

Contribution: USD 1 839 553

Implementation: 01/09/16 – 31/08/17

Target areas: Aleppo, As-Sweida, Hama, Idleb and Rural
Damascus



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Objectives:

- (i) Increase the capacity of vulnerable households to sustainably produce cereals, legumes and vegetables, while conserving and enhancing soil and water resources.
- (ii) Improve the availability of data and information to guide the planning and formulation of strategies and interventions in support of enhanced food production and productivity.

Key partners:

Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform and the Rural Women Empowerment Directorate.

Beneficiaries reached:

5 500 households (33 000 people).

**Activities
implemented:**

- Distributed 480 tonnes of seeds (400 tonnes of wheat, 50 tonnes of fava beans and 30 tonnes of chickpea) to 2 000 households in Rural Damascus – each household received 200 kg of wheat seeds and 45 kg of fava bean seeds or 30 kg of chickpea seeds.
- Distributed 367.5 tonnes of seeds (300 tonnes of wheat and 67.5 tonnes of chickpeas) to 1 500 households in As-Sweida – each household received 245 kg of seeds (200 kg of wheat and 45 kg of chickpeas).
- Distributed 200 tonnes of wheat seeds to 1 000 households in Idleb through cross-border operations.
- Distributed winter vegetable seed kits to 1 000 households in Aleppo for homestead gardening.
- Organized a two-phase training session for 338 people (210 in Rural Damascus and 128 in As-Sweida) and 66 farming focal points through cross-border operations to increase skills and knowledge on good agricultural practices (GAPs), climate-smart agriculture, Save and Grow and conversation agriculture.
- Trained 65 focal points on GAPs on cereal and vegetable production, storage and marketing in Aleppo, Idleb and Hama. In turn, the focal points trained 1 998 people in the same governorates.
- Trained 65 technicians on the methodology of agricultural damage and loss needs assessment, data collection and the use of digital means to collect data.
- Conducted the first damage and loss assessment to evaluate the cost of the conflict on the agriculture sector across the Syrian governorates.

Results:

- Improved the vegetable production, crop production and sustainable soil management capacity of vulnerable households.
- Ensured soil productivity through increased soil fertility, content of organic matter and water retention, consequently reducing the risk of soil erosion.
- Diversified crop production improved households' dietary diversity and access to food, and provided an extra source of income.
- In As-Sweida and Rural Damascus governorates, households collectively produced 7 000 tonnes of wheat to cover the food needs of 6 500 households (39 000 people) and 500 tonnes of fava beans rich in protein, with a market value of USD 400 000.
- In Aleppo, Idleb and Hama, the project allowed for the production of an approximately 2 000 tonnes of wheat.
- Each of the 1 000 households in Aleppo were able to plant 100 m² of land and successfully produced 500 tonnes of a variety of vegetables (i.e. peas, beans, parsley, carrot and spinach).