



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

## Project Highlights

# WEST BANK AND GAZA STRIP

**“Emergency support to small ruminant herders and vulnerable farming households in the West Bank and Gaza Strip”**

**Project code:** OSRO/GAZ/906/ITA

**Donor:** Italy

**Contribution:** USD 1 085 810

**Implementation:** 12/10/09 – 11/04/11

**Target areas:** South Hebron, East Jerusalem, Deir Al Balah, North Gaza and Gaza City.

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**Objective:**

To provide a range of sustainable services and inputs to both small ruminant herders and vulnerable farming households in the West Bank and Gaza Strip in order to mitigate the impact of severe conditions on their livelihoods.

**Key partners:**

Ministry of Agriculture, *Associazione di Cooperazione e Solidarietà*, Oxfam Italy, Palestinian Livestock Development Center and Al Nahda Association.

**Beneficiaries reached:**

1 261 small ruminant herders and farming households (406 households more than planned).

**Activities implemented:**

- Construction of one feed centre for herders in East Jerusalem, and upgrading of six feed centres in the West Bank.
- Provision of sacks of milk powder and buckets to 300 herding households affiliated with the upgraded feed centres.
- Distribution of a total of 580 tonnes of high quality fodder to 736 herders in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.
- Provision of inputs for both home vegetable gardening and backyard livestock production (chicken or rabbits) to 150 households in the Gaza Strip.
- Distribution of two pregnant ewes and 160 kg of fodder to 75 herder households in the Gaza Strip.
- Training to all beneficiaries of home gardening and livestock inputs to ensure their effective use.

**Impact:**

- Lambs fed on milk powder gained significant weight and produced milk earlier in the season, which therefore sold at higher prices.
- Beneficiaries of fodder reported improved animal health (i.e. less worn wool, increased immunity to infection/disease, and higher level of productivity).
- Beneficiaries of backyard production activities reported an increase in their household consumption of vegetable and protein, along with higher levels of disposable income.
- Through the training, many beneficiaries shifted from traditional production systems to modern techniques.