

Improving Livestock (Sheep and Goats) Production

Project Title	Improve the household self production of farm livestock through improving production conditions for small ruminants (sheep and goats)
Project Duration	24 months
Estimated Budget	The total estimated budget is US \$229,000. The community will contribute with 20 percent of the provided assets and infrastructure.
Stakeholders	The project stakeholders will be the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), local Agricultural Association and NGOs.
Targeted Areas	Al 'Ubeidiya, Za'tara, Kisan, Ash Shawawra, Nahhalin, Al Jaba'a, Al Ma'sara.
Map of Targeted Areas	
Beneficiaries	100 poor livestock farmers who own 15-30 heads.
Project Description	The small ruminant farms are distributed in many rural localities (especially in the eastern rural area) in the Bethlehem governorate, where the rearing conditions are

	<p>quite difficult. Additionally, due to limited infrastructure in the household, the poor farmers find themselves insisting to use part of their small house to protect their animal from the heat and cold which results in reducing the quality of their lives and increasing the environmental problems inside the households.</p> <p>Additionally, such growing conditions usually reduce the amount of milk produced, growth rate, and fertility of the animals. On the other hand, diseases and death rates increase which affect the income of these severely poor people.</p> <p>Therefore, assisting those poor households who own 15-30 heads to improve the growing conditions of their small flocks, through rehabilitating the existing farms, sheds, watering and feeding systems as well as improving their sanitation conditions, would be extremely beneficial. This project will also provide the beneficiaries with some additional feeds to get to their animals to produce more milk and meat, which would improve their food security and increase their income through selling the excess products.</p>
<p><i>Project Objectives</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To alleviate the poor living conditions of 100 impoverished and vulnerable agricultural households in the marginalized areas of the Bethlehem Governorate. • To improve the vulnerable households’ capacity to produce more food for both household consumption and market. • To increase the capacities and skills of targeted households in agricultural practices, agricultural planning and decision-making, especially among the women farmers. • To increase the productivity of small ruminants farms (meat and milk). • To increase the nutritional status for targeted household members and to increase the access of their communities to more food.
<p><i>Project Activities</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project announcement, establishing community committees and beneficiaries selection. • Conducting project kickoff meetings with the Agricultural sector stakeholders, including the MoA, and active NGO's in the Bethlehem Governorates. • Selecting the targeted households (based on the field investigation with full cooperation with the project community committees) and agreement signing. • Preparing a project implementation manual. • Implementing the project activities (rehabilitating the existing small farms, improving the farms sanitation, providing veterinary services in cooperation with the MoA, providing suitable equipments and tools to improve the farm management system, training the farmers women on milk processing and hygiene applications, and building the farmers capacities in cooperation). • Reporting and disseminating the information. • Monitoring and Evaluating.

***Expected
Results***

- Up to 100 livestock sheds, with an average area of 30m², each will be rehabilitated.
- Up to 3000 square meters of sheds and farms rehabilitated with a total capacity of 3000 heads. The sheds play an important role in the protection of livestock from sun, rain and cold which will result in increasing the productivity of the small ruminants.
- Animal feeds distributed to the rehabilitated farms.
- The productivity and production of the livestock increased (new born, meat and milk)
- Access of Palestinian people to milk and meat increased with cheaper prices.