

Expected results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 250 dunums of land are reclaimed, 300 dunums under the threat of confiscation by the Israeli occupation and affected by the apartheid Wall are rehabilitated and cultivated, and 20 km of agricultural roads are built. • Income-generating integrated home gardens (animals and plants) are established and developed by supplying rural households with 140 greenhouses, 170 sheep and 35 water harvesting cisterns. • Better marketing opportunities and better agricultural production in quantitative and qualitative terms are contributing to sustainable development. • Capacity and potentials of local community-based organizations (4) are enhanced by empowering them, involving them in project management and implementation, and introducing quality management systems into them.
Partners	Palestinian NGOs working in community development, which share the same developmental perspectives, particularly in poverty alleviation, food security and empowerment of marginalized groups.
Target groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farmers in target areas. • Needy rural households. • Staff of agricultural cooperatives and societies.
Duration	3 years (2011-2013)
Budget	US\$ 2.2 million



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A Continued Commitment to Sustainable Development
and Humanitarian Assistance in Palestine



**Food Security Program
(Hasad)**

Agriculture is seen as a basic component of the economic, social and political fabric of the Palestinian society. The agricultural land area in the Palestinian territory is estimated at around 1,854 dunums, which is equal to 31 % of the total area. 91% of this area is located in the West Bank and 9% in Gaza Strip. Studies by the Food and Agricultural Organization and the World Food Programme indicate that 25% of households in the West Bank and 61% in Gaza Strip are food-insecure. Hence, Welfare Association (WA) has identified a need to train farmers on best practices in the production of high quality products and reclaim lands in areas most affected by the occupation, while also searching for new marketing venues.



Food Security program – West Bank



Olive Oil project – West Bank

Since its establishment in 1983, WA has paid special attention to the agriculture and environment sector, offering more than US\$ 14 million in support of the agricultural sector. WA has made significant achievements in the field of food security through a program that it has been implementing since 2007. The program included a home gardens project (700 outdoor home gardens and greenhouses), reclamation of more than 300 dunums and implementation of 10 home-based food processing projects. WA has also assisted in building around 60 rainwater harvesting cistern for the irrigation of home gardens, in addition to supplying farmers with plastic tanks for water harvesting.

Program's goal

Support farmers' resilience, especially in areas most affected by the apartheid Wall, and improve food security situation of poor households

Objectives

- Protect lands under threat of confiscation by reclaiming them and encouraging their cultivation
- Establish and develop integrated income-generating home gardens (animals and plants)
- Develop mechanisms and strategies for marketing local agricultural products with high competitive quality
- Promote proper farming practices among small-scale farmers to ensure better agricultural production in quantitative and qualitative terms
- Empower local community-based organizations by involving them directly in project management and implementation

Areas of operation

- Gaza Strip, giving priority to borderline areas that are most affected by the Israeli practices.
- The West Bank, giving priority to communities affected by the Wall and settlements and the most marginalized.