



Sustainable Development Application Form

Direct any questions regarding development projects to Rev. Vy Nguyen, Executive Director. Please return this form by email.

Submitting Partner: Global Ministries		Date Submitted: April 2020	
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<p>Project Name: Sustainable Agriculture and Community Resilience in the West Bank (Fourth Year) Local Country Partner: Department of Service for Palestinian Refugees (DSPR) and the International Christian Committee (ICC) Location: Aqaba/Tubas, in Area C of Palestine</p>			
<p>Partner's History/Relationship with the Project: Established in the early 1950's the Department of Service for Palestinian Refugees was organized to aid Palestinian refugees with their newly acquired status following the 1948 Arab-Israeli war. DSPR advocates for Palestinian rights and works to improve the quality of life for the innumerable Palestinians who live in the refugee camps in Gaza, Jerusalem, the West Bank, Galilee, and also in Jordan and Lebanon.</p> <p>International Christian Committee (ICC)'s historic experience in agriculture through community-based relationships remains. This network of relationships within Palestinian communities and with relevant official bodies enables the DSPR and ICC to help mitigate rural community hardships by enhancing individual skills in agriculture and investing in their knowledge to strengthen project sustainability in a context that is becoming more dependent on outside aid.</p> <p>One of DSPR's strategic directions is to enhance rural communities through agriculture. Agriculture remains the largest sector of the Palestinian economy, generating 22-30% of the GDP of the West Bank and Gaza and providing employment to over 15% of the population. Presently, Palestinian agriculture is far from flourishing. The Palestinian agricultural sector is faced with high competition with subsidized Israeli agriculture, unfair trade laws allowing subsidized Israeli produce into the territories while restricting Palestinian markets in Israel, the high costs of production and labor, the rapidly rising cost of living in the region, and a lack of sufficient research to help farmers improve their production and efficiency. Additionally, due to severe measures taken by the Israeli leadership, available work permits for Palestinians were reduced by 100,000 leaving these individuals unemployed and seeking ways to regain a source of income.</p> <p>The DSPR and ICC have managed this project for three full years. In those three years they have worked with those living in the villages in Area C contributing to their resilience through sustainable agriculture. The DSPR and ICC have assisted those living in the villages in distributing 60,000 seedlings, setting up five greenhouses and irrigation systems, preparing land, and providing onsite training by an agronomist. The participants have been successful in growing five different varieties of herbs that they plan to process in a small local factory drying, packaging, and marketing. Last year DSPR and ICC helped the Al Aqaba village finish their production cycle by procuring a packaging machine to prepare products for local and external markets.</p> <p>In its fourth year, this project will help to increase the economic opportunities for women in the Village of Qalqilya by helping them to establish production of pastry, thyme, concentrated juice, and cheese products as well as providing training on basic financial management and e-marketing.</p>			
Description of Project			
<p>Name of Project (agricultural, health, water, micro-credit, education, community development, etc.): The Sustainable Agriculture and Community Resilience project is addressing United Nations Sustainable Development Goal number two, improving food security and enhance agriculture sustainability.</p> <p>This project aims to aid the women in the Village of Qalqilya by helping them to establish the production of pastry, thyme, concentrated juice, and cheese products and train participants in basic financial and marketing management. DSPR and ICC will accompany the participant women as they establish their production of these products with the long-term goal of the project</p>			

being to increase the women's economic opportunities and family income helping to make the community of Qalqilya more resilient through sustainable agriculture.

Target Population (children, women, farmers, urban poor, etc.):

This project will directly benefit women in village of Qalqilya and indirectly benefit persons throughout the West Bank.

How many persons are/will be served? (please give as specific a figure as possible):

This project will engage more than 55 women (direct beneficiaries) and will indirectly benefit 2,100 persons, comprising of children at schools and consumers at markets.

Key Objectives:

Increase the economic opportunities for women in the village of Qalqilya by:

- Establishing the production projects of pastry, thyme, concentrated juice, and cheese products.
- Training participants on mushroom planting and production
- Training participants on basic financial management and electronic marketing
- Increasing the income generation opportunities for women in Qalqilya
- Increasing household incomes for families in Qalqilya

Key Activities:

- Preparations for the project including publicity and participant recruitment-June 2020
- Establish production project of pastries-July 2020
- Establish production project of concentrated juice- August 2020
- Establish production project of thyme-September 2020
- Conduct training on mushroom planting and production-September 2020
- Establish cheese production-October 2020
- Conduct training on food production-October 2020
- Project reporting-November 2020

Duration of Project:

One Year

Project Budget

Total Budget: USD \$52,100

Amount Requested from Week of Compassion: USD \$15,000

Is this a one-time request or an on-going request? This project has been an on-going request for the continued sustainable development for families in the West Bank at-risk of losing their land

Is the project financially supported by ecumenical or outside partners? If so, what percentage does it cover for this project?
Yes, 71% or \$37,100 it is covered by ecumenical partners.

Please list partners who are funding this project:

ACT Alliance is helping to fund this project.

Does this project/partner receive funding from UCC OGHS, if so how much?

This project is not receiving funding from UCC OGHS.

What is the overall percentage of fund requested that will be used for administration/overhead?

0%, all funds included in the project budget are related to the direct expenses for the project.

Please attached a detailed, itemized budget and cost breakdown for the requested funds.

Attached

Dates and project names of previous proposal submissions:

2017, 2018, and 2019: Sustainable Agriculture and Community Resilience in the West Bank

How do you plan to monitor, evaluate, and report back to Week of Compassion? *(Please note that future funding is contingent upon reporting. In addition to reporting, please provide stories of transformation and photos.)*

This project will be monitored by an agronomist and trainer who will monitor attendance of participants as well as report on production and training activities with written progress reports. The main DSPR office will also offer oversight and leadership to ensure funds are used as designated, and the Global Ministries Middle East and Europe Executive will continue to monitor the progress of this project through personal visits and ongoing communication with the partner. A narrative and financial report on this project will be submitted to Week of Compassion after one year of receiving the grant funds.

If granted, is there a deadline by which to receive funding?

As soon as funds are available.