



Arab Agronomists Association

Annual Administrative Report

For the Year 2024

Towards Ecological Agriculture and a Food System that Strengthens Resilience and Faces Challenges

📍 *Headquarters: Ramallah – Palestine*

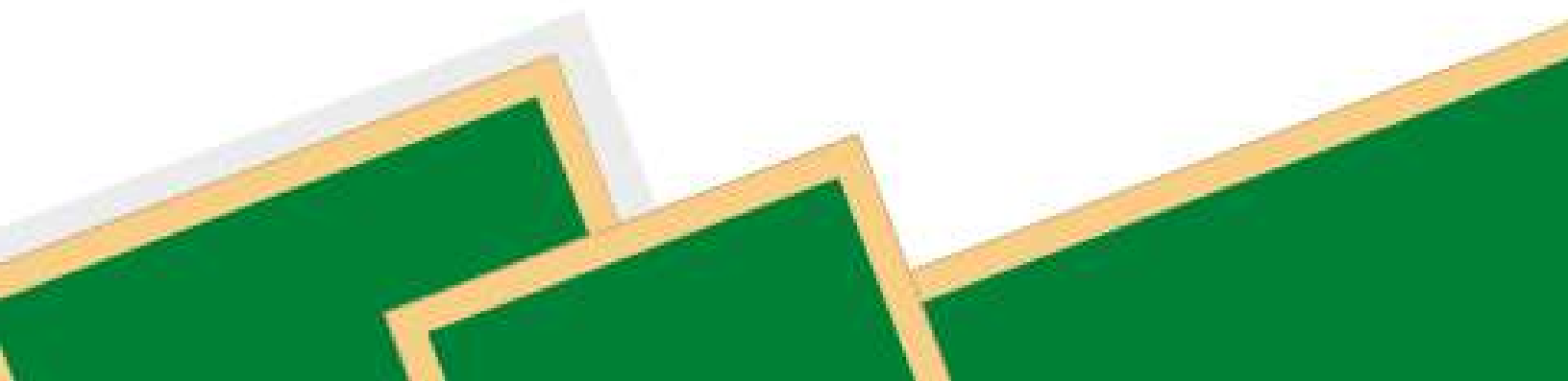


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🗨 Message from the Chairman of the Board

Dear colleagues, our partners in work and mission,

In an exceptional year etched into the memory of the Palestinian people, we all stood before challenges that went beyond the boundaries of development work, touching the very essence of our existence and our basic rights. The year 2024 witnessed an unprecedented escalation of Israeli aggression, particularly in the Gaza Strip, which faced systematic destruction that struck people and stone alike, sparing not even the agricultural sector that forms the lifeline of our people there.

In the West Bank, the policies of land confiscation, demolition of agricultural facilities, and restricting farmers' access to their land continued, especially in areas classified as (C), in addition to the targeting of water sources and livestock and plant production facilities. This increased the fragility of food security and weakened the ability of rural communities to remain steadfast.

In this politically, economically and climatically complex reality, the **Arab Agronomists Association** played an active role in protecting the agricultural sector, not only through support and relief projects, but also by empowering agronomists to lead change and develop sustainable solutions grounded in knowledge and ecological practices, integrating development with resilience.

Despite the challenges, we were able to implement strategic programs in ecological and organic agriculture, improving local seedlings, strengthening food security, adapting to climate change, and empowering rural women and youth. We also continued to support farmers in Gaza through rapid recovery programs and adaptive responses, in cooperation with our local and international partners.

We believe that agriculture is not merely a productive sector, but **a lever of sovereignty, an act of resistance, and a tool for national and social empowerment.** And that agricultural development is the cornerstone for building a cohesive, independent and just Palestinian economy.

Therefore, in the coming phase we will continue to expand our partnerships, build alliances with institutions working in sustainable development, invest in applied research as a tool for influence, and develop policies that guarantee the rights of agronomists and enhance their contributions to change.

In closing, I extend my thanks and appreciation to every individual and institution that supported our mission, and to every engineer who did not abandon their role despite the harsh circumstances. **With you, and through you, we are building a Palestinian agriculture that is more just and more capable of facing crises.**

Eng. Muqbel Abu Jaish
Chairman of the Board, Arab Agronomists Association
June 2025

◆ About the Association

The Arab Agronomists Association is an independent professional civil society organization, established to be an incubator for Palestinian and Arab agronomists and an active platform for advancing the agricultural sector by empowering competencies, developing policies and practices, and promoting sustainable and ecological agriculture. The Association's headquarters is located in **Ramallah – Palestine**, and its activities and projects extend across the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, in partnership with national, regional and international institutions.

🌿 Vision

A productive society in a free homeland, in which the agronomist plays a pioneering role in achieving sustainable agricultural and rural development.

🌿 Mission

To strengthen and empower the agronomist by building their professional capacities and actively engaging them in bringing about positive change in the Palestinian agricultural sector, in order to face environmental, political and economic challenges, and to contribute to achieving food sovereignty and balanced development.

🌿 Core Values

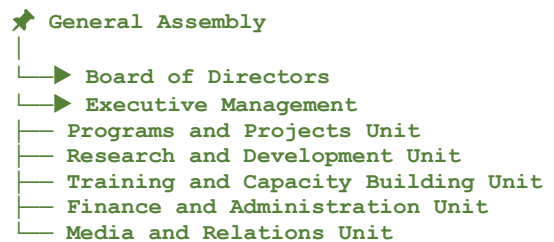
1. **Agricultural Justice:** Defending the rights of farmers and agronomists, especially in marginalized areas.
2. **Independence and Professionalism:** Maintaining independent decision-making and working according to scientific and developmental standards.
3. **Transparency and Accountability:** Commitment to the highest standards of integrity in management and implementation.
4. **Partnership and Integration:** Cooperating with local and international bodies to maximize impact.
5. **Sustainability:** Commitment to ecological agriculture, applied research, and smart solutions.
6. **Empowerment and Participation:** Providing opportunities for agronomists, women and youth to lead and take initiative.

🎯 The Three Strategic Objectives

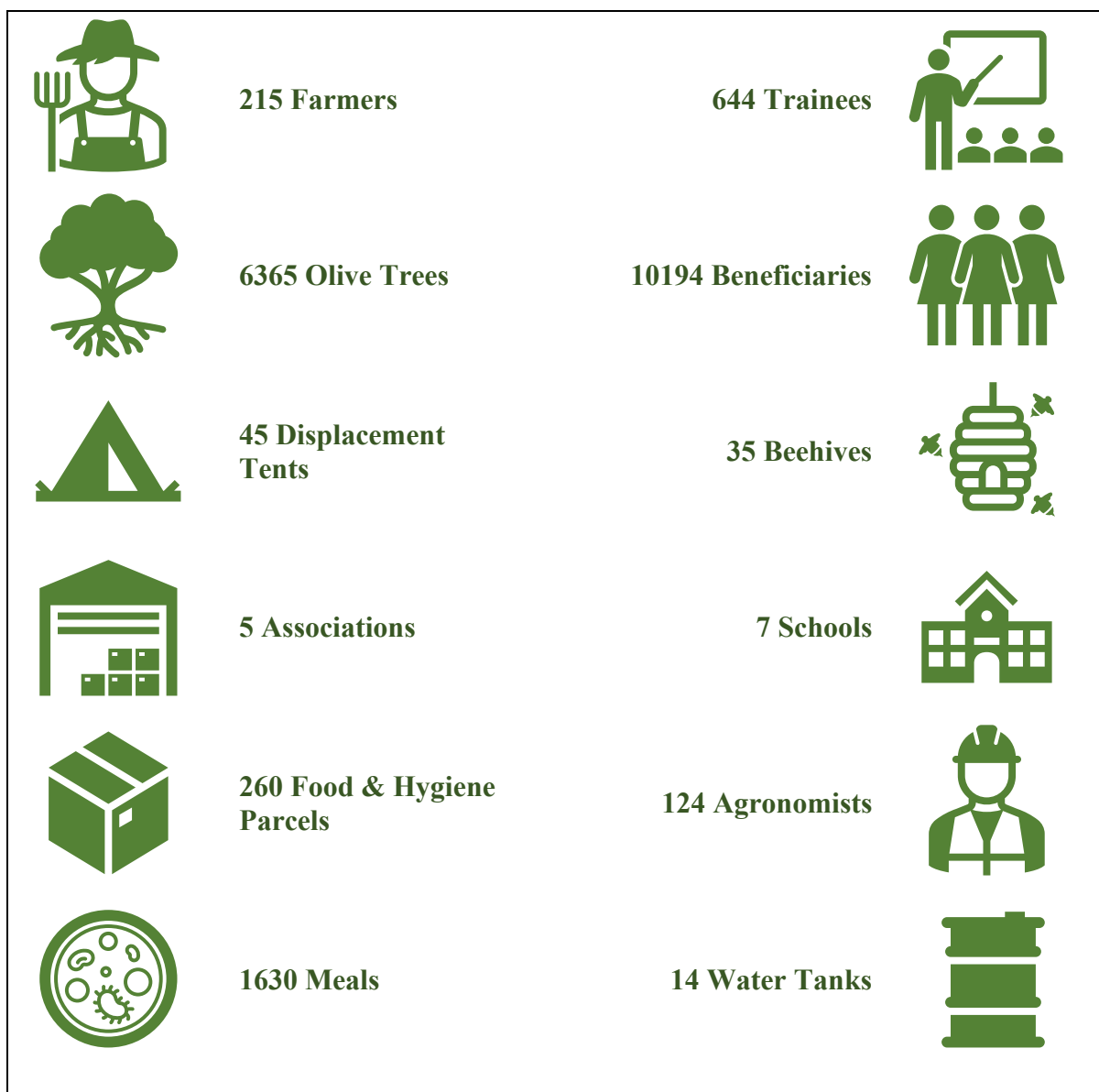
1. **Building the capacities of Palestinian agronomists and empowering them in the labor market.**
2. **Encouraging and disseminating applied research in competitive and environmentally friendly agriculture.**
3. **Strengthening the Association's capacities and ensuring its institutional and financial sustainability.**

Administrative and Organizational Structure

The Association's administrative structure consists of the following levels:



◆ The Association at a Glance:



◆ Key Achievements in 2024

Despite the political, economic and field challenges of the year, the Association was able to implement a range of vital projects that had a direct impact on farmers' resilience, on developing sustainable agricultural practices, and on building the capacities of agronomists across the Association's areas of operation.

🌱 Ecological and Organic Agriculture Program

 **Project Name:** Supporting Sustainable Tourism through the Protection, Rehabilitation and Promotion of the Cultural Agricultural Landscape in Battir

As part of the Association's efforts to promote sustainable agricultural development and the economic empowerment of rural communities, the Arab Agronomists Association (AAA), in partnership with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), implemented a development project entitled: **"Supporting Sustainable Tourism through the Protection, Rehabilitation and Promotion of the Cultural Agricultural Landscape in Battir"**, in the villages of Battir and Husan in Bethlehem Governorate, given the importance of this area as one of the most prominent living examples of traditional agriculture linked to Palestinian cultural and natural heritage.

The project aims to protect the ecological agricultural landscape, improve local value chains, and support male and female farmers and their cooperatives with the knowledge and equipment needed to enhance their production and link them to markets. The project was distinguished by a comprehensive methodology combining field assessment, capacity building, technical interventions, and rural marketing.

During the period from September 2024 until the end of the year, the project reached **238 beneficiaries (129 men and 109 women)**, including women's cooperatives and individuals working in agriculture and food processing. Interventions included:

- Signing agreements for the supply of high-quality Battiri eggplant seedlings.
- Equipping the Husan Women's Association with food processing and preparation equipment.
- Implementing **32 training sessions** and **55 extension visits** on ecological agriculture, irrigation management, food processing, and marketing.
- Developing administrative and financial systems for the cooperatives.
- Holding awareness workshops on legal registration and food quality and safety.

This project contributed to **raising the readiness of cooperatives and farmers to compete in the market, adopting more sustainable agricultural practices, and strengthening women's participation**, and it consolidated the principle of community partnership in designing and implementing activities, which increased the effectiveness of the response to local challenges.

Importance of the Project:

- Strengthening farmers' resilience and preserving the cultural agricultural landscape in Battir.
- Empowering women and women's cooperatives in food processing and marketing.

- Supporting ecological agriculture practices and training on sustainable management of natural resources.
- Improving the quality of local products and linking them to markets through digital promotion tools and packaging.

Key Results Achieved in 2024:

Achievement	Area
238 farmers (129 men, 109 women), in addition to 3 women's cooperatives	Direct Beneficiaries
Conducting a comprehensive needs assessment through interviews and questionnaires	Field Assessment
32 specialized training sessions, 55 extension visits, and 4 awareness workshops on association registration	Training
Equipping the Husan Women's Association with food processing and preparation equipment	Women's Economic Empowerment
Signing an agreement to supply high-quality Battiri eggplant seedlings at subsidized prices	Technical Support
Training on financial management, governance and marketing, and developing administrative systems for the cooperatives	Cooperative Governance
Starting trainings in marketing and digital markets	Marketing and Market Linkage
Nominating male and female farmers for specialized farmer field schools on olives and beekeeping	Success Stories

Emerging Challenges:

- Low participation of women in some activities, which was overcome by creating a dedicated training space for them.
- Attempts to negatively influence community participation were countered by strengthening transparency.
- Some activities were postponed due to political conditions and weather, and the training was successfully rescheduled.

Expected Impact:

Thanks to this intervention, conditions are now in place to increase farmers' productivity and resilience, improve governance in cooperatives, and create sustainable economic opportunities, contributing to

integrated agricultural development and the preservation of agricultural heritage in the villages of the southern West Bank.

🌿 **Direct environmental impact:** Reducing the use of chemicals by 30% in the targeted lands.

♦ **Increased productivity:** Increasing productivity by more than 20% in organic crops during the coming seasons.

🌿 Food Security and Farmer Empowerment Program

🌿 Project: Planting One Million Olive Seedlings to Strengthen Environmental and Economic Resilience

In the context of the Association's efforts to promote **sustainable agricultural development**, protect natural resources, and economically empower Palestinian farmers, the **Arab Agronomists Association (AAA)**, in partnership with French solidarity organizations (Palestine Amitié – AFPS Besançon – AFPS Bondy), implemented a distinctive project entitled: “**Planting One Million Olive Seedlings in the Palestinian Territories**”, targeting wide agricultural areas in **Nablus, Tubas, Jenin, Bethlehem, the Jordan Valley, and Nazareth**.

The project embodies the philosophy of the olive tree in the Palestinian context; it is not only an agricultural crop of economic value, but **a national symbol of steadfastness and attachment to the land in the face of occupation, land razing and displacement**. It is also a primary source of livelihood for thousands of rural families.

🎯 Project Objectives:

- Promoting **environmental sustainability** by planting olive seedlings on threatened or degraded land.
- Supporting **farmers' livelihood security** through olive oil production as a long-term source of income.
- Strengthening the **agricultural and cultural identity** associated with the olive tree in Palestine.
- Contributing to **reducing erosion and improving soil fertility**, and securing land threatened with confiscation.

📅 Implementation Period:

From **24 February 2024** until **the end of April 2024**

📍 Target Areas:

Nablus – Jenin – Salfit – Qalqilya – Ramallah – Jerusalem – Bethlehem

Beneficiary Group:

More than **1004 beneficiaries**, in addition to local cooperatives and community institutions.

Interventions Implemented:

- Distributing **6365 local (baladi) olive seedlings** to farmers in high-priority areas along the separation line.
- Supporting agricultural cooperatives **and activating their role** by targeting them in the project.

Key Results Achieved in 2024:

Achievement	Area
Planting 6365 olive seedlings	Environmental Technical Support
Engaging more than 215 farmers who own threatened land	Economic Empowerment

Challenges Faced:

- Difficulties in accessing some lands due to **occupation checkpoints and restrictions**.
- The need to adapt planting plans to **climatic conditions** and unstable weather.
- Weak supporting infrastructure in some areas (such as roads and water networks), which was worked around through community planning and engineering support.

Expected Impact:

- **Sustainably increasing the area planted with olive trees** and boosting local oil production
- **Improving farmers' income** in the medium term by benefiting from a high-value product in local and international markets
- **Promoting the concept of resilient agriculture** as a tool for sovereignty over the land
- Establishing **the olive tree as a symbol of life and stability** in villages facing continuous uprooting attempts.



Beekeeping Sector Development Program

Project: The Bee Council – Developing the Beekeeping Sector in Palestine

Within the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Arab Agronomists Association and the Bee Council, and to promote sustainable rural development and link vocational education to the environmental and productive reality, a distinctive initiative was launched entitled **“Beekeeping Sector Development Initiative in Palestine”**, in cooperation with agricultural schools in the West Bank governorates, and with the support of the Turkish agency TIKa. The project seeks to **establish a culture of beekeeping** as one of the development solutions that integrates education, production and environmental conservation, while opening new economic opportunities for youth in rural Palestine.

 **Number of Beneficiaries:** 150 students and teachers

Implementation Period: 2024–2025

Project Objectives:

- Building the capacities of students and teachers in beekeeping and honey production.
- Integrating practical skills into agricultural curricula to enhance applied education.
- Supporting a culture of cooperative work and encouraging school entrepreneurial initiatives.
- Empowering rural youth with productive skills that enhance their livelihoods and sustainability.

Beneficiary Schools:

Target School	Location	Governorate
Al-Arroub Agricultural School	Al-Arroub Camp	Hebron
Azzun Agricultural School	Azzun Atma, Hajja	Qalqilya
Safa Union School	Safa Town	Ramallah
Martyr Abu Jihad School	Arraba Town	Jenin
Tulkarm Agricultural School	Tulkarm City	Tulkarm
Burin Agricultural School	Burin Town	Nablus
The Cultural Forum	Several locations in the West Bank	West Bank in general

 The course was not implemented at the targeted agricultural college due to the imposed security conditions.

Project Components:

Phase One: Basic Training

- Implementing specialized courses on the fundamentals of beekeeping (theoretical and practical).
- Number of trainees: between 10 and 25 at each training site.
- Supervised by agronomists specialized in beekeeping and bee products.
- Content: bee biology, hive assembly, hive and production management, safety procedures, the importance of bees for biodiversity, and bee product processing.

Phase Two: Equipping and Expansion

- Supplying training sites with tools and supplies (beehive boxes, protective suits, honey extractors...).
- Preparing to implement more advanced training courses on processing bee products (wax, royal jelly, honey soap... etc.) and marketing them.

Expected Impact:

- Establishing beekeeping as an applied productive field in agricultural schools.
- Establishing school bee councils capable of developing into small production units.
- Building a generation of students with skills in ecological agriculture and sustainable practices.
- Raising local community awareness of the importance of bees and their role in food security and environmental protection





Capacity Building Program for Agronomists



Project: Training Agronomists in Developing Agro-Ecosystems – Second Cohort

Building the Capacity of Agronomists in Safe and Ecological Agriculture – Cohort 2

As part of the Association's ongoing efforts to strengthen technical competencies in the Palestinian agricultural sector, the **Arab Agronomists Association (AAA)**, in partnership with the **Palestinian Agronomists Syndicate** and with the support of the French organization **CCFD**, implemented a specialized training program entitled: **“Training Program for Agronomists in Safe and Ecological Agriculture – Second Cohort”**, during the period from **June to September 2024**.



Program Objectives:

- Enabling agronomists to provide specialized scientific extension in ecological agriculture and safe production.
- Disseminating the principles of agroecology and reducing reliance on chemical inputs.
- Strengthening engineers' ability to develop production systems that respect biodiversity and address climate change.
- Preparing a national core of agricultural mentors capable of transferring knowledge to farmers effectively and sustainably.

Training Topics:

- **Agroecology**
- **Beekeeping from an ecological perspective.**
- **Ecological cultivation and management of olive groves and vineyards.**
- **Farm management and green marketing.**

Geographic Coverage:

The training was implemented in **Hebron, Jenin, Bethlehem and Ramallah**, in addition to virtual sessions via **Zoom** to extend access to beneficiaries in other areas.

Beneficiary Group:

- **124 male and female engineers** participated in person (72% of them women).
- **132 trainees** participated online.

Key Results Achieved:

Achievement	Area
Implementing 6 in-person training programs in 4 main governorates	Field Coverage
Designing a comprehensive training methodology combining theoretical and practical aspects	Training Quality
Activating virtual training as an alternative in areas affected by military checkpoints	Adaptation and Flexibility
Strengthening the participation of women agronomists, who made up 72% of participants	Equality and Empowerment

Challenges Overcome:

- **Military checkpoints and closures** hindered some participants' access, requiring the use of virtual training.
- **Incursions and security unrest** led to the postponement or modification of some sessions, which was overcome through alternative scheduling
- **Growing demand** for the training led to a recommendation to continue and expand the program.

Expected Impact:

- Improving the quality of field agricultural extension in safe and sustainable agriculture.
- Creating a national network of engineers specialized in agroecology.

- Strengthening the agricultural sector's ability to adapt to climatic and environmental changes.
- Empowering women in extension and agriculture through a participatory, training-based methodology.



Qamar Al-Balad Farm

Qamar Al-Balad Cooperative – A Living Model of Community-Based Ecological Agriculture

As part of the Association's commitment to spreading the concepts of ecological agriculture and strengthening the local economy, the Qamar Al-Balad Cooperative (formerly known as the "Qamar Al-Balad Ecological Educational Farm") continued in 2025 to develop its community agricultural model in the village of Farkha, where it has become a vital educational and productive space run in a collective spirit, contributing to strengthening food security and empowering rural families.

Operation and Management:

Three families manage and operate the farm directly throughout the year, with two additional families involved part-time when needed. The returns of agricultural production are distributed among these families according to a cooperative model based on exchanging labor for food.

Rehabilitation and Development Works in 2025:

- Fully securing the farm: by installing a fence using second-hand railings and zinc sheets (Escorit), which helped protect the farm from external encroachments and ensure the stability of agricultural activities.
- Expanding the water network: a water network was extended to cover the various farm facilities, including the animal units and the greenhouse.
- Building a cement pond: with a capacity of 100 m³ for rainwater harvesting, in partnership with Bisan Center.
- Establishing a 100 m² agricultural greenhouse with the support of the Popular Art Centre, which was planted three times during the year.

Agricultural Production in 2025:

Crop	Quantity Produced
Potatoes	720 kg
Spinach	250 kg
Peas	150 kg
Dried sage	10 kg
Fresh thyme (za'atar)	100 kg
Dried thyme (za'atar)	10 kg
Grape leaves	25 kg
Radish, onion, arugula	Greenhouse sales worth ILS 1,000
Cucumber (from the greenhouse)	400 kg

Preparations are currently underway for the third planting in the greenhouse, which will include ecological tomatoes.

Community and Educational Partnerships:

- The farm was accredited as a training site by Bisan Center, where 35 farmers from the villages of Farkha, Haris, Kifl Haris, Iskaka, Beit Rima and Kafr Ein were trained in ecological agriculture.
- The beneficiaries were later supported to establish ecological home gardens in their areas.
- Implementing training and community sessions at the farm, which included installing chairs, tables and a raised platform, as well as a composting unit in preparation for achieving self-sufficiency in organic fertilizer.

🐦 **Livestock:**

The farm now includes a rich variety of livestock, including:

- 100 pairs of pigeons
- Local poultry, ducks, geese, turkeys
- Two rabbit-breeding units
with future plans to expand this activity to achieve agricultural integration between plant crops and animal products.

🌍 **Visits and International Solidarity:**

During the year, the farm hosted a number of solidarity delegations and activists from:

- Australia, Norway, Switzerland, Italy, France
- The Democratic Women's Movement inside the 1948 territories
- The Communist Youth inside the 1948 territories (two visits, each with 50 young participants)
- Palestinian "Masarat" groups and several community delegations

🧺 **Employment Program:**

In partnership with the Popular Art Centre, three workers from the Gaza Strip were employed at the farm, providing a source of income as well as psychological and livelihood support to the beneficiary families.

🌱 **Future Outlook:**

Qamar Al-Balad Cooperative aspires to:

- Increase the number of producing families on the farm
- Develop the composting and livestock production unit
- Expand partnerships with educational and environmental institutions
- Become a permanent training model for community-based ecological agriculture in Palestine





Humanitarian Aid Program

 **Solidarity Campaign with the Palestinian People in Gaza**, generously funded by: **Amitié Palestine Solidarité** and **AFPS Alsace**

In light of the ongoing Israeli aggression on the Gaza Strip and the growing suffering of displaced families, the **Arab Agronomists Association (AAA)** launched an emergency campaign entitled: “**Solidarity Campaign with the Palestinian People in the Gaza Strip**”, with the support of our partners in French solidarity organizations, with the aim of providing an immediate humanitarian response and supporting the resilience of affected families.

Campaign Objectives:

- **Responding to the urgent humanitarian needs** of affected families in displacement areas.
- **Strengthening the resilience of vulnerable communities** and tent camps in the face of harsh weather conditions.
- **Providing food and hygiene supplies** that help preserve dignity and reduce health risks.

Intervention Areas:

- **Khirbet Al-Adas tent camp** – southern Gaza Strip
- **Deir al-Balah area** – central Gaza Strip
- **Khan Younis area** – southern Gaza Strip

Interventions Implemented:

First: Food and Hygiene Assistance

- **Distributing 130 food parcels** containing basic food items and fresh vegetables.
- **Distributing 130 hygiene parcels** containing detergents and sanitizing supplies.
- **Distributing 680 hot meals** to support displaced families in the Khirbet Al-Adas tents
- **Distributing 950 ready-made pastry meals** as a rapid food response at the same site, each meal covering the needs of two people

 **Number of Beneficiaries: 3828 direct beneficiaries**



 **Second: Support for Basic Tent Infrastructure**

- **Distributing 45 plastic tarpaulins (reinforced nylon)**

 **Goal:** Protecting displacement tents from rain and cold and reinforcing their structure

 **Number of Beneficiary Families: 45 families**





Total Direct Beneficiaries:

- More than **4044 people** from the most affected groups
- Focus on **displaced families, children, and women**

Importance of the Campaign:

- This response formed **part of the Association's interventions in emergencies and aggression**, and expressed its commitment to the principle of humanitarian and national solidarity.
- It contributed to **easing the burden on hundreds of families** lacking the minimum requirements for a safe and dignified life.
- It consolidated the concept of **international partnership in the face of human suffering**, and provided a tangible model of effective solidarity.

Humanitarian Interventions Grant in the West Bank:

First: Rehabilitation of the Wadi Fukin Educational and Sports Center

 **Location:** Wadi Fukin village – west of Bethlehem

 **Area:** approximately 200 square meters

 **Number of Direct Beneficiaries:** around 150 children and adolescents from various school levels

About the Center:

The Wadi Fukin Educational and Sports Center is a vital community space used to develop the capacities of children and youth through educational, recreational and sports activities. It also serves as a shared space for local institutions to work, organize community meetings, and host international delegations and volunteers; among its most prominent events is the annual agricultural camp for Italian youth.

Key Rehabilitation Works Implemented in 2024:

- **Insulating and protecting roofs and exterior walls** using waterproofing materials (Sika), treating cracks, and coating with white bitumen paint.
- **Maintaining the stone façades** and pointing, and cleaning the building's surroundings to ensure rainwater drainage.
- **Preparing the main entrance** by building stairs and a small courtyard cast in concrete, with stone and concrete retaining walls.
- **Installing a new water tank** and maintaining the water network in the kitchen and sanitary unit.
- **Interior painting and leveling works** for the walls, and maintenance of electricity and doors to ensure a safe and suitable environment for activities.
- **Carrying out a comprehensive cleaning campaign** to fully rehabilitate the building.

Project Impact:

- Enabling the center to efficiently resume its educational, recreational and sports activities.
- Providing a safe and stimulating environment for children and youth.
- Strengthening the center's role as a gathering place for the local community and international partners.



Second: Supporting the “Makers of Hope” Summer Camp – Askar Camp, Nablus

 **Location:** Askar Camp – Nablus Governorate

 **Number of Beneficiary Children:** 170 children

This intervention came in response to the urgent psychosocial needs of the camp's children following the difficult security events the area went through. The “Makers of Hope” summer camp was supported as an initiative that promotes:

- **Relieving psychological stress** through play and group activities
- **Building a sense of safety and belonging**
- **Promoting children's mental health** in a supportive and safe environment

💡 The camp focused on educational, sports and artistic activities, which helped improve the children's general mood and develop their social skills.

✳ Importance of the Intervention:

- **Improving the infrastructure of rural community centers** to enable them to serve wider groups
- **Supporting the mental health of children in camps** as a core component of the humanitarian response
- **Strengthening the capacity of local communities to organize interactive activities** that are inclusive of all groups
- **Demonstrating the effectiveness of international and local partnerships** in supporting vulnerable communities



💧 Initiative to Support the Resilience of Camp Residents in the Northern West Bank

In light of the difficult humanitarian conditions experienced by the residents of Tulkarm Camp, and the repeated interruptions to drinking water they suffer as a result of Israeli incursions and the destruction of infrastructure, the Arab Agronomists Association launched a humanitarian project aimed at providing a sustainable and safe source of drinking water, funded by Amitié Palestine Solidarité – France.

🎯 Project Objectives:

- Ensuring access to clean drinking water for affected families.
- Supporting the camp community's capacity to remain steadfast in the face of repeated violations
- Improving the water infrastructure of the camps through rapid and effective means.



Activities Implemented:

- **Distributing 14 plastic water tanks** with a capacity of 5 m³ each, for a total of **70 m³** of storage capacity.
- Distribution was carried out in **two phases** to ensure the widest coverage.
- Distribution sites were selected based on a needs assessment of the most affected neighborhoods, in coordination with the camp's Popular Committee.
- **The contractor donated an additional tank** (1.5 m³) to a kindergarten in the camp, benefiting 60 children.



Number of Beneficiaries:

- Dozens of families benefited indirectly from the availability of water during outages, an estimated **700 people** approximately.
- **60 children** at the kindergarten benefited from the tank allocated to them.



Transparency and Coordination:

- The camp's Popular Committee participated in identifying the sites and appropriate distribution.



Challenges:

- Security difficulties resulting from incursions and restrictions on movement.
- The need for rapid response and delivery under sensitive field conditions.



Impact Achieved:

- Improving water storage capacity in one of the largest refugee camps in the northern West Bank.
- Strengthening community resilience through international solidarity partnerships.
- Providing a safer environment for children in kindergartens.

The Association's Memberships:

The Association is a committed member of the Palestinian NGOs Network (PNGO) and the Palestinian Environmental NGOs Network (PENGON). It is also a committed member of the FSS Cluster and the WASH Cluster. Believing in the necessity and importance of networking internal and external relations, the Association has applied to join the International Land Coalition (ILC). It is also a member of the Global Ecovillage Network (GEN) and the local CORDA network, and holds permanent membership on the boards of directors of Reef Finance Company and Reef Marketing Company.

The Association's Directions for 2025:

The Association seeks to focus on a number of specific directions aligned with its vision, which fall under:

1. Targeting newly graduated agronomists and developing and building their capacities through training. This effort has clearly shown itself in specializing and expanding in this area by implementing specialized ecological agriculture courses in 3 locations (North, Center, South), giving everyone the opportunity regardless of the engineer's location.
2. Continuing the reclamation and development of the ecological farm with a view to turning it into an educational ecological farm used to train agronomists in sustainable ecological agriculture.
3. Finding new and diverse sources of funding and working towards self-financing through income-generating projects, as permitted by law, in order to preserve the Association's continuity.
4. Expanding relations and memberships in regional networks to exchange expertise and experiences.
5. Building partnerships with the private sector to implement agro-ecological projects that serve overlapping stakeholders.

Cooperation and Coordination with Civil Society, Governmental and Private Institutions:

1. The Association maintained continuous cooperation with the Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture as the competent authority.
2. Cooperation also took place with local municipal and village councils in the locations where activities were implemented.
3. Cooperation also continued with the Palestinian Agricultural Relief Committees (PARC) under agreements to benefit from its network of offices and branches, and in following up on the achievements of some projects.
4. For the fourth consecutive year, a number of events and trainings were implemented in cooperation with the Palestinian Agronomists Syndicate.
5. Memoranda of Understanding were signed with the Bee Council, Kadoorie University, and An-Najah Technical University.

◆ Future Directions

Based on interim evaluations and feedback from our partners and target communities, the Arab Agronomists Association (AAA) seeks to strengthen the impact of its interventions and expand the scope of its work during the coming year through the following tracks:

- Priorities for the Coming Year

- **Promoting ecological agriculture** and expanding training programs in sustainable agriculture, beekeeping, and rural food processing.
- **Emergency humanitarian response** for affected areas, particularly in the Gaza Strip and marginalized areas of the West Bank.
- **Empowering women's cooperatives** by supporting value chains and developing institutional and marketing capacities.
- **Agricultural digitalization** by introducing innovative technological tools in extension, training, and farmer services.

- **Advocacy and land protection** in the face of environmental and political threats.

- **Funding or Expansion Opportunities**

- **Expanding partnerships with international organizations** in the areas of climate adaptation, food security, environmental protection, and land governance.
- **Benefiting from European and Arab funding programs** to support the transition towards green production systems.
- **Opening new channels of cooperation** with universities and research centers to develop advanced training content.
- **Strengthening community funding and individual donors** through digital promotional campaigns and alternative media.

- **Developing Current Programs**

- **Improving training methodologies** to become more interactive and practice-based.
- **Digitizing training content** and offering open online courses in Arabic.
- **Linking graduates to the labor market** through agricultural business incubators and cooperative networks.
- **Integrating digital monitoring and evaluation tools** to enhance implementation efficiency and impact transparency

Funding Partners:

The Arab Agronomists Association extends its highest expressions of thanks and gratitude to everyone who contributed with it to providing essential services to the Palestinian farmer and agronomist, who are the cornerstone of the development and advancement of the Palestinian agricultural sector. We especially thank:

- FAO
- ILC
- TIKA
- PARC
- French-Palestinian Solidarity Association (Alsace-Lorraine region)
- AFPS.
- Palestine Friendship Association (Besançon and Dole).
- Palestine Friendship Association in Aulnay-sous-Bois.
- Châteaubriant Palestine Committee
- French Solidarity Association – Yonne

End.

