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Evaluation Report

Localised Nexus Strategy for the Integrated Protection of the Rights and Dignity of the Palestinian Population under Occupation in Accordance with the IHL and IHRL, With Special Emphasis on Gender Equality, Child Protection, and DRR

Donor:

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List of Abbreviations

ACPP	Asamblea de Cooperación por la Paz
AG	Action Group
ARIJ	Applied Research Institute - Jerusalem
AWRAD	Arab World for Research and Development
AVCD	Agencia Vasca de Cooperación al Desarrollo
CBO	Community-based Organization
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CSO	Civil Society Organization
CPC	Community Protection Committee
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
ECHO	European Community Humanitarian Office
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GBV	Gender Based Violence
IHL	International Humanitarian Law
IHRL	International Human Rights Law
KI	Key informant
KII	Key informant interview
LC	Local Committee
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
PA	Palestinian Authority
PARC	Palestinian Agricultural Development Association
PCBS	Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics
PHG	Palestinian Hydrology Group
PMC	Project Management Committee
PRCS	Palestinian Red Crescent Society
PSCCW	Psychosocial Counselling Centre for Women
PSS	Psychosocial Support
PWA	Palestinian Water Authority
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

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Executive Summary

Introduction

This is a final evaluation report of the project "Localised Nexus Strategy for the Integrated Protection of the Rights and Dignity of the Palestinian Population under Occupation in Accordance with International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and International Human Rights Law (IHRL) With Special Emphasis on Gender Equality, Child Protection, and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)." The project was funded by Agencia Vasca de Cooperación al Desarrollo (AVCD) and implemented by Asamblea de Cooperación por la Paz (ACPP) in collaboration with local partners PARC, PSCCW, PHG, and Bimkom. It addresses the multifaceted challenges faced by Palestinian communities in Hajja, Kafr Laqif, Western Izab, Kifl Haris, and Deir Istiya within the Qalqiliya and Salfit Governorates in the West Bank. The evaluation report, conducted by Arab World for Research and Development (AWRAD), details the project's relevance, effectiveness, impact, and sustainability, of the intervention with an emphasis on gender perspective and a human rights-based approach. It also provides insights and recommendations for future interventions.

The project's primary objectives were to protect and promote the human rights of 14,464 people (7,148 women/girls and 7,316 men/boys) living under occupation and to demand accountability from duty bearers in accordance with IHL/IHRL. This evaluation covers the implementation period from December 31, 2021, to June 30, 2024.

A mixed-method approach was designed to collect data, consisting of a desk review, 5 key informant interviews (KIIs), 12 in-depth interviews with beneficiaries, and a quantitative survey with 105 beneficiaries.

Key Findings

The project successfully aligned with both international and national frameworks, reflecting its relevance in tackling key development issues. Its objectives are aligned with several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and it closely followed ACPP's strategic vision by emphasizing gender equality, environmental sustainability, human rights, and democratic governance. Through the establishment of Community Protection Committees (CPCs) and partnerships with local organizations, the project sought to promote democratic governance and public accountability. Furthermore, the project aligned with the Palestine National Policy Agenda, highlighting its commitment to its goals democratic principles, responsive governance, economic independence, and social justice.

Collaboration among implementing actors, including ACPP and local civil society groups, ensured project coherence, though further integration was noted as an area for improvement. The project's engagement with local actors, such as municipalities and women's associations, was crucial in ensuring its relevance and impact on targeted communities, especially in conservative areas where it adapted to local contexts to foster cooperation and social cohesion. Needs assessments guided the project design, addressing community priorities like safe spaces, gender-based violence awareness, psychosocial support, and agricultural productivity. The project's efforts in improving water infrastructure, land rehabilitation, and

employment opportunities demonstrated its responsiveness to community needs, leading to improvements in public health, economic conditions, and social dynamics.

The project's effectiveness is illustrated through its key achievements including the promotion of access to safe spaces, psychological support programs, and legal aid, which contributed to the improvement of the mental health and economic status of women. With that, child protection initiatives and infrastructure improvements in schools enhanced the psychosocial well-being and educational environment for children. In addition, agricultural and water management interventions boosted livelihoods and environmental sustainability, benefiting diverse community groups. Overall, the project strengthened the capacities of local and international stakeholders, enhancing advocacy efforts and promoting the rights of the Palestinian population under occupation.

Assessing impact is a challenge in the case of projects that are within limited time and budget. Yet, the establishment of safe spaces and psychological support programs, for example, has the potential to change negative cultural notions of mental health, and might provide women and youth with long term sources of support. In addition, there are also signs of economic empowerment initiatives, including income-generating projects, helped integrate targeted women into the labour market, while also fostering their financial independence.

Furthermore, agricultural interventions, including the distribution of seedlings, construction of fences, building of agricultural roads, and land rehabilitation, improved agricultural productivity within the project timeframe in the targeted locations. Employment opportunities created through the project boosted the economic situation of targeted local workers and farmers, enhancing targeted community livelihoods. With that, activities such as land rehabilitation efforts aimed at protecting targeted agricultural areas from confiscation, if followed with other complementary activities in the future, might help ensure long-term access and productivity.

Potential impact might also be achieved through the replacement of damaged water lines and implementation of new sewage extensions in Izbet Salman, which help protect underground wells from contamination and improved public health within the targeted locations. Comprehensive water and solid waste management efforts connected 95% of households to sewage and water networks, enhancing sanitation and water access in the targeted locations. Furthermore, targeted beneficiaries experienced a reliable and sufficient supply of clean water, meeting urgent needs that were previously unmet during the project activities implementation.

- Impact is also detected through community involvement and collaboration with local councils, which ensured the project's relevance and responsiveness to the needs of marginalized targeted populations. Participatory approaches, including conditional cash assistance for community-led environmental initiatives, empowered targeted communities to take proactive measures in environmental conservation. For example, Community Protection Committees (CPCs) played an essential role in documenting violations, raising awareness, and providing emergency assistance, strengthening targeted community resilience within the project timeframe. Training and equipping of

CPCs enhanced local capacity to address and report rights violations, ensuring accountability and continuous improvement of protection strategies.

- That is reinforced through the collaboration with governmental bodies like the Ministry of Agriculture and Civil Defence, which ensured alignment with national policies and supported successful project execution, despite the challenges faced during the implementation.
- In general, the project reflected efficient utilization of resources, strategic planning, and adaptive management across multiple initiatives aimed at protecting the rights of Palestinian women, children, and other vulnerable groups under occupation. It also exhibited improved coordination among partners, creation of safe and inclusive environments, and flexible logistics enhanced the project's efficiency and impact. Efficient financial management and community consultation were pivotal in addressing urgent needs and maximizing resource utilization.

The results of the project are potentially sustained through a number of actions, including its emphasis on capacity building and local ownership was essential to enhance the sustainability of its benefits. Strong partnerships with local organizations and community-based protection mechanisms contributed to the long-term viability of interventions.

Recommendations

The following recommendations are directed at the AG partners:

1. Ensure that the establishment of a participatory mechanism aligned with the project starts during the pre-design phase (e.g., needs assessment, pre-design consultations). With that, the establishment of CPCs must be carried out early on during the project implementation.
2. Enhance the sustainability of CPCs through lessons learned derived from an assessment of the present realities of previously established ones in earlier projects, their functionality, strengths and challenges.
3. Further enhance gender mainstreaming and women empowerment in all phases of the project pre-design, planning, implementation, and evaluation, through improved linkages between project components (connect land, water, economic empowerment, PSS and education as one holistic package of interventions with women, female-headed households and other household arrangements).
4. Exercising rights requires an aligned, connected, and continuous advocacy specific to the targeted communities and the surrounding regions at all levels, but mostly at an international level.
5. Transformative and sustained impact is further reinforced through the creation and enhancement of an enabling environment. This is achieved through an additional focus on related policy change at the national, regional and local levels, by advocating and raising awareness among policy makers and community leaders. This will also require further focus on changing social norms that might limit the space for transformative change especially in relation to women, children and other marginalized groups.
6. Monitor and course-correct the situation of implemented projects and interventions six months after the completion of the project. This will not only allow the AG members to

showcase sustained impact, as well as provide any further support for community members and institutions to take actions regarding gaps and challenges facing the continued implementation of their projects.

7. Enhance the capacities of community institutions by connecting them to national (governmental and non-governmental) relevant institutions and networks, raise awareness about the importance of their work among community members, and increase and improve their services to community members, and enhance their capacities in long-term resource mobilization.
8. Enhance the status of women and youth in political and governance bodies at the local level, by further connecting their activities to local councils, Governors' Offices, and other national policymakers who represent the region.
9. Explore a comprehensive approach to economic and psychological empowerment based on a household approach that takes into consideration the differential power relations among members, and where activities are geared to achieve benefits to all members while aiming to achieve symmetry in power as well as household cohesion.
10. Make higher financial allocations per beneficiary/unit of intervention, instead of smaller allocations, to ensure higher and sustained impact.

Introduction

Introduction

The following report reflects the fundamental aspects of the triangulation of information gathered from agents, secondary sources and the target population for the final evaluation of the project: "Localised Nexus Strategy for the Integrated Protection of the Rights and Dignity of the Palestinian Population under Occupation in Accordance with the IHL and IHRL, With Special Emphasis on Gender Equality, Child Protection and DRR (AVCD EM 21)". The report illustrates the evaluation objectives and scope, project background and context, evaluation criteria and questions. It also provides the main findings and conclusions of the evaluation and offers a set of recommendations and lessons learned. The AWRAD evaluation team would like to thank all those who have facilitated this process in one way or another and, in particular, all those who participated in the interviews and workshops carried out.

ACPP's current humanitarian strategy in Palestine: Action Group for Organized Local Response

In 2018, ACPP unified its multi-sectoral humanitarian efforts by creating the Action Group for Organized Local Response, consisting of four permanent member organizations (PARC, PHG, PSCCW, and ACPP) and open to other members. The group collaborates with various Palestinian technical actors and Israeli human rights organizations.

The strategy aims to enhance access and protect the rights and dignity of Palestinians under occupation, focusing on combating violence, gender inequality, child protection, and disaster risk reduction (DRR). This strategy is informed by annual participatory needs assessments.

The strategy targets communities in Area C of the West Bank, specifically in Salfit and Qalqiliya governorates, to maximize impact and resource efficiency.

Sectoral Focus:

PARC: Agricultural livelihoods, food security, and community protection.

PHG: Water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH).

PSCCW: Gender issues, child protection, psychosocial health, information, counselling, legal assistance, education, and cash and voucher assistance (CVA).

Transversal Approaches:

Localization of Humanitarian Response: Strengthening partnerships between Palestinian civil society organizations and public institutions and creating community-based protection mechanisms.

Triple Nexus Approach: Integrating humanitarian aid with development and peace efforts to reduce risk, vulnerability, and build resilience, while promoting conflict resolution and peacebuilding, especially the role of women.

Finally, in financial terms, the Action Group's Strategy has been funded by several Spanish decentralized public institutions, through ACPP. These institutions include: Agencia Andaluza

de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo, Agencia Asturiana de Cooperación al Desarrollo, Agència Catalana de Cooperació al Desenvolupament, Agencia Extremeña De Cooperación Internacional Para El Desarrollo, Agencia Vasca de Cooperación al Desarrollo, Ayuntamiento de Córdoba, Ayuntamiento de Donostia, Ayuntamiento de Málaga, Ayuntamiento de Sevilla, Ayuntamiento de Valencia, Diputación de Cádiz, Diputación de Córdoba, Fons Mallorquí de Solidaritat y Cooperació, Generalitat Valenciana, Gobierno de Cantabria, Gobierno de las Islas Baleares, and Xunta de Galicia.

Evaluation Objectives and Scope

The objective of the evaluation is to obtain an external, constructively critical understanding of the implementation process of the project, as well as to evaluate the progress of the implementation and redirect those aspects needed in order to achieve the results and objectives. The evaluation offers a set of evidence and insights on the development of the project and its impact, emphasizing the impact from a gender perspective and a human rights-based approach. The evaluation serves as a learning tool that would serve the design of future projects. The main objectives of the evaluation will be as follows:

- a. Serve as a learning tool to understand the relevance, performance, results, and impact of the intervention, guiding future actions.
- b. Ensure accountability to project stakeholders in the Basque Country and Palestine.
- c. Assess the project's implementation and the level of fulfilment of expected results during the implementation period.
- d. Assess how the lessons learned from previous evaluations have been incorporated into the design of this project.
- e. Provide verification of the fulfillment of what was established in the intervention log frame, including it explicitly, and indicating the values achieved by the indicators and highlighting those indicators that were not well defined from the beginning.

The evaluation included a real-time evaluation as well that aimed to assess the implementation of the project and the level of fulfilment of the expected results of this intervention. It contributed to identifying problems, challenges, and generate recommendations to facilitate the implementation of the program.

These objectives were contextualized and evaluated with regards to the project's contributions in the broader intervention framework of the ACPH Humanitarian Aid Strategy, where it will be necessary to frame the possible impacts linked to contributing in future projects, as well as the conditioning factors from the broad context.

The evaluation aimed at analysing and extracting lessons and elements for reflection and learning (conclusions) about the degree to which the objectives and results set out in the identification and formulation of the project have been achieved that provide feedback to the decision-making processes.

The scope of the evaluation is framed from the project starting date to the identifiable impacts during the evaluation fieldwork. Within the framework of this evaluation, and in accordance with the provisions of the ToR, the following evaluation criteria was utilized: **Relevance and Coherence** (Adequacy of the intervention to the needs of the subject population, and

consistency with humanitarian principles of humanity, universality, impartiality, neutrality, independence, consent and participation and respect for international standards of humanitarian intervention; and compatibility of the intervention with other interventions in the territory, sector and organization), **Harmonization, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Impact, Connectivity, Environmental Sustainability, Respect for Cultural Diversity, and Gender Aspects.**

Throughout the implementation, AWRAD adhered to the ethical consideration (Do no harm, equal opportunities of participation) and Donor Guidelines which includes the evaluation criteria and quality criteria (provided in Spanish). AWRAD team ensured that the Final Evaluation Report meets the following quality standards:

- Adequacy of the context analysis.
- Timeliness of the methodological approach and techniques used.
- Reliability of the sources of information.
- Adequacy of the examination of the evaluation questions and criteria.
- Validity of the results, conclusions and usefulness of the recommendations.
- Quality of the participation in the evaluation of the entities involved and the target population.
- Credibility, ethics and impartiality of the evaluation process.
- Adequacy of the evaluation communication plan.

Background and Project Summary

Given the protracted humanitarian crisis in which Palestine has been immersed for the past two decades, humanitarian response has been an important component of ACPP's work in the territory since 1993. In operational terms, the organization's humanitarian response strategy has evolved over the years, geographically, sectorally and conceptually. According to its reports and the lists of projects carried out, ACPP has worked in Palestine since 1993 through interventions to strengthen basic sectors of the Palestinian State (water, food, education, psychosocial support etc.), as well as actions aimed at promoting peace and dialogue.

At the outbreak of the Second Intifada in 2000, ACPP's main Palestinian partners were the Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS) and the Palestinian Hydrology Group (PHG), with whom it worked in both the West Bank (including East Jerusalem) and the Gaza Strip, in the health, WASH and food security sectors respectively. From 2003, another Palestinian partner organization, the Agricultural Development Association (PARC), joined ACPP's Humanitarian Strategy, with a focus on supporting agricultural livelihoods and food security in rural communities in Area C, in those affected by the construction of the Separation Wall and in the Gaza Strip

This sectoral and geographic focus was maintained until the PRCS, and health sector interventions were phased out from 2010 onwards, with a greater focus on WASH, food security, livelihoods and community protection interventions in Area C communities in the West Bank, with a gradual reduction of ACPP's presence in the Gaza Strip.

In 2014, in recognition of the need to incorporate a greater protection and advocacy focus into the organization's humanitarian strategy, ACPP integrated with Israeli partner

organizations, Peace Now, BIMKOM and All for Peace Radio, into its humanitarian interventions, targeting Israeli and international duty bearers and responsibilities and focusing, respectively, on Israeli settlements as a key source of human rights violations against the Palestinian population; the restrictive planning regime imposed by Israel on Area C communities to prevent their development; and recording the testimonies of the Palestinian population in Area C to be used in advocacy initiatives to raise awareness and prevent human rights violations.

Finally, since 2016, additional partners have been incorporated into ACP's Humanitarian Strategy, including (a) the Palestinian Psychosocial Counselling Centre for Women (PSCCW), with the purpose of strengthening the gender, child protection and emergency education focus on the organization's humanitarian interventions; (b) Yesh Din - Volunteers for Human Rights, focusing on information, counselling and legal assistance (ICLA), documentation and advocacy on human rights violations committed by Israeli agents against the Palestinian population; and access to justice in the Israeli judicial system for Palestinians affected by human rights violations; (c) B'Tselem - The Israel Information Centre for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories, focusing on documentation of, and advocacy and legal action around, human rights violations against the Palestinian population; and Ir Amim, focusing on the right to the city and the right to education in the context of Jerusalem.

Project Summary

Name	Localised Nexus Strategy for the Integrated Protection of the Rights and Dignity of the Palestinian Population under Occupation in Accordance with the IHL and IHRL, With Special Emphasis on Gender Equality, Child Protection, and DRR (AVCD EM 21).
Duration	31/12/2021-30/06/2024
Donor	Agencia Vasca de Cooperación al Desarrollo (hereinafter AVCD)
Implementing Partners and Contractors	PARC, PSCCW, PHG, and Bimkom
Target Communities	Hajja, Kafr Laqif, and Western Izab (Qalqilya) Kifl Haris and Deir Istiya (Salfit)
General Objective	Contribute to the integrated and localized protection of the rights and dignity of the Palestinian population under occupation in accordance with IHL and IHRL, with an emphasis on gender equality, child protection, DRR, West Bank, Palestine
Specific Objective	Prevent and mitigate the impact of humanitarian risks and crises associated with violations of IHL/IHRL on the rights and dignity of 14,464 people (7,148 women and girls, 7,316 men and boys), and contribute to the transformation of policies and practices that permit them, Area C, Qalqilya and Salfit governorates, month 18

The project *“Localised nexus strategy for the integrated protection of the rights and dignity of the Palestinian population under occupation in accordance with the IHL and IHRL, with special emphasis on gender equality, child protection, and DRR”* seeks to prevent and mitigate the impact of the humanitarian risks and crisis associated with violations of IHL/IHRL on the rights

and dignity of 14,464 people (7,148 women and girls, 7,316 men and boys) and to contribute to the transformation of policies and practices that allow them, in the communities of Hajja, Kafr Laqif, Western Izab, Kifl Haris and Deir Istiya, in the Governorates of Qalqiliya and Salfit, northeast of the West Bank.

The target population is in a situation of high vulnerability to systematic violations of IHL/IHRL, aggravated by their location in Area C, their proximity to the Wall, settlement, military bases, and Israeli checkpoints.

The Strategy addresses differentiated vulnerabilities based on gender, age, and capacity, aligning itself with the OCHA Humanitarian Response Plan for Palestine and incorporating the strategic axes and cross-cutting approaches prioritized by the AVCD.

It will be achieved through 6 results aimed at protecting the rights of women, girls, boys, and the populations of communities affected by violations of their rights, and disasters, as well as a decent livelihood and water, and environmental rights. Therefore, this multi-sectoral Strategy has several axes of intervention:

- 1) Protect the rights of Palestinian women, with special emphasis on the rights of those affected by Gender-Based Violence (Outcome 1).
- 2) Protect the rights of children and the right to a quality education (Outcome 2).
- 3) Protect the rights of people in situations of vulnerability in the face of violations of IHL, IHRL, and disasters (Outcome 3).
- 4) Protect the rights to a decent livelihood and their environmental rights of access to natural resources that allow their survival (Outcome 4).
- 5) Protect the rights to water, sanitation, and hygiene and the environmental rights to access well-preserved natural resources (Outcome 5).
- 6) Strengthen and promote the capacities of the members of the Action Group and members of the Basque and international society to better protect the rights of the Palestinian population under occupation (Outcome 6).

The objective of this project evaluation is part of ACPP 2019-2022 strategy, carried out by the Action Group (a coalition of 3 Palestinian NGOs - PHG, PARC, PSCCW - with ACPP) geographically focused on the Salfit and Qalqilya Governorates within the areas of livelihoods, community protection and psychosocial support, with the implementation of complementary actions of political incidence.

Local Context

Contextual Analysis - Current Situation in the West Bank

The humanitarian situation in the West Bank has significantly deteriorated since October 2023, characterized by increased violence, forced displacements, and severe restrictions on movement. This review synthesizes recent data and reports to provide a comprehensive overview of the current conditions in the region.

Casualties and Violence: The escalation of violence has resulted in substantial casualties among Palestinians. Over 500 Palestinians have been killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, since October 7, 2023. The violence has included targeted acts by Israeli settlers,

such as the vandalism of over 280 olive trees and 580 grapevine trees in seven communities.¹ Additionally, between October 7, 2023, and April 24, 2024, 469 Palestinians, including at least 112 children, were reported killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem.²

Forced Displacements and Settler Violence: Forced displacements remain a critical issue. A Palestinian family in the Batn Al Hawa area of Silwan, East Jerusalem, faces imminent forced displacement following the rejection of their appeal against eviction by the Israeli Supreme Court.²⁰ Additionally, reports of settler violence are prevalent, with 18 incidents involving Israeli settlers reported between April 26 and April 28, 2024. These incidents include armed settlers holding Palestinian farmers at gunpoint in Nahhalin area, seized crops in Wadi al-Abyadh and assaulted shepherds in Masafer Yatta. In the north, armed settlers closed the Jenin-Nablus Road near Bizzariya and threw stones at Palestinian vehicles. In the Jordan Valley, settlers entered and tore down Palestinian tents.²¹

Table 1: Palestinian communities in which some families were forcibly transferred³

	Community	Families Transferred	Residents	Minors
1	Khirbet Susiya	2	18	9
2	Community south of 'Ein Shibi	3 (out of 9)	28	14
3	Kh. Samrah area	2 (out of 12)	13	7
4	Nab'a al-Ghazal/Khirbet Tal al-Hai	1 (out of 8)	7	1
5	Khalet hamad/Khirbet Tal al-Hai	1	4	0
6	Badu Jebas (East Taybah)	2	19	1
7	'Ein Samia (west of Alon Route)	1	8	6
	Total	12	97	40

Movement Restrictions: Movement restrictions have intensified, impacting daily life and economic conditions. The Israeli military has imposed significant restrictions within the West Bank, including closing Nablus for more than three weeks in late 2022, severely affecting local education, commerce, and healthcare sectors. As of 2023, the UN documented over 600 movement obstacles throughout the West Bank, including checkpoints and gates staffed by Israeli soldiers. The revocation of work permits for nearly 160,000 Palestinians who work in Israel and Israeli settlements further exacerbates the economic situation, depriving the West Bank economy of an estimated \$370 million per month.⁴

International Response and Legal Concerns: The international response has highlighted the legal and humanitarian implications of the situation. Punitive home demolitions, deemed illegal under international law, continue to be a form of collective punishment imposed by Israeli authorities.⁵ Despite global warnings about the deteriorating conditions, much of the international concern focuses on how these issues affect Israel's security rather than the basic rights of Palestinians to live in dignity.⁶

¹ Humanitarian Situation Update #175 _ West Bank _ United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs - occupied Palestinian territory

² <https://www.unrwa.org/resources/reports/unrwa-situation-report-105-situation-gaza-strip-and-west-bank-including-east-jerusalem>

³ https://www.btselem.org/settler_violence/20231019_forcible_transfer_of_isolated_communities_and_families_in_area_c_under_the_cover_of_gaza_fighting

⁴ <https://arabcenterdc.org/resource/the-occupied-west-bank-since-october-7-movement-restrictions-and-collective-punishment/>

⁵ <https://www.unrwa.org/resources/reports/unrwa-situation-report-105-situation-gaza-strip-and-west-bank-including-east-jerusalem>

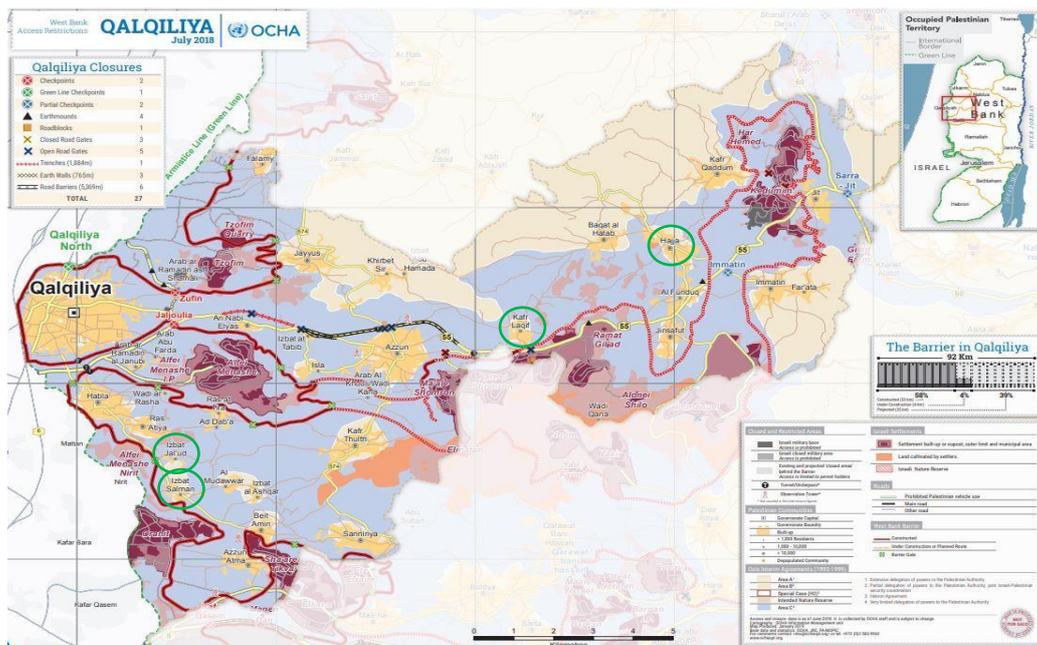
⁶ <https://arabcenterdc.org/resource/the-occupied-west-bank-since-october-7-movement-restrictions-and-collective-punishment/>

Land Appropriation: Israel's appropriation of land in the West Bank since 1967 has involved both state-sanctioned actions and daily acts of settler violence. More than 2 million dunams of land have been misappropriated for settlements and other purposes, with settler violence actively facilitated by the state as part of a broader strategy to cement the takeover of Palestinian land.⁷

The current local situation in the West Bank is marked by escalating violence, forced displacements, severe movement restrictions, and a worsening humanitarian crisis. These issues are compounded by the systematic appropriation of land and inadequate international response focused primarily on security concerns rather than humanitarian needs and rights of the Palestinian population. Addressing these multifaceted challenges requires a comprehensive approach that prioritizes human rights and international legal standards.

Qalqilya Governorate

Qalqilya Governorate is located in the north-western West Bank and bordered by the Salfit Governorate to the southeast, Nablus to the east, and Tulkarem to the north. According to the population census statistics of the Palestinian Centre Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), the current population in Qalqilya Governorate is 127025⁸. Qalqilya Governorate covers an area of 165 square metres, of which 4 square meters are classified as Area A, 41 square metres as Area B, and 120 square metres as Area C⁹. The economy of Qalqilya depends mainly on the employment sector, followed by the agriculture sector¹⁰. Citizens in Qalqilya Governorate suffer from various hardships imposed by the Israeli Occupation including land and water confiscations, as such many farmers seek other economic opportunities in the employment sector¹¹.

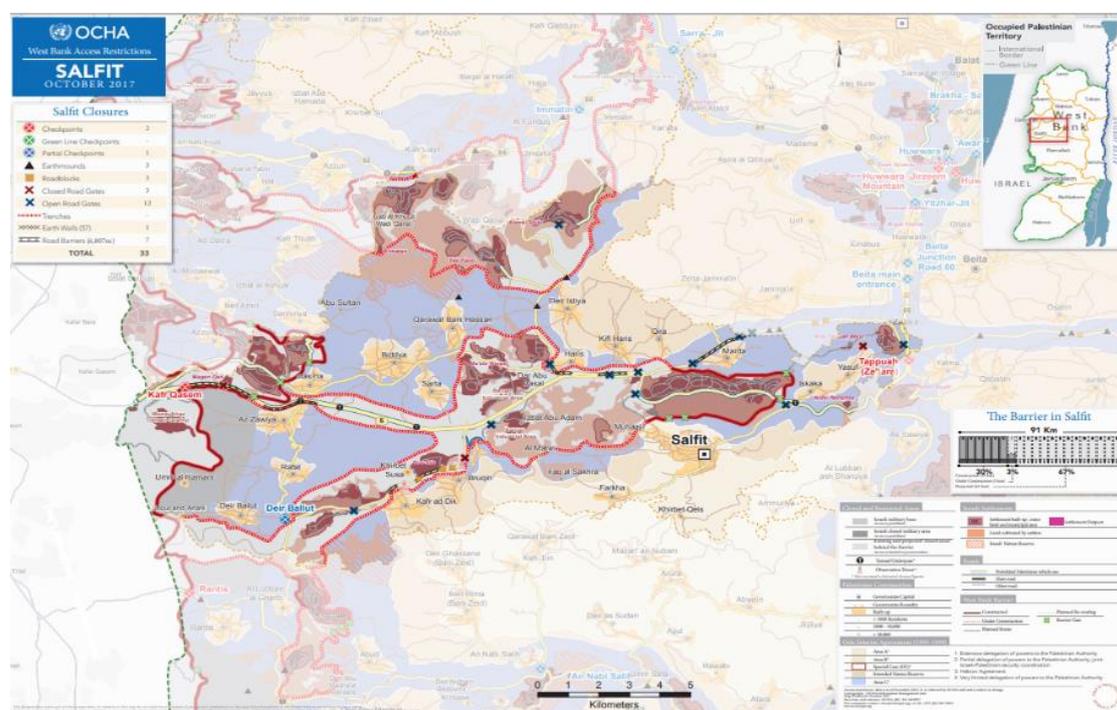


⁷ https://www.btselem.org/topic/settler_violence
⁸ PCBS. Population for Qalqilya Governorate, 2023. https://www.pcbs.gov.ps/statisticsIndicatorsTables.aspx?lang=en&table_id=700
⁹ PCBS. 2017. The West Bank Area. <https://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/Rainbow/Documents/Land-use-table%20202A-2019.html>
¹⁰ ARII. 2013. Qalqilya City Profile. http://vprofile.arij.org/qalqilya/pdfs/vprofile/Qalqilya_vp_en.pdf
¹¹ Anera. 2017. Anera in Qalqilya. <https://www.anera.org/stories/sustainable-development-qalqilya-palestine/>

Salfit Governorate

Salfit Governorate is located in the north-western West Bank and bordered by the Ramallah Governorate to the south, Nablus to the east, and Qalqilya to the northeast. According to the population census statistics of the PCBS, the current population in Salfit Governorate is 84,000. Salfit Governorate is made up of 18 residential communities, with nine municipal councils and nine village councils; the majority of the governorate is located within Area C. Salfit Governorate covers an area of 217,048 acres. Only 48,003 acres of this area are located within Palestinian territories, as 11,941 acres are classified as Area A and 36,062 as Area B, and this area is permitted for Palestinians to use and develop.¹²

Salfit Governorate's main economic resource is agriculture, and the governorate is one of Palestine's largest producers of olive oil, in addition to its reputation for grapevine and fig cultivation. The city's livestock wealth is also an important source for economic development⁶. Farmers in the Salfit Governorate face a lot of harassment from settlers. In 2021 a group of settlers attacked agricultural land in Khallet Hassan, breaking the lock of the farm's gate for cows and causing the destruction of olive, grape, and fig trees. The attacks continue every year with settlers attacking farmers especially during the olive harvest.¹³



Evaluation Methodology and Approach

Evaluation Criteria

Within the framework of this evaluation, and in accordance with the provisions of the Terms of Reference, the following evaluation criteria have been utilized: Relevance, Effectiveness,

¹² Anera. <https://www.anera.org/stories/salfit-palestine/>

¹³ Ibid.

Efficiency, Impact, Sustainability, Connectivity, Ownership and institutional strengthening, Gender in development approach, Environmental sustainability, and Respect for cultural diversity.

Evaluation Questions

Relevance and Coherence

- To what extent was the project in line with the national development priorities, ACPP's Strategic Plan, IHRL/IHL the SDGs, and humanitarian frameworks?
- To what extent were lessons learned from other relevant projects considered in the project's design?
- To what extent were the perspectives of those who could affect the outcomes, and those who could contribute information or other resources to the attainment of stated results, taken into account during the project design processes?
- In what ways do the project and partners complement and are compatible with each other and with other interventions in the country and targeted areas?
- To what extent is the project coherent with the humanitarian principles of humanity, universality, impartiality, neutrality, independence, consent and participation, and respect for international standards of humanitarian intervention?

Effectiveness

- To what extent were the project outputs achieved?
- To what extent did the project contribute to ACPP's country strategy, the SDGs, and national development priorities?
- To what extent has the ACPP's partnership strategy been appropriate and effective?
- What factors contributed to effectiveness or ineffectiveness?

Impact

- What were the effects of the project on beneficiaries' lives?
- To what extent did the project contribute to the capacity building of partners, influence on broader policy/systems and impacts at beneficiary level?

Efficiency

- To what extent was the project management structure efficient in generating the expected results?
- To what extent have the project implementation strategies and execution been efficient and cost-effective?
- To what extent has there been an economical use of financial and human resources?
- To what extent have project funds and activities been delivered in a timely manner?

Sustainability

- To what extent will financial and economic resources be available to sustain the benefits achieved by the project?
- What is the risk that the level of stakeholders' ownership will be sufficient to allow for the project benefits to be sustained?
- To what extent do stakeholders support the project's long-term objectives?

Connectivity

- To what extent does the project contribute to the development of communities through connectiveness with other projects?
- To what extent does the project's interventions take into account interrelated and long-term benefits?

Gender in Development Approach

- To what extent did the project take into account the practical needs and strategic gender interests of women and men in the target communities?
- How did the project intervene in the modification of gender relations in the target communities?

Environmental Sustainability

- To what extent did the project seek to minimize the environmental impact of the intervention?
- Were the measures in line with the commitment to adapt to and to mitigate the effects of climate change?

Respect for Cultural Diversity

- To what extent did the project take into account cultural factors in the development of the project?
- Has the project made progress in the respect for cultural diversity?

Evaluation Methodology

AWRAD utilized a mixed method approach and a triangulation approach that combined both quantitative (survey questionnaire) and qualitative data collection tools (desk review, focus groups, in-depth interviews with beneficiaries and key informant interviews) in order to achieve the project evaluation objectives. The following section demonstrates in detail the research tools.

Desk Review

AWRAD undertook a comprehensive review of the relevant project documents provided by the ACPD team including Donors' Guidelines, Work plans, Donors' reports, Internal monitoring

and evaluation reports, Project indicators and log-frame, and ACPP strategy 2017- 2024. In addition to documents provided by the implementing partners (PARC, PHG and PSCCW) including final reports, training reports, and lists of beneficiaries.

Moreover, AWRAD reviewed other external literature and materials, and other relevant reports and statistics such as:¹⁴

- PCBS, 2017, Population, Housing and Establishment Census 2017, available at: <http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Downloads/book2364-1.pdf>
- PCBS, 2017, Census 2017 – Salfit and Qalqilya Governorates.
- PCBS. Population for Qalqilya Governorate, 2023. https://www.pcbs.gov.ps/statisticsIndicatorsTables.aspx?lang=en&table_id=700
- PCBS. 2017. The West Bank Area. https://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/_Rainbow/Documents/Land-use-table%20A-2019.html
- Anera. 2017. Anera in Qalqilya. <https://www.anera.org/stories/sustainable-development-qalqilya-palestine/>
- PCBS. Localities in Salfit Governorate by Type of Locality and Population Estimates, 2007-2016. http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/_Rainbow/Documents/SalfitE.html. [Data retrieved on 06/02/2019](#)
- ARIJ. 2013. Kifl Haris, Deir Istyia, Hajja, Kafr Laqif, and Westrn Izab, Profiles.
- Vulnerability Profile of Palestinian Communities, OCHA, 2016.

KIIs

The team conducted five KIIs including the implementing partners and community members who have been involved in the project’s implementation and benefited from the project in the targeted regions. The main purposes of these interviews were to evaluate the impact of the project and its activities on the beneficiaries, alignment and coherence with other interventions, achievement of its objectives, impact and sustainability. The following is the list of interviews conducted throughout the evaluation process:

Table 2: List of Interviews Conducted with Implementing Actors

#	Organization	KIIs
1	PSCCW Focal Point	Yara Thouqan
2	PHG Focal Point	Sami Hamdan
3	PARC Focal Point	Tamador Aqel
4	BIMKOM Focal Point	Ma’ayan Turner Amal Zuabi
5	Western Izab Deputy Mayor	Salman AbdulKarim

In-depth Interviews

AWRAD conducted 12 in-depth interviews (7 males, and 5 females) with beneficiaries from the five communities, via phone. These interviews aimed at exploring deeply how beneficiaries’ and stakeholders benefited from the project’s activities, their ability to sustain the level of work done, the impact of the interventions, their additional capacity-building

¹⁴ There are no recent or updated profiles on the targeted villages.

needs, the level of women’s engagement, their increased access to economic rights, and developing recommendations. The table below describes the interviews conducted:

Table 3: List of Interviews Conducted with Beneficiaries

#	Description	Male	Female
1	1 woman who have access to safe spaces –Kifl Haris		✓
2	1 woman who have access to safe spaces – Western Izab		✓
3	1 woman who received psychosocial support –Hajja		✓
4	1 woman who received psychosocial support – Kafr Laqif		✓
5	1 woman who received psychosocial support – Kafr Laqif		✓
6	1 household who were connected with water supply network - Western Izab	✓	
7	1 household who were connected with water supply network – Kafr Laqif	✓	
8	1 CPC member – Hajja	✓	
9	1 household who benefited from the conditional cash-for-work assistance - Western Izab	✓	
10	1 Farmer who benefited from land rehabilitation - Deir Istiya	✓	
11	1 Farmer who benefited from land rehabilitation and conditional cash-for-work assistance – Hajja	✓	
12	1 Farmer who benefited from land rehabilitation – Hajja	✓	

Survey

Our team collected the data from 105 beneficiaries (61 males, and 44 females) by phone using surveys; each beneficiary category had special questions that were relevant to the activities they received. The survey targeted beneficiaries of land and resource support, trained women, youth and adult beneficiaries of psychosocial and group therapy support and safe spaces, and cash for work beneficiaries. The following table illustrates the target sample reached:

Table 4: Survey Sample Distribution

Variable		#	%
Locality	Hajja	38	36.2%
	Kafr Laqif	16	15.2%
	Western Izab	21	20.0%
	Deir Istiya	17	16.2%
	Kifl Haris	13	12.4%
Sex	Male	61	58.1%
	Female	44	41.9%
Do you or any member of your family have a disability?	Yes	6	5.7%
	no	99	94.3%
Average age	41 years		

Real-Time Monitoring

During the implementation phase of the interventions/activities, AWRAD team participated in scheduled project activities with the PARC team and accompanied the PSCCW during their distribution activities, as outlined in the table below.

Table 5: Activities attended by AWRAD team

Partner	Activity	Description	Date
PARC	A3.R3. Carrying out of a comprehensive training program for the members of the new CPC, in Hajja, months 7-11	The team has attended a two-day training (2 hours each day) for the CPC members in Hajja. Training title: Protection, the role of the human rights defender and the application of IHL and IHRL. Number of participants: Day 1: 9; Day 2: 7.	18 and 19 December 2023
PSCCW	A1.R1. Creation and operation of 5 safe spaces for women and children affected by GBV and/or other violations of their rights, in Hajja, Kafr Laqif, Western Izab and Kifl Haris, months 4-18	Women Association for Social Work in Haris received the needed supplies and requirements (tables, seats, printer, curtains) to create a safe space for women, girls and children.	21 December 2023
	A3.R1. Conditional cash assistance for the economic enablement of women affected by GBV and/or other violations of their rights, in Hajja, Kafr Laqif, Western Izab, and Kifl Haris, months 4-18 (PSCCW)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1- A woman in Kifl Haris received an oven, dough machine, and gas canister – Pastry Kitchen. 2- Two women in Westen Izab (Izbat al Mudawwar) received the following: the first women received tables and chairs for rent; the second one received beauty supplies. 3- A woman in Kafr Laqif received stationary supplies, laptop, printer and scanner, library and toys - Stationery stores. 4- A woman in Hajja received stationary supplies, laptop, printer and scanner and toys – Stationery stores. 5- A woman in Western Izab (Izbat Salman) received stationary supplies, laptop, printer and scanner - Stationery stores. 	21 December 2023
	A4.R2. Conditional cash assistance for the implementation of child protection initiatives by the Student Parliaments of 9 public schools, in school and/or community settings, in Hajja, Kafr Laqif, Western Izab, and Kifl Haris, 12-18 (PSCCW)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1- Secondary Mixed School in Kafr Laqif received 4 seats. 2- Secondary School for Boys in Kifl Haris received 2 seats. 3- Secondary School for Girls in Hajja received 2 seats. 4- Al-Itihad Mixed Primary School in Western Izab (Izbat al Mudawwar) received a printer, and an office, and a chair for the school counselor room. 	21 December 2023

During these activities, the AWRAD team took observational notes using a form established by the team and conducted brief interviews with beneficiaries. The team conducted 11 interviews with beneficiaries as follows:

Table 6: Interviews conducted during the field visits

Partner	Community	Number and description
PARC	Hajja – Qalqiliya	2 CPC members (1 male, 1 female)
PSCCW	Haris – Salfit	Director - Women Association for Social Work in Haris
	Western Izab (Izbat al Mudawwar) – Qalqiliya	2 women
	Kifl Haris – Salfit	1 woman
	Kafr Laqif – Qalqiliya	Director - Secondary Mixed School in Kafr Laqif
	Kifl Haris – Salfit	Director - Secondary School for Boys in Kifl Haris
	Western Izab (Izab Al-Mdawar) - Qalqiliya	Counsellor - Al-Itihad Mixed Primary School in Western Izab (Izbat al Mudawwar)
	kafr Laqif – Qalqiliya	1 woman
	Western Izab (Izab Sulieman) - Qalqiliya	1 woman
Total		11

Evaluation Challenges and Limitations

The evaluation team faced several challenges during the data collection phase:

- **Inconsistent lists of beneficiaries:** The Beneficiaries lists received from the IPs were not segregated per type of intervention, which was challenging for the evaluation team during data collection. Moreover, some lists did not include the contact number/details of the beneficiaries, as such the evaluation team had to liaise with the local council in the targeted villages in order to reach the beneficiaries and collect the data (after consultations with the partners). Additionally, not all the interventions' beneficiaries were interviewed, as the lists shared by the implementing partners did not include all types of beneficiaries.
- **Inconsistent progress/monitoring reports among partners:** There was a noticeable variation in the level of detail among the reports. Some partners submitted highly detailed narrative reports, covering extensive descriptions of activities, outcomes, and challenges. In contrast, other reports were more concise and focused primarily on technical aspects without elaborate narratives.

Evaluation Findings and Conclusions

Relevance / Coherence / Harmonization

Alignment with National and International Strategies and Frameworks

Overall, the project proved well-situated within a range of national and international frameworks. The project aligned closely with the vision of ACPP's strategic vision in key elements. To begin, the strategy's recognition that *"inequality between men and women intersects with other forms of discrimination"* and is critical to the implementation of

development programming and manifests across many of the activities of the present project. The premium placed on environmental sustainability and climate change is also realized in the conducting of several agricultural activities, namely land rehabilitation, capacity building on water and solid waste management, which devoted specific attention to addressing environmental risks, while the commitment to a human-rights based approach and the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies. In addition, efforts to create responsive and inclusive local bodies, such as the Community Protection Committee (CPC) represented important strides towards promoting “democratic governance and the importance of strengthening public institutions and civil society organizations,” as did promoting greater accountability for the existing municipality. Finally, implementing the project through the actors and on the basis of the Action Group’s, a body consisting of ACPP, the three implementing organizations, and local civil society groups, needs assessments fulfilled the strategy’s directives to empower and encourage the formation of networks, particularly those that include local organizations.

Beyond ACPP’s Strategic Plan, the activities and objectives of the project aligned closely with the sustainable development goals (SDGs) and the broader 2030 Agenda. Among the 17 goals, the project has linkages, in full or in part, with:

- Goal 1: No Poverty
- Goal 2: Zero Hunger
- Goal 3: Good Health and Well-Being
- Goal 4: Quality Education
- Goal 5: Gender Equality
- Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation
- Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
- Goal 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure
- Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities
- Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production
- Goal 13: Climate Action
- Goal 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions

The project also aligned with important goals of the Palestine National Policy Agenda and its three constituent pillars and related national priorities and associated policies. These include:

Pillar	National Priority	National Policy
Pillar One	Ending the Occupation; Achieving our Independence	Holding Israel to Account
		Upholding Democratic Principles
Pillar Two	Citizen-Centred Government	Responsive Local Government
	Effective Government	Improving Services to Citizens
Pillar Three	Economic Independence	Strengthening Accountability and Transparency
		Creating Job Opportunities
		Promoting Palestinian Industry
	Social Justice and Rule of Law	Escaping Poverty
		Improving Access to Justice

		Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
	Quality Education for All	Improving Student Enrolment and Retention
	Quality Health Care for All	Improve Citizens' Health & Well-Being
	Resilient Communities	Meeting the Basic Needs of Our Communities
		Ensuring a Sustainable Environment and Adapting to Climate Change
		Revitalizing Agriculture and Strengthening our Rural Communities

Connectivity between Implementing Actors

The pre-existing relationship of key implementers, a reflection of their general reputation and expansive portfolios across Palestine, as well as their membership and existing work as part of the Action Group, guaranteed a high level of coherence across the project. The three implementing organizations had worked together on conducting needs assessments and implementing similar work in a joint capacity. They were thus aware of one another's comparative advantages and enjoyed a high degree of trust and familiarity. The three implementing partners, along with the ACPP, together constituted the Project Management Committee (PMC), which served in a range of capacities, including setting up other important bodies, such as the CPC and procuring contractors to implement key activities. The log-frame also indicates that many activities were envisioned being conducted in concert. While these findings indicate an improving level of coherence and connectivity between partners over time on the one hand and other actors on the other, resulting from a number of meetings and planning sessions that have already organized by the partners. Still, project documents, modes of work and feedback from key informants continue to indicate a level of isolation that must be further addressed and improved.

Incorporation of Perspectives of Local Actors

The project worked with a range of relevant actors across the targeted communities to ensure that the project achieved the highest degree of relevance to the targeted population. The municipalities/local councils represented one of the most common and engaged partners across the activities. The Council, alongside women's organizations, local CSOs would also join the meetings providing critical local perspective and coordination.

The perspectives and approval of key government actors in the area were also solicited in advance of undertaking project activities. In Kafr Laqif, the Women's Association's connection with the local community contributed to the project's implementation. This association's relationship with local institutions has ensured the project's activities are well-received and impactful. "The Women's Association has a very successful relationship with the local community and has a strong connection with all local institutions," as noted by one female interviewee.

In more conservative areas like Western Izab the project faced greater challenges, but still managed to foster cooperation through the local council, emphasizing the importance of sensitivity and adaptation to local contexts. "Their situation is more difficult, but cooperation was good through the specialist in the local council of Izab explained one interviewee. One of the female interviewees reported through the field visits that safe spaces would positively impact the community, noting its potential to improve social relationships and cohesion among targeted people and families. However, there were noted shortcomings in providing comfortable spaces for women's activities and in the association's capacity to offer projects aimed at enhancing women's income and improving their financial, cultural, and social status.

Regarding school initiatives, such as tidying up the school garden, required essential materials. It was reported through the reports and interviews that the Ministry of Education did not cooperate in their implementation, necessitating the handover of these initiatives to local councils. These councils eventually carried out the tasks, demonstrating the need for stronger support and collaboration from higher education authorities.

On another note, the participatory mapping study, which included discussions with village councils, women's associations, and relevant organizations, exemplifies a collaborative effort to identify and address environmental challenges in the targeted locations. As noted in the 1st PHG progress report, "Current environmental challenges in Hajja and Kafr Laqif were studied, discussed, and analysed with the village councils and some organizations."

Alignment with Existing Needs

The design of the project was relevant as it was based on needs assessments conducted through focus groups and individual interviews with grassroots organizations, women, and farmers involving local communities. This relevance is highlighted by one respondent who stated, "*The design of the project was based on the priorities for these areas, because when designing the project, focus groups and individual interviews were conducted, and based on the needs mentioned during the interviews, the project was designed*". Local councils and residents actively participated in identifying areas that needed intervention and ensuring the implementation met the community's needs. "*The project was chosen based on citizens' requests to provide better service, and every resident in the rehabilitated areas benefited,*" remarked by one male interviewee.

In the assessment of the relevance of the project's activities, it is evident that these interventions addressed fundamental needs within the targeted communities.

- **The project successfully established safe spaces and psychological support programs, improving the mental health of women in targeted communities.** In Hajja, for example, the local council has become more responsive to the needs of women. "*The local council now has the ability to know the needs of women in the village and is now more able to empower women economically,*" – Female interviewee. This cooperation has led to an increased demand for individual psychological support sessions among women, reflecting the project's positive impact on their mental health.
- **Awareness-raising efforts helped targeted women recognize and address GBV, empowering them to seek legal, social, and psychological support.** One of the achievements was helping women recognize and address the violence they were

experiencing. *"Women did not know that they were being exposed to violence, so this was our greatest achievement,"* emphasized one female interviewee. This awareness has empowered targeted women to seek help and support and improving their well-being.

- Psychosocial support provided for children and partners were relevant to their needs as well as the infrastructural needs of educational institutions. The project provided psychosocial support to 149 students using the TeamUp methodology, resulting in improved behaviour and academic performance. Additionally, eight group counselling sessions were conducted, aiming at addressing trauma and stress symptoms among students. One parent shared, *"The sessions have helped my child manage his stress and improve his concentration at school."* Another mother who attended these sessions noted, *"These sessions provided us with the knowledge and skills to better support our children, reducing the use of violence and improving our family dynamics."*
- The protection of the rights of vulnerable populations, especially in conflict zones like the Palestinian territories, is fundamental for maintaining their safety and dignity. The interventions implemented by PARC aimed to address these needs by focusing on IHL and IHRL. The relevance of this project is underscored by the high incidence of human rights violations and the constant threat of disasters, which disproportionately affect women, children, and marginalized communities. By mapping out the risks and establishing CPCs, the project ensures a participatory approach that incorporated gender and human rights protection. This initiative aligns with global humanitarian standards and responds directly to the urgent needs identified through local consultations and participatory workshops, thereby making it a pertinent intervention in the current socio-political context.
- Training and equipping CPCs, which include a balanced representation of women and men, enhance community resilience and self-sufficiency. The project focused on building local capacity and ensuring the active involvement of various community stakeholders, including institutional actors, ensures that the protection measures are sustainable and can adapt to evolving threats. This is further supported by real-time evaluation and systematic documentation, which provide critical feedback loops for ongoing and future interventions.
- **Moreover, the project addressed the needs of agricultural areas by providing seedlings, constructing fences, and rehabilitating lands, thus enhancing agricultural productivity and targeted community livelihoods.** *"Agricultural relief: agricultural seedlings were provided, a fence was provided, agricultural roads were built, agricultural lands were rehabilitated,"* reported male interviewee. These efforts not only improved agricultural productivity but also created job opportunities within the project timeframe for the local labour force, enhancing their livelihoods. Land rehabilitation efforts contributed to land protection from confiscation, ensuring better access and productivity in areas such as Wadi Qana, for the targeted beneficiaries. *"The project is excellent. It protected the area from any violation. A good percentage of farmers benefited from this project and worked with their own hands to rehabilitate the land,"* commented one male land reclamation beneficiary.
- **Employment opportunities created through the project improved the economic situation of local workers and farmers.** Beneficiaries of the project highlighted the direct impact on their economic situation and land productivity. *"The project met our needs to*

a large extent as the land was protected from wild animals, and I benefited from rehabilitating my land and working with my hands on the land," shared one male interviewee.

The project replaced damaged water lines and implemented new sewage extensions in Izbat Salman, protecting underground wells from contamination and improving public health. In Izbat Salman, where water pollution from sewage was a major issue, the project replaced damaged water lines and implemented new sewage extensions to protect underground wells from contamination. This integrated approach not only improved water quality but also had a positive impact on public health. *"The intervention by replacing the lines was crucial as it prevented sewage water from entering and polluting our water sources,"* explained one male interviewee.

- The project addresses the critical need for improved water access in Hajja, Kafr Laqif, and Western Izab by installing approximately 3500 meters of steel drinking pipes. This intervention aims to counteract the deteriorated water infrastructure that has caused significant water losses and inadequate access to clean drinking water. This intervention was highly relevant to the needs of beneficiaries. *"The project met our urgent need for consistent water supply, which was previously unavailable on a daily basis,"* said one water access beneficiary. Another interviewee pointed out that while the water project was essential, there remains a need for additional sanitation projects and support for farmers in Area C.

Effectiveness

R1: The rights of 5,149 Palestinian women are protected, with special emphasis on the rights of 403 women and 100 children (49 girls, 51 boys) affected by Gender-Based Violence, Hajja, Kafr Laqif, Western Izab and Kifl Haris, month 18

In assessing the effectiveness of the project's activities related to the 1st result, the beneficiaries' interviews and implementing partner shared documents reflected the following findings.

The interventions contributed to an improvement in women's access to safe spaces. One female beneficiary highlighted the importance of the project in raising awareness and knowledge about rights related to women and children, emphasizing the dire need for such initiatives in their village. Another female beneficiary of psychological support services pointed out that the project aimed at addressing community-specific issues such as violence against women and children's rights, while also providing mechanisms for accessing psychological and social support services. 14.6% (6/41) of female beneficiaries reported that their access to safe spaces has improved to a large extent, while 85.4% (35/41) said that it has improved to some extent.

The monitoring reports started that the establishment of five safe spaces in Hajja, Kafr Laqif, Western Izab, and Kifl Haris, in collaboration with local authorities and women's community-based organizations (CBOs), provided essential privacy and security for beneficiaries, facilitating group counselling sessions and awareness activities.

When it comes to the women affected by GBV, and improved women's capacity to cope with stress, 46 GBV survivors participated in seven group counselling sessions, with the aim of improving their mental health recovery. 17.1% of surveyed women stated that they are better able to cope with psychosocial stress to a large extent while 82.9% said that to some extent. These sessions contributed to improving women's ability to deal with personal and familial issues. *"I personally grew my skills and knowledge on the topics raised in the sessions,"* said a female interviewee. Another beneficiary emphasized how the training on dealing with children had positively influenced her both as a mother and a kindergarten teacher.

Awareness-raising efforts helped targeted women recognize and address GBV, empowering them to seek legal, social, and psychological support. *"Women did not know that they were being exposed to violence, so this was our greatest achievement,"* emphasized one female interviewee. Out of the surveyed females, 34.1% reported that they are more aware of the legal assistance to a large extent and 31.7% said that their access to the legal system has improved to a large extent.

Regarding the economic empowerment initiatives, the interventions have integrated 21 women into the labour market, with the aim of fostering their financial independence. Field data revealed that women beneficiaries such projects contributed to improving the family economic situation.

R2: The rights of children and the right to a quality education of 2,245 children (1,102 girls, 1,143 boys) are protected, Hajja, Kafr Laqif, Western Izab and Kifl Haris, month 18

In terms of R2, PSCCW 7th monitoring report noted that the partner effectively protected the rights of children and ensured their right to quality education by enhancing their psychosocial well-being, empowering parents, and fostering youth leadership. Psychosocial support sessions using the TeamUp methodology reduced stress symptoms among children, while awareness sessions for parents improved their ability to support their children's mental health. Training for student parliaments in nine public schools promoted child protection initiatives, resulting in projects that improved school environments, such as rehabilitating gardens and developing sports halls. **These efforts collectively contributed to a safer, more supportive educational environment that upheld the rights of children.**

Moreover, the project enhanced the capacity and resources of student parliaments in nine public schools, promoting child protection initiatives that improved the school environment for 1,990 children. For example, the parliament at Hajja Secondary Girls School rehabilitated the health unit, and Hajja Elementary School for males created a sport hall for winter use. The high achievement rates relative to initial expectations reflect the efficiency of these activities, with 124.16% of the target value achieved for psychosocial support sessions and 126.6% for parental training sessions. These outcomes demonstrate the project's efficiency and impact on the targeted beneficiaries.

R3: The rights of 2,878 people (1,403 women and girls, 1,475 men and boys) in situations of vulnerability to violations of IHL/IHLR and disasters are protected, Hajja, month 18

As for R3, the effectiveness of the project is evident through structured activities and community involvement in decision-making processes. The creation of Local Management

Committees and their active role in project implementation highlight this. For instance, "*These committees will be involved in all parts of the project to assure the following: Formalize the participation of representatives of the Local Councils and local community organizations strengthens relations with the community and the target population; and ensure the sustainability of the project*" – PARC 6th report. Such measures indicate a well-coordinated effort to achieve the project's goals, ensuring that children's rights and access to education are protected and promoted effectively.

R4: The rights of 3,830 people (1,893 women and girls, 1,937 men and boys) to a decent livelihood, and their environmental rights of access to natural resources that allow their survival are protected, Hajja, Kafr Laqif, Western Izab, Deir Istiya and Kifl Haris, month 18

Collaboration with governmental bodies like the Ministry of Agriculture and Civil Defense was key to the project's implementation, as demonstrated by the data collected from the beneficiaries benefiting from the activities of the 4th result. The involvement of the Ministry of Agriculture and Civil Defense in the project's design and implementation phases further ensured that the intervention was aligned with national policies and supported by relevant governmental bodies. This collaboration was pivotal in the execution and monitoring of the project as per the interviews data.

The project design and implementation emphasized gender equity, with priority given to female-headed households and lands owned by women. Beneficiaries highlighted the project's inclusive approach, particularly its emphasis on supporting women and female-headed households. Priority was given to lands owned by women, and protection committees composed of both men and women were established to oversee the project's activities. This focus on gender equity and community representation ensured that the project addressed the needs of vulnerable groups effectively as discussed in the interviews.

A male beneficiary of the Cash for Work scheme noted that meetings were held with farmers to inform them about the project and select beneficiaries based on their experience in agricultural work. This targeted approach ensured that the intervention benefited those with the relevant skills and needs.

The project utilized local knowledge and expertise in its design and implementation. A male member of the Protection Committee in Hajja, mentioned that the project was designed based on the community's needs, with input from local councils, farmers, and representatives of local institutions. This collaborative design process ensured that the project was relevant and responsive to the community's specific circumstances

Some logistical issues, such as delays in payments, need to be addressed to ensure smooth execution. Despite the overall positive reception, some beneficiaries pointed out issues with the timely payment of costs, which affected the project's smooth implementation. Addressing such logistical challenges is essential for maintaining trust and ensuring the project's sustainability.

According to PARC 6th report:

- Land Rehabilitation and Agricultural Support: The project effectively rehabilitated 370 dunums (37 hectares) of agricultural land at risk of confiscation in Area C, directly

impacting 288 families by restoring their livelihoods and ensuring continued agricultural production. This initiative was particularly critical in regions threatened by Israeli settlements. A significant focus was on land owned by women farmers, enhancing their agricultural productivity and economic stability.

- **Water Access Improvement:** The project improved irrigation access for 17 families, ensuring that their agricultural lands could be adequately watered. This improvement was essential for maintaining crop yields and supporting the livelihoods of these families. The emphasis was again on land owned by women farmers, contributing to gender equality in resource access.
- **Protective Presence and Community Involvement:** The project ensured the protective presence of 225 volunteers to accompany farming families during harvest seasons, reducing the risk of violence from Israeli settlers. This protective measure was essential for the safety and security of the farming families. Additionally, the creation of CPCs strengthened community organization and mobilization, enabling effective responses to violations and disasters.
- **Economic Impact:** The project provided conditional cash assistance to approximately 60 families in vulnerable situations, generating income and helping to mitigate the economic strain caused by the ongoing conflict. This assistance ensured that these families could meet their basic needs, contributing to their overall economic stability and resilience.

R5: The rights of 5,998 people (2,912 women and girls, 3,086 men and boys), to water, sanitation and hygiene, and their environmental rights to access well-conserved natural resources are protected, Hajja, Kafr Laqif and Western Izab, month 18

The interviews with the beneficiaries targeted by PHG as part of the 5th result of the project noted that a mixed level of effectiveness. While the project design was partly successful in addressing the needs of some communities, other aspects of the intervention did not fully meet the expectations of the beneficiaries.

The project design involved councils and hydrologists but lacked direct citizen consultation, leading to ineffective sewage project implementation in some areas. This oversight led to certain shortcomings in the implementation of the sewage project, which was networked with areas adjacent to Izbat Salman but did not benefit the citizens in Izab. A Water Access male Beneficiary highlighted this issue, stating, *“The council and the group of hydrologists were the ones who designed the project. The citizens were not consulted. The sewage project was not well implemented”*.

The intervention addressed water availability issues in targeted neighbourhoods, showing sensitivity to local needs. On the other hand, the project did take into account the context of certain population centres, targeting neighbourhoods' that suffered from water availability issues. Another Water Access male Beneficiary acknowledged this, noting, *“Yes, the project took into account the context of the population centre in which we live as it targeted neighbourhoods' that were suffering from a problem with water availability”*.

Solid waste management services were insufficient, with a lack of training and irregular waste collection failing to meet community needs. Despite the successes, the intervention faced challenges in the area of solid waste management. According to the collected data, no

training was provided regarding waste collection, and the monthly garbage truck service was insufficient to meet the community's needs. This gap in waste management training and services points to a need for more comprehensive and regular support to effectively manage solid waste and maintain environmental hygiene.

According to PHG final narrative report, the project protected the rights of people to water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH), as well as their environmental rights to access well-conserved natural resources in the Qalqiliya District communities of Hajja, Kafr Laqif, and Western Izab. A major achievement was the installation of 3120 meters of 2-inch steel drinking pipes, which improved water access for 83 families (419 individuals) by reducing water losses and increasing water availability. Although the initial plan was to install 3500 meters, the adjustment due to increased labour and material costs did not impact the number of beneficiaries. The project resulted in a total water loss reduction of 18.14% and an increase in daily water availability per capita in all three communities.

Environmental conservation was another focus of the project. Through collective and participatory community initiatives, green initiatives such as rehabilitating public gardens using recycled materials were implemented, raising a sense of community ownership and responsibility toward environmental sustainability. Participatory mapping studies of the state of the environment in Hajja and Kafr Laqif were conducted to identify and prioritize environmental challenges and solutions. The findings were disseminated through workshops involving local and regional stakeholders, enhancing environmental governance and accountability.

To address uncontrolled solid waste discharge, the project organized six voluntary action days with 135 participants, which included activities like cleaning, tree planting, and reclaiming public spaces, improving the local environment and fostering community engagement. Additionally, 60 hours of training on water management and related topics were provided to 59 participants, enhancing their knowledge and skills in managing water resources effectively. These efforts contributed to improved community involvement and environmental stewardship in the targeted communities.

Efficiency

Intervention strategy

Firstly, it is important to emphasise that the project fits within a broader Strategy covering the period of 2019-2021. The strategy draws on IHL and IHRL, as well as the International Disaster Response Laws, Rules and Principles Programme and reference instruments in relation to the quality of humanitarian response and the humanitarian-development-peace nexus. A central element of the overall Strategy is resilience building, working to increase preparedness and reduce vulnerabilities. A fundamental aspect of ACPP's policy is the need to strengthen, not replace, local actors in emergency response in line with its commitment to the localisation of humanitarian action. To move towards this goal, ACPP has adopted a rights-based approach in its humanitarian response, recognising the close interaction between humanitarian crises, the continuing inability of vulnerable populations to enjoy their human rights before and after

such crises, and human rights violations as a key feature of crises. The work in Palestine falls within the framework of all the strategic lines developed under the Strategy:

- Protecting people and putting them at the centre of the response
- Ensuring human dignity
- Building resilience
- Boosting localisation
- Peacebuilding

In the specific case of the intervention in Palestine, ACPP, in coordination with its preferential Palestinian partners (PARC, PHG and PSCCW) took the decision to concentrate its work in the governorates of Salfit and Qalqilya, through a comprehensive diagnosis of the situation in the communities of the two areas. Three general objectives were set for the strategy in Palestine:

- Contribute to the protection of the rights and dignity of the Palestinian population under occupation, in accordance with IHL and IHRL, with a special emphasis on combating gender-based violence and on child protection.
- Prevent and mitigate the impact of crises and threats associated with IHL/IHRL violations of the Palestinian population under occupation.
- Support and strengthen Palestinian civil society organisations.

Within the intervention area, the strategy prioritises those communities suffering human rights violations, especially those at risk of land confiscation due to settlement expansion, particularly in Area C. It also takes into account the potential impact, psychosocial needs of children, women and former detainees, and those communities where there was no overcrowding of humanitarian actors.

Project Management and Coordination

The overall intervention is seen as a combined effort by the 4 participating organisations - ACPP; PARC; PSCCW and PHG. To coordinate the actions of the entities involved, these organisations created the Action Group in 2018, in the framework of which the three Palestinian organisations aspire to "lead a local change agenda". In this framework, ACPP intervenes initially as an international partner with technical assistance and as a channel for funds.

Coordination: Coordination among partners has improved over time, leading to better collaboration in project activities. One female respondent highlighted the complexity of maintaining coordination among partner institutions, mentioning that *"there were meetings between us but there was sometimes a delay on the line due to circumstances"*. Despite these challenges, the respondent noted a significant improvement over time, indicating a qualitative shift in coordination and presence in activities that required joint efforts. This suggests that while initial coordination was problematic, improvements were made, leading to more effective collaboration in later stages of the project.

Safe and Inclusive Environments: There is a need for providing safe, decent places for sessions and targeting larger participant numbers to enhance the impact. Beneficiaries of the project provided specific feedback on how future projects could be more efficiently planned and implemented. One female Safe Space participant emphasized the need for

"providing a safe and decent place for participants to feel safe and targeting larger numbers in the sessions". This indicates a desire for more inclusive and comfortable environments, which could enhance participation and the overall impact of the sessions.

Convenient Scheduling: Sessions should be scheduled at times convenient for women, particularly those employed, to ensure higher attendance and engagement. Another female PSS beneficiary suggested the importance of *"choosing an appropriate time to carry out the sessions and taking into account the time of female employees"*. This highlights the necessity of scheduling activities at times that are convenient for the target audience, which could improve attendance and engagement.

Expanded Program Content: Including practical skills training, such as home/work management, could increase the relevance and effectiveness of the sessions. Additionally, another female beneficiary proposed *"providing programs on home/work management training in management topics,"* suggesting that the content of the sessions could be expanded to include practical skills that directly benefit women's daily lives.

Diverse Initiatives: Projects should target different groups of women and be well-publicized to motivate broader community participation. Further recommendations from female beneficiaries included creating *"an integrated project in a suitable place for raising sheep"* and *"targeting different groups of women"* while *"advertising these sessions/seminars to motivate the community to participate in the activities"*. These suggestions indicate a need for diverse and well-publicized initiatives that cater to various needs and encourage broader community involvement.

Flexible Logistics: Implementing activities at suitable times and locations, including outside the village, could facilitate better skill and experience exchanges. In terms of improving efficiency through logistics, female PSS respondents advised *"choosing a suitable time for all posts"* and *"implementing activities outside the village to exchange skills/experiences"*. This points to the potential benefits of flexibility in scheduling and the location of activities, which could facilitate better attendance and richer exchanges among participants.

PSCCW made strides in protecting children's rights and ensuring their right to quality education (R2) by providing both psychosocial support and educational enhancements. Through the "Team Up" methodology, eight group counselling sessions were conducted for 10 groups of 149 students from Hajja, Kafr Laqif, Kifl Haris, and Western Izab. This initiative aimed to improve the children's ability to cope with psychosocial stress, fostering positive changes in their behaviour and attitude. Additionally, the project focused on building the capacity of parents to support their children through psychosocial stress. Nine groups comprising 152 parents participated in raising awareness sessions, equipping them with the necessary skills to manage their children's behavioural difficulties and psychosocial stress.

PARC report demonstrates an efficient approach to achieving Result 3 : The rights of people in situations of vulnerability to violations of IHL/IHLR and disasters are protected. Key activities included six participatory workshops that engaged 2,878 people to identify and map risks, leading to an inclusive Community Protection and DRR Plan. The project also established and trained a Community Protection Committee (CPC) with a balanced gender representation, enhancing community involvement and accountability. "Minutes and List of attendees of 6

participatory workshops and "Copy of the Community Protection and DRR Plan" confirm the inclusive and participatory approach.

The CPC has efficiently reported and referred to at least 80% of rights violations, addressing immediate issues and deterring future violations. Furthermore, the CPC's capacity for collective action in disaster prevention and rights protection has been strengthened, promoting resilience and civil society mobilization. The project's efficiency is further evidenced by the promotion of knowledge among 65 institutional and non-governmental actors, enhancing the protection of 203,770 rights holders. "A copy of a completed report" and "PARC report systematizing the incidents of violations produced and the actions taken" provide evidence of this reporting and referral system.

The efficiency of the project aimed at protecting the rights of people to a decent livelihood and their environmental rights of access to natural resources (R4) reveals several key insights based on the data collected. This section demonstrates how effectively the project utilized its resources to achieve its objectives, focusing on areas such as project targeting, implementation, and the benefits delivered to disadvantaged and marginalized groups.

Strategic Targeting of Agricultural Areas: The project identified and targeted agricultural areas in need of intervention, particularly those affected by settler activities, ensuring relevance and addressing urgent needs. One respondent emphasized the relevance of the target groups, particularly those in agricultural areas. *"The areas that were targeted are agricultural areas and need these activities. Most of the agricultural relief interventions were with farmers and with protection committees".*

Documentation and Communication of Violations: Ensuring that protection committees and farmers are equipped to document and communicate violations effectively to the relevant authorities can enhance advocacy and protection efforts. *"Because farmers and protection committees needed to know how to document the violations they were exposed to from settlers and communicate them to the concerned authorities"* as noted by one respondent, which underscores the strategic focus on agricultural communities who face significant challenges, particularly from settler activities, and highlights the need for documentation and communication of these issues to relevant authorities.

Holistic and Integrated Approaches: Future projects should adopt integrated approaches combining land reclamation, agricultural supplies, water resources, and modern techniques to enhance sustainability and productivity. Feedback from beneficiaries provides insight into how future projects could be planned and implemented more effectively. One Land Reclamation Male Beneficiary in Hajjah suggested the need for *"integrated projects of rehabilitation reclamation and providing agricultural supplies and water wells"*. This recommendation highlights the importance of a holistic approach that combines land reclamation with essential agricultural supplies and water resources, ensuring the sustainability and productivity of the interventions.

Provision of Training and Modern Techniques: There is a need for comprehensive training programs on new agricultural techniques to equip farmers with the knowledge and skills required for efficient and effective farming practices. Another Male Beneficiary of Paid Labor and Land Reclamation echoed the need for comprehensive support, suggesting *"providing an*

integrated project of land reclamation providing seedlings and agricultural equipment and providing training on new agricultural techniques". This indicates a strong demand for not only material support but also training on modern agricultural techniques, which could enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of agricultural practices.

Modernizing Irrigation Infrastructure: Implementing modern irrigation methods and providing necessary infrastructure such as water containers can improve agricultural efficiency and address water scarcity issues. Additionally, a Land Rehabilitation Male Beneficiary in Deir Istiya stressed the necessity of modernizing irrigation methods, stating, *"We still rely on the traditional method of irrigating the trees. Therefore, we must take into account the provision of water containers and follow modern methods for irrigating crops"*. This suggests that adopting modern irrigation techniques and providing the necessary infrastructure, such as water containers, could improve agricultural efficiency and productivity.

PARC 6th report demonstrated that the project has efficiently utilized its resources to restore agricultural lands and improve water access, which are critical for the livelihoods of the targeted communities. The provision of conditional cash assistance has been timely and impactful, addressing immediate economic needs and supporting the overall stability of vulnerable families. Additionally, the protective presence initiative has effectively reduced the risks faced by farming families, ensuring their ability to safely harvest and cultivate their lands. Notably, the project has been particularly effective in involving women, both as beneficiaries and as active participants in project activities, thereby promoting gender equity and empowering women within the community.

Financial and human resources were employed strategically, with careful budgeting, market price consideration, and community contributions, ensuring efficient and relevant project implementation. One male key informant highlighted the strategic employment of financial and human resources, stating, *"We are trying to employ these sources and from the beginning of the project we estimate its budget in order to maintain the activities and based on the market price and price fluctuations we have presented the budgets and the existing money we have collected a portion from the people through the local councils and this is very important because the community contribution reflects the priority of the project for the people"*. This reflects a thoughtful approach to budgeting and resource allocation, ensuring that community contributions are leveraged to enhance project relevance and ownership.

Trust and Timely Payments: Strong financial management practices, including timely payments to contractors and building trust, were essential in achieving project objectives. Another informant also emphasized the importance of trust and timely payments in contractor relationships, noting that *"the financial resources for the project were sufficient to achieve the project objectives and we usually end up offering a bid to the contractors and we choose the best bid. The important thing is that ACPP was making payments within specific time periods according to the agreements signed with the contractors. There is some trust between us and the contractors"*. This indicates efficient financial management and relationship with the contractor.

Monitoring and Reporting: While evaluating the reports received from implementing partners, several points of variation and inconsistencies were identified:

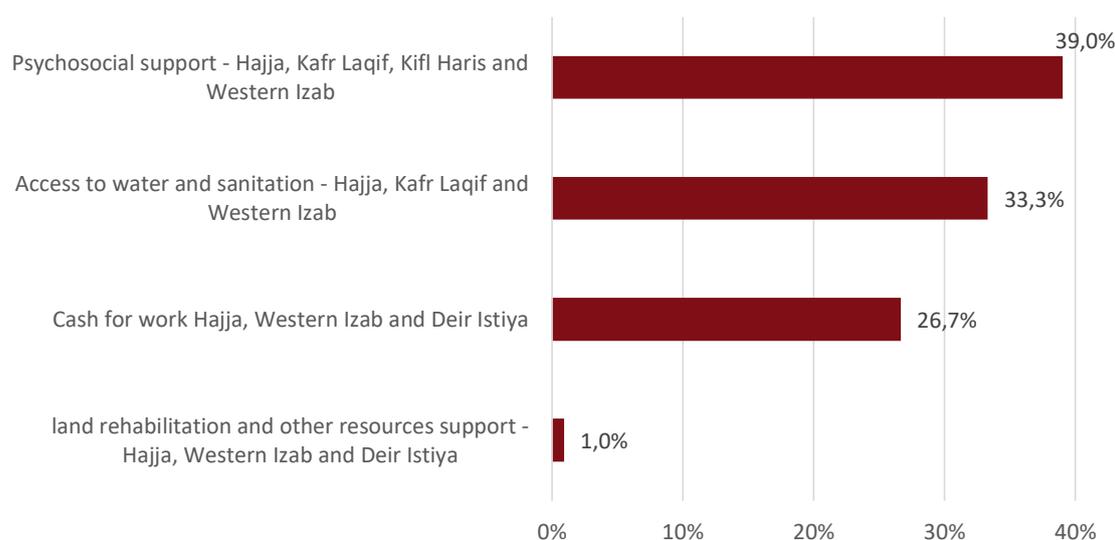
1. **Different Templates Per Partner:** The reports submitted by the partners utilized different templates. This lack of uniformity in reporting formats made it challenging to compare and aggregate data across different partners. While some partners adhered to comprehensive and structured templates, others followed less detailed formats, resulting in inconsistencies in the level of detail provided.
2. **Variation in Report Detail:** There was a noticeable variation in the level of detail among the reports. Some partners submitted highly detailed narrative reports, covering extensive descriptions of activities, outcomes, and challenges. In contrast, other reports were more concise and focused primarily on technical aspects without elaborate narratives.
3. **Types of Reports:** The types of reports received varied. Some partners shared final narrative reports, others provided technical reports. This variation impacted the ability to uniformly assess the overall progress and effectiveness of the project.
4. **Lack of Proper Titles:** One of the reports was received without a proper title, making it difficult to immediately identify the content. Proper titling is essential for clear documentation and reference during the evaluation process.

Impact

General Beneficiaries Feedback

The following graph represent the breakdown of the activities/interventions the surveyed beneficiaries participated in:

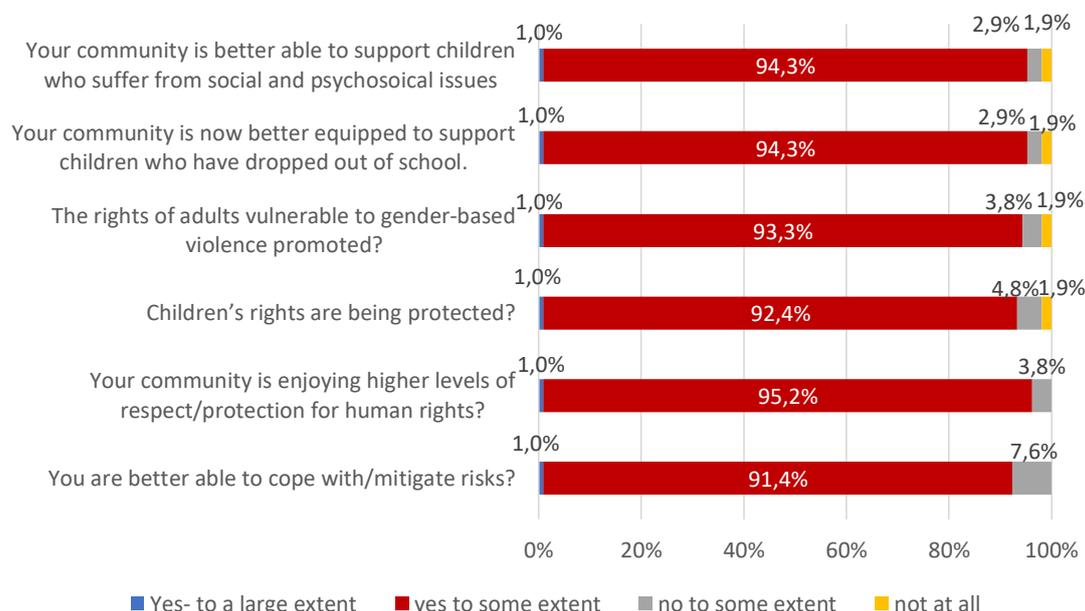
Figure 1: Breakdown of the activities/interventions



The survey results indicate varying levels of community improvements in different areas. Firstly, when asked about their ability to cope with and mitigate risks, 91.4% (n=96/105) of the respondents agreed to some extent, with a small percentage, 7.6% (n=8/105), indicating they were not able to cope to some extent. In terms of enjoying higher levels of respect and protection for human rights, 95.2% (n=100/105) of the respondents felt this was true to some extent. A minority, 3.8% (n=4/105), indicated a lower level of agreement, with no respondents feeling there was no improvement at all. Regarding the protection of children's rights, 92.4%

(n=97/105) agreed that rights are being protected to some extent. However, 4.8% (n=5/105) disagreed to some extent. The promotion of the rights of adults vulnerable to gender-based violence saw 93.3% (n=98/105) agreeing to some extent, with 3.8% (n=4/105) disagreeing to some extent. The community's ability to support children who have dropped out of school was acknowledged by 94.3% (n=99/105) of the respondents, with a small group, 2.9% (n=3/105), disagreeing to some extent. Lastly, the support for children suffering from social and psychosocial issues was affirmed by 94.3% (n=99/105) of the respondents. A minority, 2.9% (n=3/105), disagreed to some extent.

Figure 2: Levels of community improvements in different areas



Overall, there were no significant gender differences noted in these responses. **The general beneficiaries feedback reflected high satisfaction levels. However, these results also demonstrate a room for improvement to better service and aid these communities.**

R1: The rights of Palestinian women are protected, with special emphasis on the rights of women and children affected by Gender-Based Violence.

AWRAD team reached 41 female beneficiaries receiving PSS for themselves and their children. The survey results present a comprehensive view of beneficiaries' perspectives on their access to psychosocial support services, their ability to relieve and cope with psychosocial stress, and their interaction with the legal system.

PSS for women

Regarding access to psychosocial support services and safe spaces, 14.6% (n=6/41) of respondents believe their access has improved to a large extent, while a significant majority of 85.4% (n=35/41) feel it has improved to some extent. In terms of the effectiveness of improved access to psychosocial support, 17.1% (n=7/41) of respondents feel that they are now more capable of relieving psychosocial stress to a large extent, and 82.9% (n=34/41) believe they are more capable to some extent. When asked about their capability to cope with psychosocial stress after receiving psychosocial support such as counselling and therapy, the

responses were consistent with previous questions: 17.1% (n=7/41) of respondents feel they are now more capable to a large extent, and 82.9% (n=34/41) believe they are more capable to some extent. In terms of awareness of legal assistance and the legal system, 34.1% (n=14/41) of respondents believe their awareness has improved to a large extent, and 65.9% (n=27/41) feel their awareness has improved to some extent. Finally, when asked about their access to the legal system, 31.7% (n=13/41) of respondents believe their access has improved to a large extent, while 68.3% (n=28/41) feel it has improved to some extent. Still, regarding their actual accessibility to the legal system, 48.8% (n=20/41) of respondents rate their accessibility as very good, while 51.2% (n=21/41) feel neutral about their accessibility. This indicates the need for a future focus on the enabling legal environment where women feel that the system itself is welcoming and accommodating of their needs and conditions.

PSS for children

Regarding group therapy sessions in schools as the most effective way to support children experiencing psychosocial stress, 24.4% (n=10/41) of respondents believe they are effective to a large extent, while a significant 70.7% (n=29/41) think they are effective to some extent. A small portion, 4.9% (n=2/41), believe they are effective to a lesser extent, with no respondents indicating they are not effective at all. In terms of support for children with psychosocial problems in Hajja, Kafr Laqif, Western Izab, and Kifl Haris, 24.4% (n=10/41) of respondents believe children are being supported to a large extent, and 70.7% (n=29/41) believe they are being supported to some extent. Only 4.9% (n=2/41) think the support is to a lesser extent, with no respondents indicating no support at all. Regarding whether children in these regions have better access to protective environments/spaces, 19.5% (n=8/41) of respondents believe there is better access to a large extent, while 75.6% (n=31/41) think there is better access to some extent. A small portion, 4.9% (n=2/41), believe there is better access to a lesser extent, with no respondents indicating no improvement. When assessing if children in Hajja, Kafr Laqif, Western Izab, and Kifl Haris are more capable of relieving psychosocial stress, 19.5% (n=8/41) of respondents believe they are more capable to a large extent, and 78.0% (n=32/41) believe they are more capable to some extent. Only 2.4% (n=1/41) think they are more capable to a lesser extent, with no respondents indicating no capability. Lastly, in terms of the effectiveness of psychosocial training for dealing with children showing symptoms of psychosocial stress, 17.1% (n=7/41) of respondents feel more capable to a large extent, while 78.0% (n=32/41) feel more capable to some extent. A small portion, 4.9% (n=2/41), feel more capable to a lesser extent, with no respondents indicating no improvement.

The survey results reveal a broadly positive impact of psychosocial support (PSS) services for both targeted women and children. For targeted women, the feedback highlights improvements in access to and effectiveness of psychosocial support services, along with enhanced awareness of and access to the legal system. Similarly, for targeted children, the results underscore the effectiveness of group therapy sessions, robust support for those with psychosocial problems, improved access to protective environments, and better capabilities in dealing with children showing symptoms of psychosocial stress.

Women's organizations have reported strengthened relationships with local councils, and helping them organize and advocate. An example of this is in Kifl Haris, where one female

beneficiary's home kitchen became a headquarters for women's associations, catering to high demands for her products during Ramadan: *"Strengthening the relationship between women's organizations and the local council empowering women economically and now they have a stable source of income. In Kifl Haris, a female worked in a home kitchen and used to send us orders during Ramadan. There was a great demand for her products, and they became headquarters for women's associations"* – Female interviewee.

Improved Access to Services: Beneficiaries reported better access to psychological support and legal services, and women's access to PSS services has improved. One female beneficiary noted that the project contributed to improving women's access to services related to psychological support services. It also contributed to improving their ability to fairly access judicial/legal services and developed their knowledge and awareness about their rights and the rights of their children and access to psychological support services that children are exposed to in society. *"Personally, I have started to follow a decent approach to dealing with my children in order to benefit them"*.

Increased Awareness: The project's activities raised awareness and knowledge about women's rights and the rights of their children. A female beneficiary of psychological support sessions, highlighted that *"The project significantly improved access to services, raised awareness among women and girls about their rights and their children's rights, and enhanced their understanding of how to interact with children. It also increased women's knowledge of their legal rights and introduced them to institutions that address violence against women."*

Economic Empowerment: Targeted women were economically empowered, as evidenced by successful income-generating activities. Another female respondent emphasized the project's long-term economic benefits, such as through sheep-raising projects.

Enhanced Legal Knowledge: Women gained valuable knowledge about their legal rights within the family and community. A female interviewee noted: *"Yes, it contributed to improving the standard of living on a long-term level as the sheep-raising project was benefited from. In the long run there will be an impact of the project on improving the economic situation of the family."* The project provided guidance on handling family dynamics, emphasizing non-violent approaches to interacting with children, and taught targeted women how to allocate personal time and engage positively with their spouses. *"Personally, after participating in the psychological support sessions, I learned that a woman has the right to go to court to claim more arrears than initially agreed upon, and that the wife's father has the right to manage her gold. Moreover, the husband does not have the right to dispose of the wife's gold, and she can claim arrears while still married."* – Female respondent.

Psychological Benefits: Psychological support sessions had a positive impact on both the women and their families. The project's strength lies in its direct targeting of women and provision of psychological support sessions, which have been beneficial for both the women and their families. A female beneficiary of the Safe Space mentioned that *"the project activities were able to achieve results because they contributed to some extent to raising the level of awareness among women/community/schools on multiple topics/issues and we hope that such activities will be implemented from time to time"*.

Another female beneficiary of psychological support services reported that the project contributed to improving the level of awareness and knowledge about the rights of women and contributed to women's ability to access services related to law and the judiciary and psychological support services. *"Women began to feel safe and secure because they became better informed about their rights and became more able to access services related to psychological support in the event of needing it".*

Despite the positive impact of the project interventions on the beneficiaries, the evaluation team detected key challenges through interviews with stakeholders and beneficiaries.

1. **Coordination and Timing: Coordination and timing issues were repeatedly mentioned as obstacles.** One respondent expressed, *"It is difficult to coordinate the campaign due to occupation's oppression and negative influence."* **This highlights the external pressures that hinder effective coordination.** Additionally, another participant noted, *"The timing of the sessions conflicted with my work hours,"* **indicating the need for more flexible scheduling to accommodate the beneficiaries' availability and commitments.**
2. **Project Design and Implementation: Challenges in project design and implementation were also prominent.** One beneficiary mentioned, *"The beneficiary's provision of a suitable place for raising sheep was not taken into consideration."* This lack of consideration for practical needs was further emphasized by another respondent who stated, *"A complete project design was not taken into consideration. For example, I did not have a place to put the sheep in. When providing the sheep, they did not take into consideration providing a place, given that the period of providing the project was the winter season, and neither fodder nor the supplies that we might need in the project were provided."* Additionally, constraints imposed by donors were noted, with one participant explaining, *"We are unable to expand on projects freely because we are constrained by the donor's terms and conditions."* **These insights reveal gaps in project planning and the need for more comprehensive support and flexibility.**
3. **Participation and Inclusion: Lastly, issues of participation and inclusion were highlighted.** One respondent emphasized the need to *"Involve more women in sessions/trainings,"* while another pointed out, *"Although all women participated in the activities, the same group participated in all sessions."* **These comments suggest a need for broader engagement strategies to ensure diverse and inclusive participation, preventing the monopolization of opportunities by a single group.** These challenges underscore the complexities involved in protecting the rights of Palestinian women, particularly those affected by Gender-Based Violence. Addressing these issues will require nuanced strategies that consider cultural sensitivities, flexible coordination, comprehensive project design, and inclusive participation to ensure the effective protection and empowerment of women in these communities.

The establishment of five safe spaces in the communities of Kafr Laqif, Hajja, Western IZAB, and Kifl Haris assisted in providing support for women who face movement limitations due to patriarchal culture and political instability. These safe spaces offered women the opportunity to receive necessary support and share experiences with other survivors, fostering a sense of

solidarity and empowerment. Legal awareness and counselling sessions have further empowered women by enhancing their understanding of their rights under Palestinian law. A notable example includes a woman from Kifl Haris who, through the Palestinian Sharia'a Courts, secured her rights to divorce and child alimony.

Economic empowerment initiatives have also been a cornerstone of the project, with fourteen income-generating projects established for women-headed families and the integration of 21 female graduates into the labour market. These initiatives provided women with essential skills and resources for achieving economic autonomy. Training programs have equipped women with financial and management skills, enabling them to manage and promote their businesses effectively. Additionally, the project's advocacy efforts have laid the groundwork for transforming policies and practices that sustain gender inequality, aiming to influence 150 responsibility holders and duty bearers. While immediate policy changes have not yet been realized, these foundational efforts are expected to contribute to long-term shifts in gender norms and policies.

R2: The rights of children and the right to a quality education of children are protected.

PSCCW intervention positively impacted the protection of children's rights and access to quality education in the Hajja, Kafr Laqif, Western Izab, and Kifl Haris regions. By adopting a multifaceted approach, the initiative not only addressed the psychosocial needs of children but also improved the overall educational environment, creating a more holistic support system. Key activities included providing psychosocial support through the TeamUp methodology, which benefited 149 students by helping them manage stress and improve behaviour and attitudes. Additionally, the project involved parents in awareness sessions, equipping 152 parents with skills to handle their children's behavioural and psychosocial challenges, thereby enhancing support at home. Youth representation bodies in schools received training to promote teamwork, communication, leadership, and child rights, empowering students to lead child protection initiatives and foster a safer school environment.

The findings revealed that psychosocial support sessions using the TeamUp methodology effectively improved children's capacity to cope with stress, leading to better academic performance and behaviour. Parental involvement through awareness sessions was beneficial in addressing children's issues, with recommendations to increase the frequency of these sessions and include more parents. Training for youth representation bodies in schools empowered students to take active roles in promoting child protection, suggesting the need for continuous training and support. The implementation of child protection initiatives by student parliaments successfully created safer and more supportive school environments, with recommendations to encourage more such initiatives and secure timely approvals from relevant authorities. Some schools through the monitoring field visits, expressed that the quantities they received were insufficient to meet the requirements of their needs. Despite this, they acknowledged the potential of these interventions to reduce violence and student crises, and to establish mental comfort. Overall, the project's comprehensive approach effectively protected children's rights and improved their access to quality education by addressing both psychosocial needs and the educational environment.

The evaluation revealed significant challenges impacting the achievement of this result. Key informant interviews highlighted the following:

- 1. Impact of the General Situation and War:** The overall deteriorating situation in the country, compounded by ongoing conflict, created substantial obstacles. The war intensified the difficulties faced by project staff, forcing them to halt the project two months before its completion. The presence of settlers in targeted areas posed significant dangers, making it unsafe for continued operation.
- 2. Transportation Challenges:** The project crew faced severe transportation issues, hindering their ability to reach the targeted locations. This logistical barrier further complicated the efforts to protect children's rights and ensure their access to quality education.

R3: The rights of people in situations of vulnerability to violations of IHL/IHLR and disasters are protected.

The project has impacted the protection of vulnerable individuals' rights, particularly by mitigating risks and threats from both human and natural sources.

Inclusive Identification and Mapping of Risks: The project identified and mapped risks in a participatory and gender-balanced manner, ensuring inclusivity. This approach was helpful in engaging diverse voices, especially women and children, in the planning and protection processes.

Establishment and Training of Community Protection Committee (CPC): The establishment and training of CPC enhanced community capacity for defending rights and responding to violations. The CPC, comprising eight women and seven men, provided a structured mechanism for reporting and accountability.

Effective Reporting and Referral of Rights Violations: The CPC demonstrated effectiveness in reporting and referring rights violations, with at least 80% of reported violations being acted upon, which underscores the efficacy of the CPC in mitigating and dissuading rights violations.

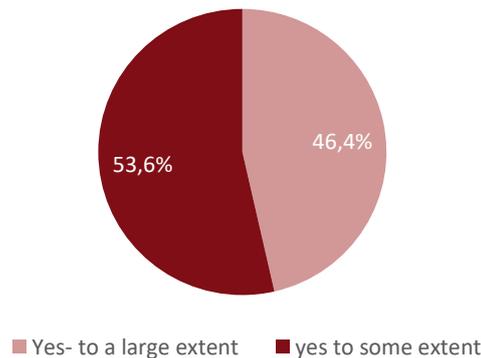
Strengthening Capacity for Collective Action: Strengthening the capacity of CPC for collective action promoted better organization and mobilization of civil society. This initiative was vital in enhancing community resilience and coordination in response to disasters and rights violations.

Knowledge Dissemination Among Stakeholders: The project promoted the knowledge and use of tools for identifying threats and risks among 65 institutional and non-governmental actors. This dissemination of knowledge ensured a broader understanding and response capacity to rights threats affecting the population. "Knowledge dissemination among institutional and non-governmental actors increased the overall response capacity to rights threats." As noted in the report.

*R4: The rights of people to a decent livelihood, and their environmental rights of access to natural resources that allow their survival are protected. The rights of 3,830 people (1,893 women and girls, 1,937 men and boys) to a decent livelihood, and their environmental rights of access to natural resources that allow their survival are protected, Hajja, Kafr Laqif, Western Ijab, Deir Istiya and Kifl Haris, month 18*The rights of 3,830 people (1,893 women and girls, 1,937 men and boys) to a decent livelihood, and their environmental rights of access to natural resources that

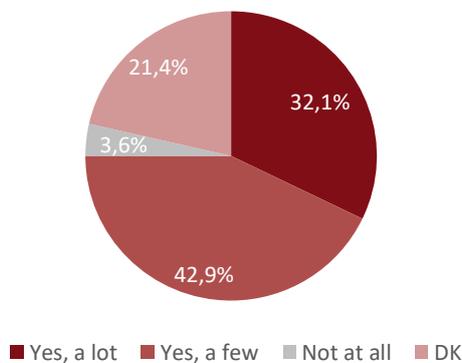
allow their survival are protected, Hajja, Kafr Laqif, Western Izab, Deir Istiya and Kifl Haris, month 18 AWRAD team surveyed 28 cash for work beneficiaries (26 males and 2 females). When assessing the fairness and transparency of the selection criteria, 46.4% (n=13/28) believed it was fair and transparent to a large extent, while 53.6% (n=15/28) felt it was fair to some extent. Regarding the targeting of activities towards those in need, 46.4% (n=13/28) of the respondents felt that the activities were targeted to a large extent, and 53.6% (n=15/28) believed they were targeted to some extent. On the question of whether men and women received equal opportunities, 46.4% (n=13/28) of respondents felt that there was a large extent of equal opportunities, while 53.6% (n=15/28) believed there was some extent of equality in opportunities. Satisfaction with the intervention showed similar trends, with 46.4% (n=13/28) of respondents expressing satisfaction to a large extent, and 53.6% (n=15/28) indicating satisfaction to some extent.

Figure 3: Level of satisfaction with cash-for-work intervention



When asked if the intervention contributed to an improvement in access to food, 46.4% (n=13/28) of the respondents agreed to a large extent, and 53.6% (n=15/28) to some extent. Regarding knowledge of people needing such opportunities who were excluded from the intervention, 32.1% (n=9/28) indicated knowing a lot of people, 42.9% (n=12/28) knew a few, 3.6% (n=1/28) did not know any, and 21.4% (n=6/28) did not know.

Figure 4: people needing such opportunities who were excluded from this intervention



These results indicate a generally positive perception of the "Cash for Work" intervention among the respondents, with a majority expressing satisfaction and belief in the program's fairness and impact.

The implementation of agricultural roads was a key intervention that facilitated access to agricultural land, providing job opportunities and easing the burden of manual labour. This intervention was described as essential by multiple respondents. One female respondent noted, *"The agricultural roads that were provided facilitated access to thousands of dunams...This provided job opportunities for the people who worked in opening the road and provided them with a wage for this work"*.

The construction of agricultural roads improved access to land and created job opportunities, and Local protection committees were effective in enhancing community resilience and coordination. The project's approach included training on agricultural techniques and water sources, land reclamation, and the establishment of local protection committees. This approach ensured that technical training was coupled with practical support, as one respondent explained, *"There was complementarity in the activities through training on water sources, agricultural training, and organic agriculture, and specialized training for protection committees on human rights and civil defense"*. The project achieved a high success rate, and this success is attributed to the integrated and continuous approach of the project, which built on previous initiatives. As stated by one respondent, *"A rate of 95% achieved the results that were planned...In this project, we completed agricultural roads. This is how we achieve integration in activities and achieve a long-term integrated strategy"*.

Local protection committees were effective in enhancing community resilience and coordination. The project's ability to empower local institutions and enhance community resilience was another critical success factor. Local committees formed under the project played a vital role in coordinating activities and enhancing the role of grassroots institutions. This was emphasized by a female respondent who said, *"When we form local committees for the project in these areas, we choose representatives from all the grassroots institutions in the country"*.

Key informant interviews **revealed significant challenges impacting the protection of people's rights to a decent livelihood and their environmental rights to access natural resources** necessary for their survival. The primary issues highlighted are summarized as follows:

- 1. Political and Security Issues:** The ongoing activities of settlers in the area emerged as a major obstacle, overshadowing any planning or program initiatives. One key informant stated, *"What settlers are doing in the area is the major issue, and it doesn't matter how much we plan or design or have a program; they always have the major impact in the field."*

Farmers face occupation risks, being prevented from accessing their lands and picking olives, with fears about the sustainability of projects due to attacks by the occupation and settlers. Interviewees reported, *"Settler's attack, uprooting trees, and destroying agricultural infrastructure."*

Israeli settlers, often accompanied by soldiers, would enter villages, causing destruction and confining residents to their homes, severely impacting daily life and safety. Land confiscations near olive trees required permits for access, which were difficult to obtain. In Al-Izab, the separation barrier limited access to land, leaving only elderly individuals with permits who could not effectively work the land. Villages attempting to develop touristic projects like

Airbnb faced permit difficulties, and illegal construction led to demolition orders. The lack of professional institutions to resort to in cases of violations by the occupation/settlers was also a concern.

Other challenges include:

2. **1. Resource and Infrastructure Limitations:** Land reclamation and the provision of water pumps were not considered in project planning. One informant noted, "*Land reclamation and providing a water pump were not taken into account.*" The need for water containers and electricity in certain areas was overlooked, with some regions designated as agricultural by the ICA, preventing development.
3. **Access to Resources and Land:** Severe limitations in accessing resources and land hampered development and daily life in these communities.
4. **Economic Constraints:** The economic situation of the affected populations was not adequately considered. Financial capabilities did not permit covering incurred costs, and while the project covered expenses in the short term, it did not assist in marketing the products. An informant highlighted, "Our economic situation was not considered, and our financial capabilities do not permit us to cover the incurred costs."
5. **Project Design and Implementation:** Protection committees, such as those in Hajjah, were established late in the project. These committees played a role in preparing risk plans and documenting violations, but their late formation limited their effectiveness. The project provided planning information and suggestions, but many issues were beyond control, significantly affecting the villages. Repeated concerns about the lack of consideration for land reclamation and the provision of essential resources were noted.
6. **Administrative and Bureaucratic Hurdles:** Obtaining necessary permits posed significant challenges, with the separation barrier in Al-Izab restricting access to land, limiting the effectiveness of agricultural work.
7. **Project Impact and Challenges Due to War:** While no formal amendments were made, the war caused significant changes affecting project completion. Delays in implementing activities, difficulties in the movement of project personnel, and postponements in training protection committees were prevalent. Land confiscations during the war, including the seizure of over 500 dunams in Deir Istyia, significantly impacted the agricultural sector. Farmers in Al-Izab and Hajjah faced prolonged disconnection from their lands, especially during the olive harvest season, exacerbating access issues.

The project impact was achieved through a series of interventions aimed at rehabilitating agricultural lands, improving access to water, and providing conditional cash assistance to vulnerable families. One of the key achievements was the restoration of livelihoods for 288 families, including 712 women and girls, and 728 men and boys, who depend on agricultural land at risk of confiscation in Area C. The rehabilitation of 5,500 meters of agricultural roads and 370 dunams (37 hectares) of land made these areas accessible and cultivable, directly benefiting the families involved. Improved access to water for irrigation, which is necessary for agricultural sustainability, was another achievement. The construction and rehabilitation of water cisterns and the provision of water tanks to 17 families ensured a reliable water supply, thus enhancing agricultural productivity and resilience. In addition to physical improvements, the project provided €44,875 in conditional cash assistance to approximately

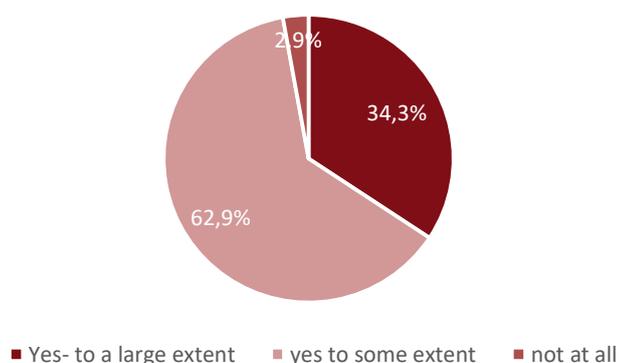
60 families in vulnerable situations, including 148 women and girls, and 152 men and boys. This financial support enabled the families to meet their immediate needs and invest in agricultural activities, thereby improving their economic stability.

Furthermore, the protective presence of 225 volunteers (113 women and 112 men) during harvest seasons mitigated the risk of violence by the Israeli settlement population, ensuring safe access to agricultural lands for 45 farming families. This initiative not only protected the physical safety of the farmers but also encouraged consistent agricultural activities, which are vital for their livelihoods. The findings of the project highlight several outcomes: **the restoration of agricultural roads and lands increased accessibility and cultivable area**, benefiting 288 families with a focus on women's land ownership; **improved access to water for irrigation enhanced agricultural productivity and sustainability** for 17 families; **conditional cash assistance provided immediate financial relief and investment opportunities** for 60 vulnerable families; and **the protective presence of volunteers during harvest seasons ensured safe access to lands, encouraging continuous agricultural activities**. These results underscore the project's success in protecting the rights to a decent livelihood and environmental access, demonstrating the effectiveness of integrated interventions in enhancing community resilience and sustainability.

R5: The rights of 5,998 people (2,912 women and girls, 3,086 men and boys), to water, sanitation and hygiene, and their environmental rights to access well-conserved natural resources are protected, Hajja, Kafr Laqif and Western Izab, month 18

The survey results on water services provide insights into the perceived improvements and changes in accessibility to water, community capabilities in mitigating environmental risks, and participation in decision-making processes. Regarding the question of whether accessibility to clean water has improved after the project, 37.1% (n=13/35) of respondents indicated that it has improved to a large extent. A significant majority, 60.0% (n=21/35), believed that it has improved to some extent. When asked about the improvement in accessibility to a sufficient amount of water after the project, 34.3% (n=12/35) of respondents felt that it had improved to a large extent. An even larger percentage, 62.9% (n=22/35), indicated that it had improved to some extent.

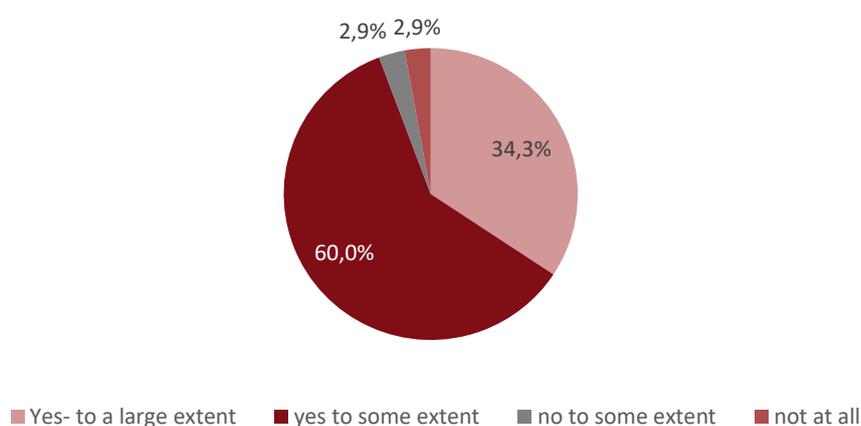
Figure 5: Accessibility to sufficient amount of water has improved after the project



In terms of whether women, girls, men, and boys have better access to clean water sources, 34.3% (n=12/35) believed that access had improved to a large extent, while 62.9% (n=22/35)

felt that it had improved to some extent. On the community's capability to mitigate environmental risks and threats, 34.3% (n=12/35) of respondents felt that their community was more capable to a large extent, and 62.9% (n=22/35) believed they were more capable to some extent. Regarding the active participation of women in decision-making processes on environmental matters, 34.3% (n=12/35) felt that there was a large extent of active participation, while 60.0% (n=21/35) believed there was some extent of participation. Finally, when asked if their community is more capable of managing solid waste, 34.3% (n=12/35) believed that there was a large extent of improvement, 60.0% (n=21/35) thought there was some extent of improvement.

Figure 6: Community members are more capable to manage solid waste



These results suggest that while the project has generally led to perceived improvements in water accessibility and community capabilities, there remain areas where perceptions of progress are not as strong, particularly in ensuring equal participation and effective waste management.

Additionally, the project aimed at safeguarding the rights of people to water, sanitation, and hygiene, alongside their environmental rights, has demonstrated positive impacts across several communities. One of the primary outcomes of the project is the improved accessibility to clean and safe water, which has had a ripple effect on community well-being and environmental conservation.

The project improved access to clean and safe water, reducing conflicts and enhancing community health. Awareness programs successfully engaged communities in environmental conservation efforts, positively impacting water quality. In Salfit Governorate, for instance, the project facilitated better water access and reduced water loss by addressing environmental issues through awareness programs. This initiative not only improved water quality by preventing pollution but also engaged the community in maintaining a clean environment. As one male respondent highlighted, *"The difference in this issue is that we introduced the environmental issue by raising awareness to maintain a clean environment. This reflects positively on the quality of water, protecting it from pollution"*. Another notable impact is the resolution of water-related conflicts between communities and local councils. The project delivered water to 83 families across three locations, which helped alleviate tensions. The availability of water contributed to reducing waste and improving public health by replacing old, damaged water lines. *"This project helped both sides*

(community and local council) solve this problem (providing abundant safe and clean water/providing water service). The crisis and any positive impact within this system is reflected positively" -Male interviewee.

Daily water provision reduced household expenses, contributing to financial stability. The provision of water services also extended to agricultural needs, with water being made available for irrigating crops through existing agricultural ponds. This availability of water was essential for both domestic and agricultural purposes, fostering a sense of stability and security among the residents. *"Water service was well available in the community. This played a role in improving the citizen's life and making him feel a decent life" - Water Access Male Beneficiary.*

Moreover, the daily provision of water service reduced household expenses previously spent on purchasing water, thus enhancing the financial stability of families. *"Yes, because the service is currently provided on a daily basis, and this has provided a decent life for residents in the area and saved the family's expenses that were spent on purchasing water" – Water Access Male Beneficiary.*

The project's strength was its holistic approach to water and sanitation services, its comprehensive service provision and the resulting improvement in community welfare. However, some respondents noted areas for improvement, particularly regarding solid waste management, which did not resonate as effectively with the community. *"The citizen did not feel benefited from the solid waste project" - Water Access Male Beneficiary).*

The evaluation for result R5, which focuses on the protection of people's rights to water, sanitation, and access to well-conserved natural resources, reveals several significant challenges as highlighted by key informant interviews.

1. Access and Control Issues: A recurring theme in the interviews was the severe restriction of access and control over essential water resources.

In multiple villages, main water supplies are located in areas controlled by nearby Israeli settlements. One respondent shared, "For example, there was an instance where one of the villages had its main water supply located in an area controlled by a nearby Israeli settlement. This meant that any settler had the ability to control the village's access to water at any time. Anyone passing by could simply turn off the water, and the village would be without water for hours, as they would need to obtain a permit to reach the meter and turn it back on."

Efforts by local councils to secure their own water sources have been met with obstruction. "The council attempted to secure its own water sources by digging a well with their own resources. However, the occupation forces confiscated the equipment and closed the well. Additionally, there are closures, roadblocks, and the presence of settlers on the roads."

One extreme instance involved a well project that was nearly completed before the ICA poured cement into it, nullifying the investment and project. This highlights the broader issue of control. "A single person in the settlements could disrupt the lives of hundreds for hours, which was a significant issue. Additionally, there were instances where religious settlers, accompanied by soldiers and their guardians, would come and destroy parts of the village. The local residents were confined to their homes and not allowed to leave until all the settlers had exited the village. This situation highlights that the problem is not about planning but

about who controls their lives. I believe international intervention is necessary to support these projects and communities."

The village of Kafr Laqif exemplifies the challenges of operating in a confined area surrounded by settlements. "Kafr Laqif, being surrounded by settlements, is in a confined area where any work can be halted by the occupying forces. Therefore, coordination with the council to select appropriate days for carrying out the work took place, in addition to collaboration with the contractor to plan the start of the work and identify the workers he can employ, primarily relying on local workers familiar with the site's conditions."

2. **Funding and Resource Allocation:** Funding limitations pose a significant obstacle to addressing the community's water, sanitation, and hygiene needs. A key informant noted, "Due to limited funding, there are problems related to solid waste, general hygiene in schools, and the issue of water."

The lack of comprehensive support has left critical areas unaddressed. "Solid waste management: No training has been carried out even regarding waste collection. The provision of water and the reclamation of agricultural roads were not taken into account."

Specific needs such as agricultural water sources, seedlings, and supplies have been overlooked. "The weak points of this project are the failure to take into account the provision of a water source for agriculture, the provision of seedlings and agricultural supplies."

Collaborative efforts with partner institutions, though beneficial, have not been comprehensive due to funding constraints. "PHG worked with partner institutions on water and sanitation issues, though not comprehensively, due to limited funding. This results in challenges related to solid waste management, general hygiene in schools, and water issues. The project's current funding allows addressing only specific aspects. The project team continually strive to secure more funding from donors, as increased financial support would significantly enhance the impact of the activities on the local community."

3. **Project Design and Community Priorities:** The design and implementation of projects often do not align with the community's most urgent needs.

Crucial projects, such as sewage system and support for farmers in Area C, were neglected. *"Providing priority projects such as the sewage system and supporting farmers in Area C was not taken into consideration."*

The project improved the living conditions of the targeted communities in Qalqiliya District by enhancing access to essential resources and promoting sustainable practices. These improvements in water infrastructure were complemented by comprehensive training sessions, which spanned 60 hours and enhanced the knowledge and skills of 59 participants on water-related topics. Notably, the inclusion of 22 female participants underscored the project's commitment to gender inclusivity and community-wide capacity building.

In addition to improving water access and management, the project also fostered environmental sustainability and community engagement through various initiatives. The implementation of four micro-grants facilitated green initiatives, such as the rehabilitation of public and school gardens using recycled materials, thereby enhancing the local environment and promoting environmental stewardship. Workshops on environmental governance and

accountability further empowered local stakeholders by providing tools to hold authorities accountable and foster sustainable practices. Voluntary direct-action activities, which involved 135 participants over six days, focused on restoring areas affected by uncontrolled solid waste, planting trees, and cleaning public spaces, effectively improving local environmental conditions and strengthening community bonds.

R6: The capacities of members of the Action Group and members of Basque and international society are strengthened to better protect the rights of the Palestinian population under occupation.

Bimkom, Yesh Din, and Peace Now collaborated on a project to enhance the capacities of members of the Action Group and the Basque and international community to protect Palestinian rights under occupation. Bimkom's contributions included research, detailed mapping, and community engagement, providing actionable strategies and tailored action plans for improvement. Yesh Din's thorough documentation of rights violations informed international advocacy efforts and influenced policy discussions. Peace Now monitored Israeli settlement activities, producing detailed reports and conducting educational outreach to young Israelis, raising awareness about settlement impacts and advocating for a two-state solution. The project's multi-faceted approach, including advocacy, capacity building, and community engagement, played a crucial role in defending and promoting Palestinian rights.

One main challenge was discussed during the interviews. *"The settlers are the major issue, despite how much we plan or design or have a program or whatever, they are always the major impact in the field. And they control everything and can destroy everything in a minute. And we had examples also in the survey that we've noticed this"*. Female respondent.

Sustainability/Connectivity

In regard to the sustainability of the project activities and results, the interviewed respondents that took part of the 1st result of the project noted the following:

Empowering local protection committees enhances the reach and effectiveness of the initiatives, and sustained engagement and follow-up are essential for the long-term success of interventions: One of the recurring themes is the importance of sustained engagement and the role of local protection committees in maintaining the momentum of the initiatives. *"The psychological support and economic empowerment activities need to have a long-term presence to see their benefits. Utilizing protection committees to focus on follow-up, as they are trained on women's and children's rights, helps in reaching cases experiencing violations. These committees serve as a reference for psychological counselling services, and the council remains in continuous contact with us"* as noted by a female respondent.

Dissemination of skills and knowledge by beneficiaries ensures wider community impact: The practical application of acquired skills and knowledge by the beneficiaries is another factor contributing to sustainability. A female respondent stated, *"I personally inform the women around me in the community about the information and skills I acquired from the project, even within my family, I reflected these skills"*. This dissemination of knowledge helps

to embed the project's benefits within the community, ensuring that the skills and information continue to circulate beyond the project's direct intervention.

Another female interviewee highlighted the resilience and problem-solving abilities developed through the project: *"By finding solutions to any problems we face and providing women in the community with the skills and information they have acquired"*. This proactive approach contributed to the continuity of the project's impact, as it empowers women to address challenges independently.

Economic projects show potential for sustainability through growth and reinvestment:

Economic initiatives, such as livestock projects, were also noted for their potential for scalability and sustainability. *"By increasing the size of the project, for example, selling my sheep and buying female sheep to increase the project's size, and benefiting from selling milk and cheese"* expressed one female interviewee, which demonstrates how economic empowerment projects can evolve and sustain themselves through reinvestment and growth.

Continuous application and sharing of acquired skills strengthen targeted community resilience:

The application of acquired skills for community benefit was emphasized by another female respondent: *"Through applying the skills I gained and benefiting the community with them"*. This reflects a broader understanding of sustainability, where individual empowerment translates into community-wide benefits.

Ongoing education and awareness-raising are essential for maintaining the project's benefits:

Lastly, the continuous improvement and expansion of knowledge and awareness were highlighted as key to sustaining the project's impact. *"By intensifying the level of knowledge and awareness better and reflecting the experiences we have gained on the whole community"* noted a female beneficiary, which underscores the importance of ongoing education and the sharing of experiences.

PSCCW documents demonstrate a commitment to sustainability and connectivity through the establishment and operation of safe spaces, which are important for providing continuous support to women and children affected by GBV. These safe spaces not only offer immediate relief and protection but also empower women by providing them with resources and networks to rebuild their lives. **These safe spaces are essential for ensuring long-term support and creating a foundation for ongoing community resilience against GBV.**

Furthermore, the economic empowerment initiatives through conditional cash assistance are integral to the sustainability of the project. By supporting women in starting their own income-generating projects, the program fosters financial independence and reduces the long-term vulnerability of women to GBV. The selection of projects involved local stakeholders to ensure relevance and feasibility. PSCCW 7th technical monitoring report mentions, "The project evaluation committee chose 14 realistic projects to be funded, including livestock husbandry, stationery stores, and houseware stores". **This approach ensures that the economic benefits are sustainable and tailored to the targeted community's needs.**

Women in the targeted communities who received assistance and interventions aimed at improving their economic situation expressed satisfaction through the monitoring field visits. They anticipate that these interventions will enhance family income and well-being, and

improve community members' access to services like stationery, printing, and other rarely available services in small communities.

The legal awareness and counselling sessions also play a role in sustainability by equipping women with knowledge about their rights and the legal avenues available to them. This empowerment through education is critical for long-term change, as it enables women to advocate for themselves and others in their communities. According to the report, "9 women groups received legal awareness sessions, focusing on the Labor Law and the Personal Status Law, vital for female workers and women's rights" – PSCCW 7th technical monitoring report. **By embedding this knowledge within the community, the project ensures that the benefits extend beyond the immediate intervention period.**

The sustainability and connectivity of interventions aimed at protecting the rights of children and ensuring their right to quality education (R2) are critical for fostering a supportive and resilient community. The interventions have focused on psychosocial support, capacity building, and the development of child protection initiatives.

The psychosocial support initiatives using the "Team Up" methodology are designed to address and mitigate the long-term effects of trauma and psychosocial stress among children. These sessions are structured to provide ongoing support, ensuring that the impacts are sustained over time. PSCCW 7th technical monitoring report notes, "10 groups of 149 students received 8 group counselling sessions focusing on behavioural change and coping mechanisms". **This continuous support helps children develop resilience and better coping strategies, which are vital for their long-term mental health and educational success.**

The involvement of parents in the Positive Discipline in Daily Parenting approach further enhances the sustainability of the project's outcomes. By educating parents on how to support their children's psychosocial needs, the project fosters a supportive home environment that reinforces the lessons learned during the sessions. "9 groups of 152 parents received awareness sessions on dealing with children's behavioural difficulties and promoting positive discipline" - PSCCW 7th technical monitoring report. **This parental involvement is key to sustaining the project's benefits.**

The empowerment of student parliaments to develop and implement child protection initiatives demonstrates a commitment to connectivity by linking educational activities with broader community development goals. These initiatives not only improve the school environment but also engage students in meaningful activities that promote their rights and well-being. PSCCW 7th technical monitoring report highlights, "8 school parliaments received 20 training hours and developed initiatives to enhance the school environment, including rehabilitating health units and creating sports halls. **These student-led projects ensure that the improvements are relevant and sustained through active participation and ownership by the students themselves.**

PARC aimed to protect the rights of 2878 people in vulnerable situations to violations of International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and International Human Rights Law (IHRL) (R3).

PARC's approach ensured a gender-balanced representation and focused on protecting children and diverse groups. These workshops not only facilitated risk identification but also emphasized community engagement, thereby enhancing the sustainability of the

interventions. As noted, **the participatory nature of these workshops helped in fostering a sense of ownership among the community members, which is fundamental for long-term sustainability.**

The establishment of the Community Protection Committee (CPC), consisting of 8 women and 7 men, has been a significant step towards sustainability. The CPC was equipped and trained to serve as a mechanism for reporting violations and defending the rights of the vulnerable population. This committee's activities, including regular training sessions and the development of a code of conduct, have not only built local capacity but also created a sustainable structure for ongoing community protection efforts. **This approach ensures that even after the project's conclusion, the community retains the capability to address and mitigate risks independently.**

The sustainability and connectivity of interventions related to Result R4 have been fundamental in ensuring long-term benefits and resilience for local communities. The key informant interviews highlight several important aspects for the ongoing success and sustainability of the project.

The project has improved land accessibility and productivity, enhancing farmers' income: The project has contributed to enhancing economic and environmental resilience among beneficiaries. For instance, by rehabilitating agricultural lands and providing essential agricultural inputs, the project has improved land productivity and farmers' income. *"The nature of the project's activities plays an economic role with long-term economic returns, such as through rehabilitating lands that were previously inaccessible, now they can reach them and cultivate them, reflecting on income"* – Female interviewee

Stakeholder engagement has been a critical component in the design and implementation phases, ensuring that the views and needs of those directly affected are incorporated. This involvement has included local committees, councils, and community organizations. A female respondent highlighted: *"From the beginning of the study, design, and implementation of the project, we have been in communication with concerned parties, like the defense, the CBO is in contact with the community, giving them reports on the project, and their significant role is preparing the protection committee and forming a risk plan and giving their opinions in different sectors"*.

Continuous training and capacity building are essential for the project's sustainability. The project has also facilitated capacity building and skill development among local farmers and community members, which is vital for the sustainability of project outcomes. Continuous training and coordination with the Ministry of Agriculture have been emphasized to ensure ongoing support and guidance. *"We usually coordinate and network with the Ministry of Agriculture on the topic of agricultural extension to stay in touch with the agriculturalist and provide them with training, and how to continue managing the projects they benefited from"* – Female interviewee.

External risks such as occupation and settler attacks pose significant challenges to sustainability. In terms of risks to sustainability, the interviews underscore the challenges posed by external factors such as the occupation and settler attacks, which hinder farmers' access to their lands and disrupt agricultural activities. *"The risk is the occupation preventing*

farmers from accessing their lands and harvesting olives. Settler attacks and their uprooting of trees and destroying agricultural infrastructure" – Female interviewee. Another one male respondent highlighted this concern, stating, "The strengths of this project: It was designed based on need...Weak points: Fear of the sustainability of the project due to attacks by the occupation and settlers".

According to PARC 6th report, the project's efforts in restoring the livelihoods of 288 families who depend on agricultural land at risk of confiscation have been pivotal. By rehabilitating 5,500 meters of agricultural roads and enhancing access to 370 dunums of land, the project has improved agricultural productivity and sustainability. The focus on lands owned by women farmers is particularly noteworthy as it addresses gender disparities and promotes women's participation in agricultural activities. **This intervention has laid a foundation for sustainable agricultural practices and improved livelihoods.**

Improving access to water for irrigation in Area C has further boosted the sustainability of agricultural livelihoods. The provision of water tanks to 17 families, with a special emphasis on women farmers, has enhanced water security and agricultural resilience. This initiative, along with the generated in conditional cash assistance for vulnerable families, demonstrates a multifaceted approach to ensuring both immediate and long-term sustainability. **By providing resources and financial support, the project has empowered the targeted community to maintain and expand agricultural activities, thereby ensuring a stable and sustainable livelihood.**

The data from the key informant interviews highlights several critical aspects regarding the sustainability and connectivity of interventions related to water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) as well as the environmental rights of access to natural resources (R5).

Limited funding constrains the ability to address all aspects of water, sanitation, and hygiene comprehensively. One of the primary concerns is the limited funding, which impacts the ability to address all relevant issues. As expressed by one Male interviewee, *"We work with partner institutions specifically on water and sanitation, but due to limited funding, there are related issues such as solid waste and general cleanliness in schools and water issues. However, we could only tackle a specific part due to limited funding. We always aspire for increased funding from the donor, which would have a greater impact on the local community".*

Continuous monitoring and maintenance are critical for the sustainability of the interventions. Local communities, especially farmers and councils, play a significant role in sustaining the outcomes of the project. A male beneficiary from Deir Istiya, emphasized, *"Through follow-up and restoration of areas that need it, and coordination with the local council for maintenance and provision of supplementary projects for this project, we as farmers see our role in revitalizing and cultivating the land".*

Maintaining established structures like local protection committees and developed capacities is important for ongoing success. A male beneficiary of water access pointed out the importance of *"continuous follow-up and maintenance of the network"*. **Rationalizing resource use and preventing damage to infrastructure are vital for long-term benefits.** Similarly, another male interviewee highlighted the need for water conservation, non-

interference with the network, and regular project maintenance by the local council: *"Through rationalizing water consumption, avoiding tampering with the network, and ensuring regular maintenance by the local council".*

The data collected underline the need for ongoing engagement and support from both local communities and external donors to sustain the benefits of the interventions. The need for clear mechanisms to ensure community involvement and cultural change in preserving the environment is essential for long term development goals, including the protection of WASH rights and environmental access rights.

PHG's initiatives have contributed to the sustainability and connectivity of water, sanitation, and environmental rights in the targeted communities. By upgrading the water infrastructure, the project improved access to clean water for numerous families, reducing water losses and enhancing the overall efficiency of the water supply system. This infrastructure upgrade not only ensured a more reliable water supply but also fostered better water management practices, which are essential for the long-term sustainability of these communities. Furthermore, the training sessions conducted as part of the project enhanced the knowledge and skills of local technicians and families, empowering them to maintain and manage their water resources more effectively.

In addition to the water supply improvements, the project also focused on environmental governance and community engagement. Through workshops and participatory mapping studies, the project identified key environmental priorities and developed action plans in collaboration with local stakeholders. The implementation of green initiatives, such as rehabilitating public and school gardens using recycled materials, exemplified the project's commitment to environmental sustainability. These efforts aimed at addressing immediate environmental challenges and promoted a culture of environmental stewardship and community involvement. **By integrating environmental governance and community-led initiatives, the project ensured a multi-layered approach to sustainability, fostering stronger connections within the community and encouraging long-term environmental protection.**

Ownership and Institutional Strengthening

Involvement of Beneficiary Population in Development Process: The project has demonstrated involvement of the beneficiary population in its development actions. The establishment of safe spaces and psychological support programs, particularly in Hajja, has not only improved the mental health of women in the targeted communities but has also fostered a more responsive local council. This responsiveness was highlighted by a female interviewee who noted, *"The local council now has the ability to know the needs of women in the village. This project became a qualitative transfer to the Council in cooperation with the Women's Association and it was in a role to empower women economically."* This cooperation has led to an increased demand for individual psychological support sessions among women, reflecting the project's positive impact on their mental health.

Impact of Local Organizations' Ownership on Development Process: Community involvement and collaboration with local councils in the targeted locations were essential in ensuring the project's relevance and responsiveness to the needs of marginalized populations. Local councils and residents actively participated in identifying areas needing intervention,

ensuring the implementation met targeted community needs. A male interviewee remarked, "The project was chosen based on citizens' requests to provide better service, and every resident in the rehabilitated areas benefited," underscoring the impact of local ownership on the development process.

Initiatives to Enhance Community Ownership and Involvement: One of the key initiatives aimed at enhancing community ownership and involvement has been the strategic employment of financial and human resources. This approach, as highlighted by key informant interviews with beneficiaries, involved careful budgeting, market price considerations, and community contributions, ensuring efficient and relevant project implementation. A male key informant stated, *"We are trying to employ these resources and from the beginning of the project we estimate its budget in order to maintain the activities and based on the market price and price fluctuations we have presented the budgets and the existing money we have collected a portion from the people through the local councils."*

Environmental Sustainability

The integration of environmental sustainability in project activities has been effective in improving access to natural resources and enhancing the resilience of agricultural practices. The project under review made considerable efforts to rehabilitate lands, plant trees, and improve water access, central in areas facing severe environmental degradation. A respondent described the holistic approach to environmental sustainability, stating, *"All project activities were designed to preserve the environment, for example, rehabilitating the lands, planting trees and seedlings, clearing the land of rocks, and delivering water. All of this takes into account climate change and the environment"*.

Nonetheless, land confiscation and restricted access to resources due to political instability are major challenges that hinder the environmental sustainability efforts. These challenges are exacerbated by the occupation and frequent settler attacks, which disrupt agricultural activities and access to water sources. As one respondent noted, *"Occupation risks when farmers are prevented from accessing their lands and picking olives. Settlers' attacks uprooting trees and destroying agricultural infrastructure"*

Community involvement and local knowledge have been vital in identifying and addressing environmental issues, leading to more tailored and effective interventions. The projects also faced logistical challenges due to the political landscape, which impacts the continuity and execution of environmental initiatives. Despite these hurdles, the communities showed resilience and adaptability, often modifying their strategies to align with available resources and immediate needs.

The analysis of the project documents reveals a concerted effort towards environmental sustainability across multiple partner activities. These efforts align with the project's results, particularly R4 and R5, focusing on the protection of environmental rights and access to natural resources.

Respect for Cultural Diversity

The commitment to respecting cultural diversity has been evident in the project's approach to addressing the rights and needs of various community segments in Palestinian areas. The insights gathered from the key informant interviews underscore this commitment, revealing efforts to engage diverse groups and address multifaceted social and environmental challenges.

The project integrated respect for cultural diversity to a large extent by including various social groups, including those with disabilities, in its activities. A respondent highlighted the project's inclusive approach, stating, *"The project respects all segments of society and is designed to benefit many segments from it. For example, people with disabilities were included in the various project activities and the protection committees prepared a risk and disaster plan so that it took into account all sectors in terms of education, health, politics, water, etc., thus considering all the needs of the community"*. This reflects a comprehensive approach to ensuring that diverse needs and cultural aspects are considered in project planning and execution.

Nevertheless, other respondents highlighted the complexities of cultural sensitivity and community acceptance as a significant challenge. One interviewee noted, *"In Al-Izab, the situation is more challenging than other communities, as it is highly conservative, and views of women participation are still limiting. In contrast, community members were highly cooperative and flexible."* Another respondent elaborated on this point, stating, *"When addressing the topic of economic empowerment, the community is more likely to accept the project, fostering cooperation and financial benefits. For beneficiaries in Al-Izab, it is essential that they feel confident and see that the work aligns with the council's framework. However, the presence of conservative forces posed some challenges in executing the activities especially as they relate to women and children. In contrast, the communities of Haris, Hajjah, and Kafr Laqif were more accepting with higher levels of participation, including among women, in project activities."* This underscores the varying degrees of acceptance and the influence of local dynamics on project success.

Gender Aspects

The collected data and provided documents by the implementing partner demonstrated the integration of gender considerations throughout the project's activities, notably in how it has influenced the rights and roles of women in agricultural and community settings.

Throughout the project, there was a notable emphasis on incorporating gender considerations into the selection of beneficiaries and the structuring of community roles. Priority was often given to lands owned by women, and higher marks were given to families headed by women, aiming to bolster their economic stability and rights within the community. This approach aligns with the broader goal of enhancing women's rights and ensuring their equitable access to resources and opportunities.

"One of the focal points in selecting beneficiaries for our project has been the lands owned by women. We ensure that women who support their families get a better chance to benefit from

the project, giving higher marks to families headed by women," explained one male interviewee, emphasizing the project's commitment to gender equality in its operational processes.

The project has also been proactive in addressing gender disparities, as indicated by another respondent: *"Yes, in selecting beneficiaries we usually give priority to lands owned by women, and we give higher marks to families headed by women."* According to the data collected, the project interventions targeted both male and female farmers, giving women landowners and family supporters greater opportunities to benefit. The labour force was engaged in land rehabilitation work in exchange for wages. Protection committees, consisting of both men and women and representatives of grassroots organizations, were formed in the targeted areas, which underscores a strategic focus on empowering women and ensuring their active participation in project activities. However, other respondent emphasized the need to involve more females in the interventions: *"Involve more women in sessions/trainings,"* while another pointed out, *"Although all women participated in the activities, the same group participated in all sessions."*

The interventions of PHG in Qalqiliya demonstrated respect for cultural diversity by incorporating local community contributions and organizing participatory environmental governance workshops. These workshops included a diverse range of stakeholders, reflecting the cultural and social fabric of the community. PHG report stated significant gender integration in water management training and community participation:

- 22 out of 59 participants in the water management training were women.
- Active participation of women in general workshops about project activities.

Additionally, the formation of protection committees included an equal representation of men and women, promoting gender equality in leadership roles within the community. This was a strategic approach to ensure that both genders could equally contribute to and benefit from the project's outcomes. *"Protection committees were formed of both males and females, and representatives of grassroots organizations in the areas that were targeted were carefully selected to ensure balanced gender participation,"* shared another interviewee.

Recommendations

Overarching recommendations

The following recommendations are directed at the AG partners:

1. Ensure that the establishment of a participatory mechanism aligned with the project starts during the pre-design face (e.g., needs assessment, pre-design consultations). With that, the establishment of CPCs must be carried out early on during the project implementation.
2. Enhance the sustainability of CPCs through lessons learned derived from an assessment of the present realities of previously established ones in earlier projects, their functionality, strengths and challenges.

3. Further enhance gender mainstreaming and women empowerment in all phases of the project pre-design, planning, implementation, and evaluation, through improved linkages between project components (connect land, water, economic empowerment, PSS and education as one holistic package of interventions with women, female-headed households and other household arrangements).
4. Exercising rights requires an aligned, connected, and continuous advocacy specific to the targeted communities and the surrounding regions at all levels, but mostly at an international level.
5. Transformative and sustained impact is further reinforced through the creation and enhancement of an enabling environment. This is achieved through an additional focus on related policy change at the national, regional and local levels, by advocating and raising awareness among policy makers and community leaders. This will also require further focus on changing social norms that might limit the space for transformative change especially in relation to women, children and other marginalized groups.
6. Monitor and course-correct the situation of implemented projects and interventions six months after the completion of the project. This will not only allow the AG members to showcase sustained impact, as well as provide any further support for community members and institutions to take actions regarding gaps and challenges facing the continued implementation of their projects.
7. Enhance the capacities of community institutions by connecting them to national (governmental and non-governmental) relevant institutions and networks, raise awareness about the importance of tehri work among community members, and increase and improve their services to community members, and enhance their capacities in long-term resource mobilization.
8. Enhance the status of women and youth in political and governance bodies at the local level, by further connecting their activities to local councils, Governors' Offices, and other national policymakers who represent the region.
9. Explore a comprehensive approach to economic and psychological empowerment based on a household approach that takes into consideration the differential power relations among members, and where activities are geared to achieve benefits to all members while aiming to achieve symmetry in power as well as household cohesion.
10. Make higher financial allocations per beneficiary/unit of intervention, instead of smaller allocations, to ensure higher and sustained impact.

Programmatic recommendations (For AG partners)

1. Provide further orientation sessions and detailed guidelines to partners on how to fill out the standardized templates. This can help ensure that all partners understand the requirements and can provide consistent and comprehensive reports.
2. **Strengthen Collaboration with Local Councils and Women's Associations:** Strengthen collaboration with local councils and women's associations to ensure ongoing relevance and community engagement in project activities.
3. **Provide Additional Training and Resources to CPCs:** Strengthen the role of CPCs by providing additional training and resources to improve their capacity to document violations and provide emergency assistance.

4. **Promote Community-Driven Initiatives for Environmental Conservation:** Support and encourage more community-driven initiatives for environmental conservation and restoration, providing necessary resources and guidance to ensure their success.
5. **Expand Support for Safe Spaces and Psychological Programs:** Continue to support and expand safe spaces and psychological support programs for women, particularly in conservative areas where sensitivity and adaptation to local contexts are crucial. With that, increase the frequency and scope of parental awareness sessions to further reduce the use of violence and improve family dynamics.
6. **Enhance Awareness-Raising Efforts on GBV:** Enhance awareness-raising efforts about GBV to help more women recognize and address violence, empowering them to seek necessary support.
7. **Increase Availability of Legal, Social, and Psychological Support Services:** Increase the availability and accessibility of legal, social, and psychological support services for women affected by GBV, ensuring they have the resources needed to protect themselves and their children.
8. **Expand Land Rehabilitation Efforts:** Continue to support and expand land rehabilitation activities to further protect agricultural lands at risk of confiscation.
9. **Sustain and Scale Up Cash Assistance Programs:** Sustain the conditional cash assistance programs and explore additional funding sources to support more families in need.
10. **Increase Community Engagement and Inclusion:** Target different groups of women, improve the beneficiary selection criteria and ensure that the project announcement/ advertisement reaches the targeted population.
11. **Promote Community Contribution to Enhance Ownership:** Community contribution is very important because it enhances public ownership of the provided activities.
12. **Expand Community-Based Interventions:** The involvement of community-based organizations (CBOs) and the establishment of safe spaces within these communities have created a supportive environment for women and children.
13. **Strengthen Protective Presence During Harvest Seasons:** Strengthen the protective presence during harvest seasons to mitigate the risk of violence and ensure safe access to lands for farming families.
14. **Conduct Regular Follow-Up Studies and Updates to Environmental Mapping:** Conduct regular follow-up studies and updates to the environmental mapping to monitor progress and address emerging challenges.

Annex 1: Evaluation Matrix

Evaluation area/ criteria	Sample evaluation questions	Sample indicators	Source of verification	Analysis methods
<p>Relevance,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To what extent was the project in line with the national development priorities, ACPP’s Strategic Plan, the SDGs, and humanitarian frameworks? ▪ To what extent were lessons learned from other relevant projects considered in the project’s design? ▪ To what extent were the perspectives of those who could affect the outcomes, and those who could contribute information or other resources to the attainment of stated results, taken into account during the project design processes? ▪ To what extent was the project in line with other similar interventions in the targeted areas? ▪ In what ways do the project and partners complement and are compatible with each other and with other interventions in the country and targeted areas? ▪ To what extent is the project coherent with the humanitarian principles of humanity, universality, impartiality, neutrality, independence, consent and participation, and respect for international standards of humanitarian intervention? ▪ To what extent have gender equality and the empowerment of women been addressed in the design, implementation and monitoring of the project? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Indicators of the project’s relevance to the national development priorities, ACPP’s strategic plans, the SDGs, and humanitarian frameworks? ▪ Indicators of the project’s relevance to beneficiaries’ needs, (depends on each project’s focus but examples include beneficiaries’ livelihoods indicators (e.g., access to water, access to services, etc.) ▪ Indicators of the appropriateness of the implementation strategies of the project ▪ Indicators of the beneficiary selection being inclusive and reflecting the project’s set criteria (including gender and vulnerability criteria) ▪ Indicators of beneficiary engagement and consultation before and during the implementation of the project ▪ Indicators of the project being in line and in harmony with other interventions in the targeted areas (e.g. partnerships with other programs, lack of redundancy, etc.) ▪ Degree of complementarity across project and partner portfolio by location, coverage, theme, etc.) ▪ Stakeholders perceptions of complementarity across project and partner portfolio. ▪ Indicators of program/project coherence with humanitarian principles and international standards of humanitarian intervention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Project documents ▪ FGDs ▪ Survey ▪ KIIs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quantitative and statistical analysis of key indicators ▪ Qualitative content analysis of relevant studies

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Stakeholders’ perceptions of the ways in which a rights-based approach has been adopted ▪ Documented evidence of indicators measuring gender in program/project M&E framework and monitoring plans 		
Effectiveness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To what extent were the project outputs achieved? ▪ What factors contributed to effectiveness or ineffectiveness? ▪ To what extent was the project able to cover all relevant areas and beneficiary groups? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Indicators of positive/ negative, intended/ unintended results and outcomes in the lives of beneficiaries as a result of the project (e.g., beneficiaries’ improved access to vital services, economic situation, coping mechanisms, satisfaction, etc.) ▪ Indicators of the beneficiary selection being inclusive and reflecting the beneficiary targeting objectives (e.g., characteristics of beneficiaries in line with targeting criteria, percentage of women-headed households, percentage of people with disabilities, etc.) ▪ Indicators of successful partnership strategies (e.g., level of involvement and perception of partners, level of collaboration level among relevant stakeholders) ▪ Indicators of the appropriateness of the institutional arrangements and the implementation strategies of the project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Project documents ▪ FGDs ▪ Survey ▪ KIIs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quantitative and statistical analysis of key indicators ▪ Qualitative content analysis of relevant studies

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<p>Efficiency</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To what extent was the project management structure efficient in generating the expected results? ▪ To what extent have the project implementation strategies and execution been efficient and cost-effective? ▪ To what extent has there been an economic use of financial and human resources? ▪ To what extent have project funds and activities been delivered in a timely manner? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Indicators of strong and efficient management structure and model for the project’s operations (e.g., clear roles and responsibilities, clear reporting requirements, quality and compliance of all project reports, etc.) ▪ Indicators of cost-effectiveness (e.g., budget vs. actual expenditures, timely payments, quality financial reports, etc.) ▪ Indicators of proper Project administration procedures, milestones, key decisions and outputs, project oversight and active engagement by ACPP and the group, and coordination between ACPP and partners. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ KIIs ▪ Project documents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quantitative and statistical analysis of key indicators ▪ Qualitative content analysis of relevant studies
<p>Impact</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What were the effects of the project on beneficiaries’ lives? ▪ To what extent did the project contribute to the capacity building of partners, influence on broader policy/systems, and impact at the beneficiary level? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Indicators of improvement in beneficiaries’ humanitarian and development status as a result of the interventions (living standards, income, and revenue, well-being indicators, etc.) ▪ Reported unintended effects (positive and negative) on groups included or not included in the interventions ▪ Stakeholder perceptions of positive/negative impacts (including those included and not included in the intervention(s)) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Project documents ▪ FGDs ▪ Survey ▪ KIIs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quantitative and statistical analysis of key indicators ▪ Qualitative content analysis of relevant studies
<p>Sustainability and connectivity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To what extent will financial and economic resources be available to sustain the benefits achieved by the project? ▪ What is the risk that the level of stakeholders’ ownership will be sufficient to allow for the project benefits to be sustained? ▪ To what extent did the project seek to minimize the environmental impact of the intervention? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Indicators of the project enabling beneficiaries to overcome barriers in the future ▪ Indicators of the project enabling a continuation of the impact ▪ Indicators of the project’s contribution to SDGs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Project documents ▪ FGDs ▪ Survey ▪ KIIs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quantitative and statistical analysis of key indicators ▪ Qualitative content analysis of relevant studies

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Were the measures in line with the commitment to adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change? 			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To what extent does the project contribute to the development of communities through connectiveness with other projects? ▪ To what extent does the project's interventions take into account interrelated and long-term benefits? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Indicators of existing and potential future linkages between the project and other similar interventions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Project documents ▪ FGDs ▪ Survey ▪ KIIs 	Qualitative content and narrative analysis
Gender in Development approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To what extent did the project take into account the practical needs and strategic gender interests of women and men in the target communities? ▪ How did the project intervene in the modification of gender relations in the target communities? ▪ Are women represented in decision-making in the community and is it ensured that their voices are heard? ▪ Are women's participation in the project encouraged and ensured? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Level of women and girls inclusion in project activities, and their ability to make decisions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Survey ▪ FGDs 	Qualitative content and narrative analysis
Ownership and institutional strengthening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To what extent is the beneficiary population involved in the actions carried out within the development process? ▪ How does the level of ownership of local organizations impact the overall development process? ▪ What specific measurements or strategies are in place to strengthen local bodies and organizations within the project area? ▪ Can you describe any initiatives or programs aimed at enhancing community ownership and involvement in development activities? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Indicators of the level of ownership by beneficiaries, power of making decision, and providing feedback to relevant stakeholders. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Project documents ▪ FGDs ▪ Survey ▪ KIIs 	Qualitative content and narrative analysis

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How are the roles and responsibilities of local organizations defined and supported within the development framework? ▪ What indicators or metrics are used to assess the effectiveness of institutional strengthening efforts at the local level? 			
Respect for cultural diversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To what extent did the project take into account cultural factors in the development of the project? ▪ Has the project made progress with respect for cultural diversity? 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ FGDs ▪ Survey ▪ KIIs 	Qualitative content and narrative analysis

Annex 2: Extent of Achievement of Project Objectives and Indicators

According to official results reported against the log-frame, the project succeeded in meeting all its expected outcomes, the details of which are provided below:

#	Indicator	Analysis and level of achievement
1	The human rights of 6,488 people (5,149 women and girls, 1,339 men and boys) living under occupation are protected and promoted in accordance with IHL and IHRL, and duty bearers are held to account, Qalqiliya and Salfit, West Bank, Palestine, month 18	The project has contributed to improving women's capacities to deal with their symptoms of psychosocial stress through training and awareness sessions. It has also contributed to improving their awareness of and access to legal services.
2	The capacity of 5,557 people (2,727 women and girls, 2,830 men and boys) is fostered to face and overcome the situation of prolonged crisis and systematic violation of rights that they face, while solutions to violations and other fundamental causes of threats and shock are sought, Qalqiliya and Salfit, West Bank, Palestine, month 18	The project has contributed to fostering the systematic violations and threats through dealing with the symptoms of psychosocial stress among children, and raising awareness among partners.

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3	The exercise of the rights of access to basic services of 5,998 people (2,912 women and girls, 3,086 men and boys) living under occupation is improved, in accordance with the rights of persons protected by IHL, Qalqiliya and Salfit, West Bank, Palestine, month 18	The project has contributed to improving the access of community members to basic needs such as clean water, land, legal services and others. This has in turn contributed to an increase in their capacities to mitigate risks, as 91% of respondents reported that they are better able to cope with risks.
4	The role of 658 responsibility holders (344 women, 314 men) is strengthened at the national and international levels, in the promotion and defense of IHL/IHLR, holding duty bearers to account, and mitigating the negative effect of rights violations. committed against the Palestinian population under occupation, month 18	Bimkom, Peace Now, and Yesh Din have documented violations committed by Israeli forces and carried out advocacy campaigns carried out mainly on their social networks and other traditional media aimed mainly at the Israeli public with the aim of transforming policies and practices that go against IHL/IHLR.

Expected Results		Indicators completed	Indicators	Initial value	Expected value	Final value	Observations
R1	The rights of 5,149 Palestinian women are protected, with special emphasis on the rights of 403 women and 100 children (49 girls, 51 boys) affected by Gender-Based	4.5/6 (75%)	IOV1.R.1 The access to safe spaces is facilitated of 150 women and approximately 100 children affected by Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and/or other violations of their rights, Hajja, Kafr Laqif, Western Izab and Kifl Haris, month 18	10%	100%	100%	Achieved 5 safe spaces were established (2 in Western Izab, and 3 in Hajja, Kifl Haris and Kafr Laqif). Based on the results of the survey, 100% of female participants said that their access to safe spaces after the project has improved to a large (14.6%) or to some extent (85.4%).
			IOV2.R.1 48 women affected by GBV and/or other violations of their rights assisted with MHPSS services, and their capacities to cope with psychosocial stress are strengthened, Hajja, Kafr Laqif, Western Izab and Kifl Haris, month 18	0	48 women	46 women (95.8%)	Achieved. 4 groups (46 women survivors of GBV) received 7 sessions. Based on the results of the survey, 100% of female participants are more capable of relieving psychosocial stress to a large extent (17.1%) or to some extent (82.9%).

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Expected Results		Indicators completed	Indicators	Initial value	Expected value	Final value	Observations
Violence, Hajja, Kafr Laqif, Western Izab and Kifl Haris, month 18			IOV3.R.1 35 women affected by GBV and/or other violations of their rights, and without a source of income, are empowered to generate income for themselves and their 70 dependents (34 women and girls, 36 men and boys), Hajja, Kafr Laqif, Western Izab and Kifl Haris, month 18	0	35 women to receive economic empowerment services	21 women received economic empowerment interventions	Achieved. 21 women from the 4 communities signed a contract for 3 months and were integrated in the labour market.
			IOV4.R.1 140 women affected by GBV and/or other violations of their rights supported with legal awareness, counselling, assistance and/or representation within the Palestinian legal framework, month 18	20% of targeted women are capable of articulating their rights	80% of targeted women are capable of articulating their rights	110 women received legal awareness sessions.	Achieved. 110 women received 2 legal awareness sessions. 100% of female participants reported that their awareness of the legal assistance and system has improved to a large extent (34.1%) or to some extent (65.9%).
			IOV5.R.1 75 Palestinian civilians (at least 30 women) affected by violence or other rights violations are assisted with legal awareness, counselling, assistance and/or representation services within the Israeli legal framework, month 18	0	NA	40	Achieved. 40 women received legal consultations. 100% of female participants reported that their access to the legal system has improved to a large extent (31.7%) or to some extent (68.3%).
			IOV6.R.1 The transformation of policies and practices that sustain gender inequality within Palestinian society is promoted, with special attention to the 5,149 women living in the target communities, in a process aimed at 150 responsibility holders and duty bearers (50 women, 100 men) related to Palestinian	0	150 duty bearers (50 women, and 100 men)	0	Not achieved.

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Expected Results		Indicators completed	Indicators	Initial value	Expected value	Final value	Observations
			centres of masculinized power, month 18				
R2	The rights of children and the right to a quality education of 2,245 children (1,102 girls, 1,143 boys) are protected, Hajja, Kafr Laqif, Western Izab and Kifl Haris, month 18	3/4 (75%)	IOV1.R.2 120 children (60 girls, 60 boys) affected by violations of their rights show better capacities to cope with psychosocial stress, Hajja, Kafr Laqif, Western Izab and Kifl Haris, month 18	0	120 children	149 (124%)	Achieved. 10 groups of 149 students (84 girls, 65 boys) have received 8 group counselling sessions. 95% of respondents reported that group therapy sessions in schools the most effective way to support children experiencing psychosocial stress to a large extent (24.4%) or to some extent (70.7%).
			IOV2.R.2 120 mothers and fathers (60 women, 60 men) of children affected by child protection violations acquire better capacities to deal with the psychosocial stress faced by their daughters and sons, Hajja, Kafr Laqif, Western Izab and Kifl Haris, month 18	0	120 parents	112 (93%)	Partially achieved. 7 groups of 112 parent (92 mothers and 20 fathers) have received 2 raising awareness sessions on positive discipline. 95% of respondents reported that they are more capable of dealing with children showing symptoms of psychosocial stress to a large extent (19.5%) or to some extent (78%).
			IOV3.R.2 135 children (67 girls, 68 boys) members of youth representation bodies in 9 public schools are equipped with the capacities and resources to promote collective child protection initiatives in their schools and communities,	0	9 schools	8 schools (89%)	Partially achieved. 8 schools parliaments have received 20 training hours that focus on teamwork, communication and leadership, child rights. 97.5% of respondents reported that children are more capable of relieving psychosocial

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Expected Results		Indicators completed	Indicators	Initial value	Expected value	Final value	Observations
			Hajja, Kafr Laqif, Western Izab and Kifl Haris, month 18				stress to a large extent (17.1%) or to some extent (78%).
			IOV4.R.2 1,990 children (975 girls, 1,015 boys) have access to improved protective environments, Hajja, Kafr Laqif, Western Izab and Kifl Haris, month 18	0	9 initiatives	9 initiatives (100%)	Achieved. 9 schools initiatives were developed by the schools parliaments. 95% of respondents reported that children have better access to protective environments/spaces to a large extent (19.5%) or to some extent (75.6%).
R3 15	The rights of 2,878 people (1,403 women and girls, 1,475 men and boys) in situations of vulnerability to violations of IHL/IHLR and disasters are protected, Hajja, month		IOV1.R.3 Natural and human risks and threats that affect the rights of 2,878 people (1,403 women and girls, 1,475 men and boys) are identified and mapped in a participatory and gender-balanced manner, with a focus on gender, protection of childhood and diversity, Hajja, month 18	0	1 mapping study	1 mapping study	Achieved.
			IOV2.R.3 A Community Protection Committee (CPC) made up of 8 women and 7 men has been trained, equipped and enabled, as a mechanism for reporting, pressure and accountability, and for defending the rights of 2,878 people (1,403 women and girls, 1,475 men and children), Hajja, month 18	0	1 CPC	1 CPC	Achieved. 1 CPC was trained on rights protection with the active participation of women.

¹⁵ It would be great if you could share with us PARC final report to assess the level of achievements of some indicators.

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Expected Results		Indicators completed	Indicators	Initial value	Expected value	Final value	Observations
R4	18	5/5 (100%)	IOV3.R.3 At least 80% of the rights violations registered by the CPC are reported and/or referred to third parties as a means to mitigate and/or dissuade them, Hajja, month 18	0			
			IOV4.R.3 The capacity of the CPCs for collective action as a mechanism for organizing and mobilizing civil society in the prevention and response to disasters and violations in the Governorates of Qalqiliya and Salfit is promoted, month 18	0			The real-time monitoring data revealed that CPC members were highly satisfied with the training and reported that their capacities have improved.
			OV5.R.3 The knowledge of 65 institutional and non-governmental actors from the Governors of Qalqiliya and Salfit is promoted vis a vis the tools for identifying threats and risks that affect 203,770 (99,847 women and girls, 103,923 men and boys) rights holders in the area, and of the response strategy deployed to mitigate and prevent them, month 18				
	The rights of 3,830 people (1,893 women and girls, 1,937 men and boys) to a		IOV1.R.4 Community capacities have been strengthened to analyse and face the risks of confiscation and/or demolition affecting an area of 51,021 dunums/5,102 HA of agricultural lands in Area C, on which the livelihoods of 3,830 people depend (1,893 women and girls, 1937 men	0	Analyse and face the risks of confiscation and/or demolition affecting an area of 51,021 dunums/5,10	100%	Achieved. A paper and map for each community detailing threats, challenges, and potential actions were produced in Arabic, Hebrew, and English to assist communities and stakeholders in improving local situations, with photos showing Bimkom staff member Amal sharing these documents with community leaders.

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Expected Results	Indicators completed	Indicators	Initial value	Expected value	Final value	Observations
decent livelihood, and their environmental rights of access to natural resources that allow their survival are protected, Hajja, Kafr Laqif, Western Izab, Deir Istiya and Kifl Haris, month 18		and boys), in Hajja, Kafr Laqif, Western Izab, Deir Istiya and Kifl Haris, month 18		2 HA of agricultural lands in Area C		
		IOV2.R.4The livelihoods of 288 families (712 women and girls, 728 men and boys) who depend on agricultural land at risk of confiscation in Area C are restored, with a special focus on land owned by women farmers, Hajja, Western Izab and Deir Istiya, month 18	0	288 families		100% of respondents reported that their livelihoods conditions have improved after the project and that they are able to cultivate their land
		IOV3.R.4The access to water for the irrigation of agricultural lands in Area C on which the livelihoods of 17 families (42 women and girls, 43 men and boys) depend is improved, with special emphasis on land owned by women farmers, in Hajja and Deir Istiya, month 18	0	17 families		100% of respondents reported that their access to water has improved to some extent.
		IOV4.R.4€ 44,875 of conditional cash assistance is generated as income for approx. 60 families in vulnerable situations (148 women and girls, 152 men and boys), Hajja, Western Izab and Deir Istiya, month 18	0	60 families		100% of respondents reported that they were satisfied with this intervention and that it has contributed to improving their access to food
		IOV5.R.4The protective presence of 225 volunteers (113 women, 112 men) is ensured to accompany 45 farming families during harvest seasons, thus mitigating the risk of				

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Expected Results		Indicators completed	Indicators	Initial value	Expected value	Final value	Observations
R5	The rights of 5,998 people (2,912 women and girls, 3,086 men and boys), to water, sanitation and hygiene, and their environment	5/5 (100%)	violence by the Israeli settlement population, Hajja, Kafr Laqif, Western Izab, and Deir Istiya and Kifl Haris, month 18				
			IOV6.R.4 Palestinian land confiscation related to the expansion of the 19 settlements and 7 Israeli outposts in the governorates of Qalqiliya and Salfit, with a population of 78,500 settlers, are monitored, documented and reported to duty bearers and responsibility holders, and an Israeli and international general public of 200,000 people, as a structural cause of IHL and IHL violations against the Palestinian population, month 18	0	200,000	210,000	Achieved. Peace Now leveraged various social media platforms, including Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram, and TikTok, to disseminate information and promote campaigns on Israeli settlement activity and illegal outposts, collectively attracting over 210,000 followers and reaching a much larger audience.
			IOV1.R.5 The amount of quality water available to 450 people (221 women and girls, 229 men and boys) is increased to an average of 80 LCD, Hajja, Kafr Laqif and Western Izab, month 12	0	72 houses	3120 meters 83 houses	Over achieved.
			IOV2.R.5 The environmental protection and optimization of the water resources on which 5,998 people depend (2,912 women and girls, 3,086 men and boys) is improved, and the risk of contamination of drinking water via contact with contaminated waste is	0	3500 meters	3120 meters of 2 steel drinking pipes were supplied	Achieved. 97% of surveyed participants reported that their access to sufficient and clean water has improved after the project to a large extent (34.3%) or to some extent (62.9%).

AVCD EM 21 - FINAL EVALUATION REPORT

Expected Results	Indicators completed	Indicators	Initial value	Expected value	Final value	Observations
al rights to access well-conserved natural resources are protected, Hajja, Kafr Laqif and Western Izab, month 18		minimized, Hajja, Kafr Laqif and Western Izab, month 12				
		IOV3.R.5 The active participation of 170 people (85 women and girls, 85 men and boys) in decision-making on environmental matters and in collective community responses aimed at mitigating environmental risks and threats that affect 4,003 people (1,966 women and girls, 2,037 men and boys) is promoted, Hajja and Kafr Laqif, month 12	0	Promoting active participation of 170 people	100%	94% of respondents reported that the active participation of women in decision making process on environmental matters has improved to a large extent (34%) or to some extent (60%).
		IOV4.R.54 collective community initiatives led by approx. 40 people (20 women and girls, 20 men and boys) are promoted to mitigate environmental risks and threats, with priority given to initiatives led by groups of women and/or youth, Hajja and Kafr Laqif, month 12	0	40 people	100%	4 micro-grants initiatives were implemented (Rehabilitation of the public garden in the Western Izab using recycled materials; rehabilitation of the school Garden in Hajja; rehabilitation of the public garden in Kafr Laqif, and building sunshades in Kafr Laqif using recycled materials).
		IOV5.R.5 The capacities of 40 duty bearers and responsibility holders (20 women, 20 men) are strengthened for governance and accountability in the environmental sector, Hajja and Kafr Laqif, month 12	0	40 duty bearers	59 duty bearers	Achieved. 97% of respondents reported that the community is more capable to mitigate environmental risks and threats stress to a large extent (34%) or to some extent (63%).

AVCD EM 21 - FINAL EVALUATION REPORT

Expected Results		Indicators completed	Indicators	Initial value	Expected value	Final value	Observations
R6 ¹⁶	The capacities of 23 members of the Action Group (9 women, 14 men) and 635 members of Basque and		IOV6.R.5 The capacity and direct community action for the restoration of areas of uncontrolled solid discharges in public spaces used by 5,998 people (2,912 women and girls, 3,086 men and boys) is promoted, Hajja, Kafr Laqif and Western Izab, month 12	0		135 participants	Achieved. 6 voluntary days were organized with a total of 135 participants (male and female). 94% of respondents reported that the community is more capable to manage solid waste to a large extent (34%) or to some extent (60%).
			IOV7.R.5 The capacities of 45 responsibility holders (23 women and 22 men) are strengthened on the management of water supply networks, the management of water resources and the right to water, with an age, gender and diversity perspective, Hajja, Kafr Laqif and Western Izab, month 12	0	45 responsibility holders	59 responsibility holders (37 males and 22 females)	Achieved. PHG carried out 20 hours training, with a total of 59 participants
			IOV1.R.6 The capacities of 23 members of the Action Group (9 women, 14 men) are strengthened to improve their standards and organizational procedures, and the quality of the humanitarian response directed at addressing the needs and demands of the Palestinian population under occupation, in line with the Core Humanitarian Standards, month 18	0	23 members		

¹⁶ It would be great if you could share with us the final report to assess the level of achievements of R6 indicators.

AVCD EM 21 - FINAL EVALUATION REPORT

Expected Results	Indicators completed	Indicators	Initial value	Expected value	Final value	Observations
international society (335 women, 300 men) are strengthened to better protect the rights of the Palestinian		IOV2.R.6 The coordination and continuation of the Action Group as a mechanism for organized, localized and effective humanitarian response in the Palestinian context is strengthened, month 18				
		IOV3.R.6 The engagement of 135 Basque responsibility holders and citizens (75 women, 60 men) is increased in demanding that duty bearers speak out and act against the systematic rights violations committed against the Palestinian population, in an exercise of coherence of policies, month 18				
		IOV4.R.6 The testimonies of Palestinians and Israelis are presented before a Basque and international audience of 500 people (260 women, 240 men), to provoke a critical reflection on the dominant perceptions on how they perceive each other, and how they perceive the situation in their respective territories, month 18				

Annex 3: Communities Profiles

Kafr Laqif

Kafr Laqif is a Palestinian village in Qalqilya Governorate located 12.04 km east of Qalqilya City. It is bordered by Hajja to the east, Wadi Qana (in Salfit Governorate) to the south, 'Azzun to the west, and Khirbet Sir and Baqat al Hatab to the north.¹⁷ According to the population census statistics of the Palestinian Center Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), the current population in Kafr Laqif is 1174.¹⁸ The total area of the village is 2,881 dunums, including 813 dunums designated as Area B, and 2,068 dunums designated as Area C.¹⁹ Of the village's lands, 2,097 dunums are considered agricultural areas, 111 dunums are registered as residential, and 229 dunums are lands confiscated by the Israeli Occupation.²⁰

According to the results of the PCBS Population, the illiteracy rate among Kafr Laqif population is approximately 5 percent, of whom 74 percent are females. Of the literate population, 13 percent could only read and write with no formal education, 25 percent had elementary education, 26 percent had preparatory education, 21 percent had secondary education, and had 10 percent completed higher education.²¹

The economy in Kafr Laqif depends on the employment sector and working in the Israeli labour market with 20 percent for each out of the economic activities, followed by the agriculture sector, trade sector industry and services with 15 percent for each.²²

Western 'Izab

Western 'Izab is a cluster of four Palestinian towns: 'Izbat Jal'ud, 'Izbat Salman, Al Mudawwar, and 'Izbat al Ashqar, located in the Qalqilya Governorate. These towns have been administered by a Rural Council since 2012 and are part of the Joint Services Council of Western Qalqilya. Western 'Izab is situated 5-6 km south of Qalqilya City and is bordered by Kafr Thulth to the east, 'Azzun Atma and Beit Amin to the south, the Green Line to the west, and Habla, Ras 'Atiya, Ad Dab'a, Ras at Tira, 'Islan, and An Nabi Elyas to the north. The total area is 8,603 dunums, with 1,105 dunums as Area B and 7,498 dunums as Area C. The constructed area is 179 dunums, while the agricultural area is 6,884 dunums.²³

Demographic Profile²⁴

As of 2023, the population of Western 'Izab is the following distribution:

- 'Izbat Jal'ud: 155 (88 men, 67 women)

¹⁷ ARIJ. 2013. Kafr Laqif Village Profile. http://vprofile.arij.org/qalqilya/pdfs/vprofile/kafrlaqif_vp_en.pdf

¹⁸ PCBS. 2023. Projected Mid-Year Population for Qalqilya Governorate by Locality 2017-2026. https://www.pcbs.gov.ps/statisticsIndicatorsTables.aspx?lang=en&table_id=700

¹⁹ ARIJ. 2013. Kafr Laqif Village Profile. http://vprofile.arij.org/qalqilya/pdfs/vprofile/kafrlaqif_vp_en.pdf

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Ibid.

²² Localities in Qalqilya Governorate by Type of Locality and Population Estimates, 2017-2021. http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/_Rainbow/Documents/QalqilyaE.html. Data recovered on 21/02/2020

²³ ARIJ. 2013. Western 'Izab Profile.

²⁴ Localities in Qalqilya Governorate by Type of Locality and Population Estimates, 2017-2021. http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/_Rainbow/Documents/QalqilyaE.html. Data recovered on 21/02/2020

- 'Izbat Salman: 949 (490 men, 459 women)
- Al Mudawwar: 371 (193 men, 178 women)
- 'Izbat al Ashqar: 478 (256 men, 222 women)

The population includes 683 residents of Area C and 169 registered refugees, with 79 women and 89 men. 64% of households have five or more members. However, looking at the projections for the population in 2023 we can see that the population is going to rise

- 'Izbat Jal'ud: 165
- 'Izbat Salman: 1013
- Al Mudawwar: 396
- 'Izbat al Ashqar: 510

Socio-economic Profile²⁵

Agriculture employs 40% of the workforce, followed by the Israeli labour market (25%) and public sector (15%). Unemployment is 15%, with women comprising only 16% of the workforce. Land confiscation and settlement expansion heavily impact the community.

Situation by Sector

Protection²⁶

Western Izab faces severe restrictions due to settlements and the separation wall, with 87.2% of land under Israeli control. Land confiscation totals 1,146 dunums, isolating agricultural lands. Military checkpoints and army incursions disrupt daily life.

Productive Means²⁷

Agriculture remains the main livelihood with 6,884 dunums of land, though livestock farming has declined. Cattle farming has grown, but poultry faces competition from Israeli products. Water supply and land access are major challenges.

Water, Sanitation, and Environment²⁸

Western 'Izab is connected to a public water supply but needs infrastructure improvements. Sanitation relies on black wells and septic pits, except in 'Izbat Salman, which has a sewerage network. Waste management is handled by the Joint Solid Waste Management Council.

Education²⁹

²⁵ Vulnerability Profile of Palestinian Communities, OCHA, 2016.

²⁶ Ibid.

²⁷ ARIJ. 2013. Western 'Izab Profile.

²⁸ Ibid.

²⁹ Ibid.

The town has two public schools needing facility upgrades, especially bathrooms and open areas. There is a higher dropout rate for girls after secondary education due to safety concerns. The lack of school counsellors is also problematic.

Health³⁰

Health services are limited to a mobile clinic, with no specialized or emergency services. The nearest hospital is 6 km away in Qalqiliya. Women's health services and support for children with disabilities are inadequate.

Gender-related Concerns³¹

Women face challenges like limited public voice, inheritance issues, and domestic violence. Family-imposed restrictions and social norms limit their access to employment and education. These issues are worsened by cultural attitudes and settler aggression.

Hajja

Hajja is a Palestinian village in the Qalqiliya Governorate, located 16 km east of Qalqiliya city. It is bordered by Kafr Qaddum and Immatin to the east, Al Funduq and Jinsafut to the south, Kafr 'Abbush (in Tulkarem Governorate), Kafr Laqif, and Baqat al Hatab to the west, and Kur (in Tulkarem Governorate) to the north. Governed by a Rural Council since 1994, Hajja is part of the Qalqiliya Joint Services Council. The village covers 12,403 dunums, with 4,612 dunums classified as Area B and 7,791 dunums as Area C. The constructed area is 297 dunums, and the agricultural extension is 9,509 dunums.³²

Demographic Profile³³

As of 2020, the population of Hajja is 2,816, distributed as follows:

- Total population: 2,816
- Men: 1,443
- Women: 1,373
- Ages 0 to 14: 1,119
- Ages 15 to 19: 367
- Ages 20 to 64: 1,232
- Over 65: 98

About 600 people live in Area C, and there are 394 refugees (217 women and 177 men). 64% of households have five or more members. When looking at the Data of PCBS the population of Hajja Village will rise to 3005.

³⁰ Ibid.

³¹ Ibid.

³² ARIJ. 2013. Hajja Profile.

³³ Pcb. Localities in Salfit Governorate by Type of Locality and Population Estimates, 2007-2016. <http://www.pcb.gov.ps/Portals/Rainbow/Documents/SalfitE.html>. Data recovered on 06/02/2019

Socio-economic Profile³⁴

Historically, Hajja's economy was based on agriculture, but many now work in Israel or settlements, facing risks and instability. Approximately 40% work in the Israeli market, with high unemployment (20%) and significant challenges like high food prices and limited access to land and water.

Situation by Sector

Protection³⁵

Following the 1995 Oslo Accords, Hajja's land is divided into Areas B (37.2%) and C (62.8%), with Area C often subject to land confiscation and restricted access. Frequent Israeli army raids cause fear and trauma, particularly among children, women, and the elderly.

Productive Means³⁶

Agriculture remains crucial, with 9,509 dunums of land used for olive trees, vines, fruit trees, and cereals, despite declines due to land loss and other challenges. Livestock farming continues but has decreased, and poultry farming faces competition from Israeli products.

Water, Sanitation, and the Environment³⁷

Hajja's public water network, installed in 2009, serves all homes but suffers from losses and supply cuts. Sanitation is provided by a sewerage network covering 70% of homes, with the remainder using black pits and septic tanks.

Education³⁸

Hajja has four schools with about 800 students and 60 teachers, facing issues like overcrowded classrooms and inadequate infrastructure. The male secondary school offers agricultural training but lacks practical facilities, and university students face challenges due to military checkpoints.

Health³⁹

Hajja has a public health centre providing basic services three days a week, but lacks an ambulance service, making emergency transport difficult. The community also lacks psychiatric and psychosocial support services, with a PMRS mobile clinic visiting biweekly.

Gender-related Concerns⁴⁰

³⁴ Vulnerability Profile of Palestinian Communities, OCHA, 2016

³⁵ Ibid.

³⁶ ARIJ. 2013. Hajja Profile.

³⁷ ARIJ. 2013. Hajja Profile.

³⁸ ARIJ. 2013. Hajja Profile.

³⁹ ARIJ. 2013. Hajja Profile.

⁴⁰ ARIJ. 2013. Hajja Profile.

Women face challenges such as limited public voice, inheritance issues, and domestic violence, including a high rate of rape within marriage. Social norms and family-imposed restrictions limit women's access to employment and education.

Deir Istiya

Deir Istiya is a Palestinian town in Salfit Governorate, located 6.62 km north of Salfit City. It is bordered by multiple villages and Israeli settlements, including Kafr Laqif, Jinsafut, and Immatin to the north, and Haris and Qarawat Bani Hassan to the south. The total area of the town is 34,129 dunums, with 5,848 dunums classified as Area B and 28,281 dunums as Area C. The built-up area covers 492 dunums, and the agricultural area covers 16,807 dunums.⁴¹

Demographic Profile⁴²

The population of Deir Istiya is 3,817 (PCBS 2016), with 1,920 men and 1,897 women. The age distribution is as follows:

- Less than 15 years: 1,485
- 15 to 64 years: 2,115
- Above 65 years: 214

Access to Services⁴³

Deir Istiya has access to electrical, water, and telecommunication networks, serving all residents efficiently. Around 5% of the population receives social assistance from various Palestinian ministries. The town lacks a master plan.

Transportation⁴⁴

Public transportation is limited to regular collective taxis available only during the day. The nearest city, Salfit, is 11 km away. For agricultural tools and meat, residents travel to Bidia, 15 km away.

Education⁴⁵

Deir Istiya is served by four schools:

- Deir Istiya Co-educated Secondary School
- Deir Istiya Girls' Secondary School
- Deir Istiya Girls' Elementary Higher School
- Deir Istiya Boys' Elementary School

⁴¹ ARIJ. 2013. Deir Istiya Profile.

⁴² PCBS. Localities in Salfit Governorate by Type of Locality and Population Estimates, 2007-2016. <http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/Rainbow/Documents/SalfitE.html>. Data retrieved on 06/02/2019

⁴³ Vulnerability Profile of Palestinian Communities, OCHA, 2016

⁴⁴ ARIJ. 2013. Deir Istiya Profile.

⁴⁵ Ibid.

The schools, managed by the Ministry of Education, provide regular services with an average classroom size ranging from 16.42 to 22.09 students.

Health⁴⁶

The town has a health centre managed by the Ministry of Health, a private pharmacy, and private medical professionals. There is no resident ambulance service, and emergency services are located 11 km away in Salfit. The health centre provides primary care and chronic disease management three days a week, but specialized treatments are not available locally.

Wastewater Management⁴⁷

There is no comprehensive wastewater network in Deir Istiya, with most households using cesspits for wastewater discharge. A small sewage network serves 25 houses in the old city. Private trucks provide cleaning services at a cost, and there is no designated area for wastewater discharge, leading to environmental contamination.

Socio-economic Profile⁴⁸

Deir Istiya's economy relies on agriculture and employment, with recent years showing a shift towards seeking employment opportunities in settlements. About 50% of the labour force is employed in Palestinian areas, 26% in agriculture, and 10% in Israel or settlements. Unemployment affects 30% of the population, particularly women.

Situation by Sector

Protection Concerns⁴⁹

The town faces significant challenges due to Israeli settlement expansion, land confiscation, and the construction of the separation barrier. The settlements have restricted access to agricultural lands, leading to economic hardships and abandonment of farming activities.

Livelihoods⁵⁰

Agricultural activities have declined due to access restrictions, land confiscation, and security risks. Farmers face difficulties maintaining agricultural resources and dealing with wild animals damaging crops.

Education⁵¹

The town's schools do not meet accessibility standards for people with disabilities. Despite this, no significant drop-out rates or educational attainment issues have been reported.

⁴⁶ Ibid.

⁴⁷ Ibid.

⁴⁸ Ibid.

⁴⁹ Vulnerability Profile of Palestinian Communities, OCHA, 2016

⁵⁰ ARIJ. 2013. Deir Istiya Profile.

⁵¹ Ibid.

Health⁵²

Health services are limited, with no resident ambulance and long waiting times for emergency services. The use of cesspits contributes to an unhealthy environment, posing health risks.

Additionally, the population faces psychosocial issues due to movement restrictions, economic hardships, and lack of safety. There are no specialized mental health services in the town, and coping strategies are primarily individual.

Shelter⁵³

Most shelters are in good condition, with minimal demolition orders in Area C. There is an average of 3 to 5 people per room, but shelter is not a major protection concern.

Gender-related Concerns⁵⁴

Women face barriers to employment and education, including cultural attitudes, economic conditions, and gender-based violence (GBV). GBV manifests in various forms, adversely affecting women's psychosocial well-being.

Kifl Haris

Kifl Haris is a Palestinian town in the Salfit Governorate, located 4.57 km north of Salfit city. It is bordered by Qira and Marda to the east, Salfit city to the south, Haris and Deir Istiya to the west, and Zeita Jamma'in (Nablus Governorate) to the north. Since 1999, Kifl Haris has been governed by a municipality and is part of the Joint Services Council of East Salfit. The town has various healthcare, educational, and infrastructure plans. The total area is 9,302 dunums, with 3,919 dunums classified as Area B and 5,393 dunums as Area C. The built-up and agricultural areas cover 6,500 dunums.⁵⁵

Demographic Profile⁵⁶

As of 2019, the population of Kifl Haris is 4,243, distributed as follows:

- Total population: 4,243
- Men: 2,107
- Women: 2,136
- Ages 0 to 14: 1,824
- Ages 15 to 19: 445
- Ages 20 to 64: 1,776
- Over 65: 198

⁵² Ibid.

⁵³ Ibid.

⁵⁴ Ibid.

⁵⁵ ARIJ. 2013. Kifl Haris Profile.

⁵⁶ PCBS. Localities in Salfit Governorate by Type of Locality and Population Estimates, 2007-2016. <http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/Rainbow/Documents/SalfitE.html>. Data retrieved on 06/02/2019

Around 250 residents live in Area C, and 121 people have refugee status, with 74 of them (61.2%) being women. Additionally, 13 people are not registered as refugees. 61% of households have five or more members.

Socioeconomic Profile⁵⁷

Kifl Haris's economy relies significantly on the public sector, which employs 30% of the workforce. Other sectors include commerce (22%), agriculture (15%), Israeli labour market (15%), industry (10%), and services (8%). Despite these figures, focus groups and local authorities perceive that Kifl Haris has a high proportion of labour in settlements. Unemployment is around 12%, with women making up only 20% of the employed population. The town has more skilled workers compared to neighbouring areas. Social services support 78 families with benefits from the Ministry of Social Affairs. Despite better economic conditions, residents face severe protection issues from settler aggression and military incursions.

Situation by Sector

Protection⁵⁸

Following the 1995 Oslo Accords, Kifl Haris's land is divided into Areas B and C. Area B covers 3,919 dunums (42%), while Area C covers 5,383 dunums (58%). Area C faces severe restrictions, including land confiscation for settlement expansion and the construction of infrastructure such as Highway 505. Settler aggression includes attacks on agricultural properties and harassment during religious visits to local Jewish sanctuaries. These incursions cause fear and disruption, particularly at night. Military checkpoints further restrict movement, and the construction of the separation wall threatens additional land loss. B'Tselem and the Municipality document human rights violations, but residents fear reprisals for reporting incidents.

Livelihoods⁵⁹

Kifl Haris is less dependent on agriculture than other communities, with a significant public work sector. The town has 6,500 dunums of cultivable land, primarily for olive trees. Livestock farming, including sheep, goats, and poultry, continues but has declined due to settlement expansion and grazing land loss. Beekeeping has also decreased. Farming families face challenges from wild boars, competition with large firms, contraband products, and high water and feed prices.

Water, Sanitation, and Environment⁶⁰

Kifl Haris is connected to a public water supply network, but the average consumption is only 66 liters per capita per day, below the WHO recommended level of 100 liters. The water network suffers from significant losses (35%) and frequent cuts during dry months. The town has a 300 m³ water tank and around 50 domestic rainwater collection tanks. Sanitation relies on cesspits and septic tanks, with wastewater often discharged into nearby valleys, causing

⁵⁷ ARIJ. 2013. Kifl Haris Profile.

⁵⁸ Vulnerability Profile of Palestinian Communities, OCHA, 2016

⁵⁹ ARIJ. 2013. Kifl Haris Profile.

⁶⁰ Ibid.

environmental issues. Solid waste management is handled by the Joint Services Council of East Salfit, with waste collected twice a week and disposed of in an uncontrolled landfill.

*Education*⁶¹

Kifl Haris has four schools: a female primary school, a male primary school, a female secondary school, and a male secondary school. Students pursuing vocational training or university education must travel to Salfit, Nablus, or Ramallah, facing challenges from military checkpoints. The female primary school, in particular, is at risk of settler attacks. Recently, the male secondary school underwent improvements to expand classrooms. The average class size is 23-25 students, with a maximum of 37. Focus groups highlighted the need for better toilet facilities and overall infrastructure improvements.

*Healthcare*⁶²

Kifl Haris has a public primary care centre offering basic services, including maternal and child care, once a week. A medical laboratory operates in cooperation with the Palestinian Red Crescent. For specialized care or emergencies, patients travel to hospitals in Salfit or Nablus, facing transport issues due to roadblocks and military checkpoints. The community lacks psychiatric and psychosocial support services, with significant social stigma preventing the discussion of mental health issues. Focus groups identified shortages of medicine and laboratory facilities as critical needs, along with the absence of an ambulance.

⁶¹ Ibid.

⁶² Ibid.