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Palestine





I. General Information

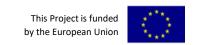






Lead applicant / Company:	Oxfam		
Start & End Dates	Start Date:	End Date:	Duration (Months):
	1-8-2020	31-7-2023	36
Total Budget (€):	1,255,000		
EU contribution (€):	1,000,000		
Country:	Palestine, Gaza Strip		
Partners:	PALESTINIAN ENVIRONMENTAL FRIENDS (PEF)		











II. Specific information

Overall objective:	To contribute to the promotion of resilient and efficient water solutions to climate change challenges in OPT		
Specific objectives:	To strengthen water resource management through an innovative water management model for agriculture in the Gaza Strip		
Target Area:	Al Fukhary , Eastern area of Khan Younis in the Gaza Strip, Palestine		
Target population:	The project will directly benefit Al Fukhari farmers' community including 200 small and medium scale vulnerable farmers (170 men, 30 women) in Al Fukhari, Khan Younis Governorate and their families who will benefit from improved access to irrigation water, agricultural inputs, irrigation systems, climate-smart agricultural inputs and techniques.		
Key problems addressed:	 Water scarcity in Gaza strip as a main challenge facing farmers, buying safe irrigation water, overburdening vulnerable farmers Electricity shortage to operate the wells Lack of knowledge of targeted communities on health and environmental issues, practices and safety procedures on RTWWR An in-depth understanding of the impact of climate change on agricultural in Gaza is needed, investigating best agriculture practices, evidence-based recommendations and insights to stakeholders supporting the agricultural sector 		
Main outputs:	 A new model of treated wastewater re-use and irrigation operating and providing efficient irrigation water resources to targeted farmers through recovery wells around the treated wastewater (TWW) infiltration basin in Al Fukhary Innovative climate-smart agriculture models promoted, and agriculture inputs provided to targeted farmers Irrigation and climate change challenges are addressed through evidence-based advocacy actions Farmers and communities are better informed about health and environmental knowledge, practices and safety procedures related to RTWWR Sustainable and cost-efficient governance model operating with high quality control standards by committed farmers and relevant stakeholders Stakeholders and actors in Gaza, the West Bank and MENA region exchange key learnings of the model including innovative approaches used to demonstrate the feasibility and replicability of climate smart agriculture and efficient use of water. 		







II. Specific information

Beneficiaries:

150-200 farmers, 300 Donum, 150 CFW workers, 20 Operators, 5,000 F/M individuals (public awareness) and 20% of the entire Gaza population (400,000/ mass media)

Key Stakeholders involved:

The Palestinian Water Authority (PWA), The Environmental Quality Authority (EQA), The Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), The Coastal Municipal Water Utility (CMWU, The Ministry of Health (MoH), Al Fukhari municipality, Al Fukhari Association

Notes about the project that you might see important:

The design of the project is premised on the Humanitarian Development Nexus through addressing farmer's needs for irrigation water to maintain their livelihoods and Promote adaptation to climate change as it will contribute to:

- Connecting vulnerable small and medium-scale farmers and communities to more sustainable, replicable and scalable climate-smart and environmentally friendly practices beyond the project's period in other parts of the Gaza Strip
- Reducing stresses on groundwater from current agricultural demand. Groundwater quality will be improved by decreasing stress on ground water wells, providing an alternative source of water to support agricultural productivity. The project will also contribute to reducing sea pollution and sea water intrusion into groundwater, since the extraction from agricultural wells will be offset by TWW contributing to reducing groundwater deterioration.
- To reducing global warming and greenhouse gas emissions, thus improving the quality of life and reducing air pollution in Gaza Since the recovery wells will be operated by solar systems to mitigate electricity shortages in Gaza











II. Specific information

Achieved:

- Project steering committee was formulated, and ongoing coordination is in place
- Hydrogeological and hydraulic modeling study to apply a recovery wells technology model:
- Gender analysis
- Establishing both the farmers committee and women committee
- Socioeconomic study was conducted with an aim to have adequate information about the perspectives of the
 population about using the TWW and their readiness to be engaged at any awareness campaign related to TWW

Current situation

Ongoing:

- Developing awareness campaign strategy and orientation sessions
- Baseline data collection process
- Farmers' selection process for both the irrigation purposes and climate-smart agriculture models is ongoing
- Tender development documents for the two recovery wells and the supply system

Next step:

- Construct Treated wastewater (TWW) recovery wells with carrier line
- Develop a legal framework and Tariff system
- Build the capacity of targeted farmers and workers on the practical application of RTWWR for irrigation









1. preparation for the demo project,

- Announcement of the project in the target community
- Oxfam established the PSC with its 7 members including partners and stakeholders
- Oxfam and the PSC established the technical PSC with its 9 members
- Gender analyses was conducted
- Socio-economic study
- Community engagement activities inducing formulating of the community committees

2. Mobilising resources

- The establishment of a community based RTWWR monitoring and management committee and the women's committee in Al Fukhary
- PSC members added value due to the high level of awareness and solid experience of each member
- Capacities of Oxfam team and partner staff

3. Process

- The intervention ensured coordination amongst stakeholders at the institutional and operational levels
- farmers and community committees were engaged effectively in the Gender analysis and the socioeconomic study
- Selected community committee members have been informed and oriented clearly about their roles and responsibilities during the project and their role to enhance the sustainability of the action beyond the project's lifetime.
- Community committee members have been effectively engaged in the mapping of the agriculture land and all stages of farmers selection

4. Implementation

Overall, the implementation of the project's activities in year one was implemented according to the project's workplan. However, the below main challenges were faced by the project team.

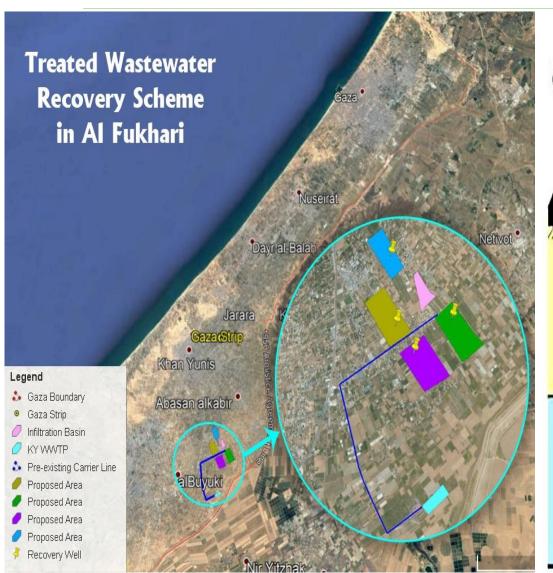
- The lockdown and restrictions on movement imposed by local authorities following the high spread of Covid-19 in communities, Oxfam and PEF adapted their ways of working and remotely coordinated and followed up on the implementation of the project's activities
- May 2021 escalation in Gaza Strip and the associated implications on the ground including restriction on movement and restriction imposed related to the data collection and working in the ARA.
- Dual use materials needed for the Wells construction
- Data collection related of the Water source logical prediction and future expectations needed to apply the hydrogeological model

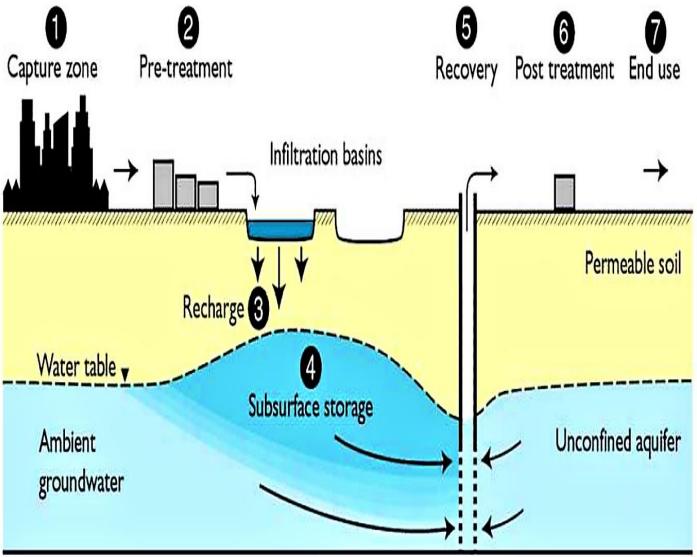
V. Images













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