



## PARC NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER . NOVEMBER . DECEMBER

### Our Vision

A pioneering institution with a national identity and regional orientation, committed to the causes of rural areas, agriculture, national liberation, and social justice.

"Investing in agriculture is investing in the future of humanity."

We work to develop the agricultural sector, enhance farmers' resilience, reach poor and marginalized groups, mobilize and develop the potential of rural populations to enable them to take control of their resources.

### Our Development Goal

To build a resilient and thriving Palestinian rural areas by:

- Strengthening Agricultural Practices.
- Enhancing Farmers' Resilience.
- Empowering Marginalized Communities.
- Promoting Food Sovereignty.

Lobbying And Advocacy Department  
info@pal-arc.org

24 December

# INTRODUCTION

This quarterly newsletter highlights the key interventions of the Agricultural Development Association (PARC) during the last quarter of 2024. Despite the immense challenges facing Palestine, including escalating risks to humanitarian work, PARC has steadfastly carried out its mission by delivering diverse interventions aimed at meeting urgent needs and enhance the resilience of Palestinian communities, particularly in the most affected and marginalized areas.

The ongoing war on Gaza, bringing devastating consequences to the Palestinians and infrastructure. According to the latest statistics, this war has resulted in unprecedented human losses, with 45,317 victims, over 70% of whom are women and children. Among the victims were more than 300 humanitarian aid workers. The crisis of displacement has also deepened, with recurring evacuations and significant difficulties in providing basic necessities such as food, water, and shelter.

In the West Bank, violence has intensified, with settlers and Israeli forces escalating attacks. Over 842 Palestinians, including 168 children, have lost their lives, while repeated military incursions into towns and refugee camps continue to deepen suffering.

These events coincide with a deteriorating socioeconomic situation. Unemployment and poverty rates have risen sharply, incomes have severely declined, and the reliance on humanitarian aid has surged. This has made it increasingly difficult for Palestinian CSOs to implement strategic development interventions aimed at empowerment and progress, given the instability and insecurity affecting the population, along with restrictions on accessing targeted areas due to war, blockades, and systemic destruction.

This issue of the newsletter showcases PARC's activities and interventions, which range from emergency responses to beneficiaries' needs and resilience-building initiatives, to developmental projects aimed at enhancing the agricultural sector. It also highlights efforts to empower farmers and rural communities through livelihood support, food security enhancement, and advocacy campaigns. These campaigns document Israeli violations, defend farmers' rights, and ensure access to their lands and markets.

**We hope this newsletter inspires continued solidarity and action to strengthen Palestinian society's resilience and protect its rights amid these unprecedented challenges.**

# PARC'S HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE EFFORTS AMID THE ONGOING WAR ON GAZA STRIP



For the Months of Oct. and Nov. 2024



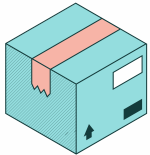
# WASH and sanitation sector



**Tank cup 1424**



**Beneficiaries**



**Hygiene Kit 194**



**1086**



**78 Stations**



**50000**



**38 Bathroom maintenance**



**14106**



**70 Providing Bathrooms**



**24384**



**78 Tanks**



**26260**



**Supplying and Installing Two Water Purification unit and Solar Energy Systems to be Benefited From 8300**



**Waste Collection 21**

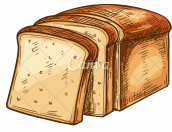


**52000**



**12 Training Sessions for  
40 Hygiene Promoters  
20 Maintenance and Cleaning Workers  
480 Hygiene Promotion activities and sessions**

## Food Security Sector



**Bundle of bread 2800**



**13440**



**Food Parcel 2031**



**10155**



**Agricultural inputs 111**



**901**

## Shelter and Non-Food items (NFI) Sector



**Clothing Packages for 4000 Beneficiaries**



**Tents Benefiting 880 individuals**

## Community Initiatives



**University Services : Legal and Psychological Support for 10,967 Citizens**



**Primary Care Services 23,077 Beneficiaries**

## Multi - purpose Cash Assistance



**Shopping vouchers for 4785 Beneficiaries**

**Number of Beneficiary Cases 326,496**

# Humanitarian Response Interventions For November 2024



**Tank Cup 5043.4**  
**52313 Beneficiaries**



**Constructions and Maintenance of Mobile Restrooms 107**  
**31418 Beneficiaries**



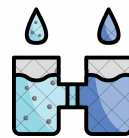
**Hygiene Kit 2803**  
**15416 Beneficiaries**



**Maintenance of a Solid Waste Container 32**  
**12197 Beneficiaries**



**Maintenance of a Water Desalination Plant 40**  
**46000 Beneficiaries**



**1 Construction of a Water Desalination Plant**  
**20000 Beneficiaries**



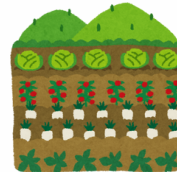
**Food Parcel 24709**  
**158995 Beneficiaries**



**Vegetable Basket 344**  
**2912 Beneficiaries**



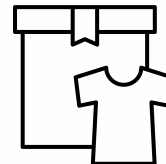
**Bag of Flour 8582**  
**47201 Beneficiaries**



**Food Parcel 88**  
**492 Beneficiaries**



**Hot Meals 960**  
**5280 Beneficiaries**



**Clothing Parcel 538**  
**2959 Beneficiaries**



**Medical Clinics**  
**49685 Beneficiary Case**



**Citizen Services Center**  
**17250 Beneficiaries**



**Community Services Center - Educational service initiatives**  
**900 Beneficiary Case**



**Community Protection Committees Support Program - 7 Local Committees Khan Younis Governorate**  
**40 Beneficiary Case**

**Shopping Vouchers 616**  
**3388 Beneficiary Case**



**Number of Beneficiary Cases 443,351**

---

## PARC's Key Interventions in the West Bank: Oct.–Dec. 2024



---

# Increasing benefits for Women, Youth, and Small-Scale Farmers as Change agent in the Fresh Vegetables Value Chain.



As part of strengthening the agricultural sector's role in achieving economic and social development, the Agricultural Development Association (PARC) has launched an ambitious project aimed at supporting the private sector involved in the fresh vegetables value chain. The project targets multiple areas in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, including Qalqilya, Tulkarm, Jenin, Tubas, the Jordan Valley, and Gaza. The project is funded by DGD.

This project represents a transformative step toward empowering women, youth, and small-scale farmers to become change leaders in the agricultural sector while strengthening the private sector's role as a driving force for sustainable development in rural communities.

## Key Interventions

### **1. Installation of a 50% Electric Shading System at Diab Abu Rob Nursery – Zababdeh, Jenin, this intervention aimed to:**

- Improve seedling quality and increase productivity while reducing the cost.
- Increase the number of employee and hiring a permanent agricultural engineer, and reducing seedling costs for farmers in the first year.

### **2. Preparation and Installation of a Concrete Floor for a Packing and Sorting Station – Burqin, Jenin:**

## Project Objectives

**Enhance productivity and improve the quality of agricultural products.**

**Improve the economic conditions of women, youth, and small-scale farmers.**

**Promote sustainability in the agricultural sector through the introduction of modern techniques.**



- Support Al Alam Top Agricultural Production and Marketing Company in improving the facility's infrastructure.
- Enhance working conditions.
- Ensure permanent employment contracts, including full-time jobs for two women.

### **3. Provide New Agricultural Technology – Aba Town, Jenin:**

- Conduct agricultural demonstrations using innovative techniques, such as isolated farming environments with concrete and blocks.
- Increase productivity, reduce diseases, and decrease pesticide usage.

### **Expected Impact**

- Improve the quality of agricultural production.
- Create sustainable job opportunities for women and youth in the agricultural sector.
- Support local farmers through modern techniques and lower costs.
- Promote sustainability and innovation in the fresh vegetables value chain.



# Enhancing Sustainable Livelihoods and Inclusive Economic Opportunities in Rural Communities in the OPT, ARDI II.”



Agricultural Development Association (PARC) organized an advanced training program aimed at developing participants' skills in home poultry farming and using sustainable feed alternatives. The training came as part of the project "Enhancing Sustainable Livelihoods and Inclusive Economic Opportunities in Rural Communities in the OPT," funded by the Luxembourg Ministry of Foreign Affairs (LUX ARDI II).

The course took place over five days, from November 11, 2024, to November 21, 2024, at the Na'im Khader Agricultural Vocational Training Center in Al-Zababda, Jenin. It included 25 training hours, split into 15 hours of theoretical lessons and 10 hours of practical sessions. The training aimed to enhance the quality and accessibility of vocational training services for youth, women, technicians, and farmers in rural areas, with a focus on empowering them with sustainable agriculture skills and developing their technical abilities.

The training targeted pioneering male and female farmers, 26 participants has attended the training and enabled the participants to acquire advanced skills, supporting the project's goals of improving livelihoods and creating inclusive economic opportunities in rural communities, with a focus on sustainable solutions that enhance food security and self-sufficiency.

# ENHANCING THE RESILIENCE OF CONFLICT-AFFECTED VULNERABLE PALESTINIAN YOUTH- AND WOMEN-HEADED HOUSEHOLDS IN GAZA AND WEST BANK (MASAFER YATTA)



In 2024, the Agricultural Development Association (PARC) embarked on a transformative initiative aimed at strengthening the resilience of vulnerable Palestinian families, particularly those threatened by displacement. The project targeted 197 families in 11 communities in Masafer Yatta, Hebron Governorate. This effort aligns with PARC's longstanding mission of over 40 years to support marginalized and conflict-affected households in Gaza and the West Bank.

## Project Objectives and Scope

The project focused on bolstering the social, economic, and environmental resilience of families through:

- Enhancing livelihood capacities.
- Providing technical agricultural support, particularly in livestock farming.
- Improving productivity and marketing of agricultural products, a primary income source for most families in Masafer Yatta.

This project also aimed to fulfill the third strategic goal of PARC's resilience program: enhancing community resilience, responding to emergencies, and adapting to climate and environmental changes affecting farmers and livestock herders.

### **Community Collaboration**

From the project's inception, PARC collaborated with local community representatives, institutions in Masafer Yatta and Yatta City, and the Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture. This partnership ensured high-quality implementation based on technical and community-driven approaches.

### **Funding and Partnerships**

The project was funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and implemented in partnership with Save the Children (SC).

## **Key Interventions (2024)**

### **Capacity Building**

Trained 112 livestock farmers in livestock breeding, dairy production, and marketing.

### **Infrastructure and Input Support:**

- Rehabilitated livestock shelters and provided farming inputs, veterinary supplies, and equipment, including automatic milking machines, water tanks, shearing machines, and solar energy systems.
- Distributed and planted over 12 tons of forage seeds for 125 livestock farmers.

### **Emergency Assistance**

- Distributed 591 food baskets to 197 families for three months.
- Provided 591 fresh vegetable and fruit vouchers to 197 families for three months.
- Supplied winter clothing to over 850 children aged 0–15 years.



## Climate-Smart Initiatives

- Executed three community-based initiatives, including planting trees, installing eco-friendly irrigation systems, and fencing green areas to combat climate change risks.

The interventions had a significant positive impact on the targeted families and communities. Notably, food basket and winter clothing distributions provided critical support during a time of heightened economic and social challenges. These activities addressed urgent needs amidst ongoing closures, unemployment, and displacement pressures exacerbated by the ongoing war on Gaza.



## Promoting Community Cohesion Through Community – Led Initiatives in The West Bank



The Agricultural Development Association (PARC), in collaboration with Christian Aid, announces the launch of the "Promoting Community Cohesion Through Community – Led Initiatives in The West Bank." project. Extending over two years (2024–2026), the project seeks to foster social cohesion by supporting initiatives led by local communities in partnership with community protection committees (CPCs).

The event, officially inaugurated on December 15, 2024, in Nablus, emphasized the importance of engaging community members in shaping and executing practical steps to achieve common goals.

PARC collaborates closely with CPCs to initiate impactful projects. The project provides financial and technical assistance, manages operational workflows, and oversees the project's stages with regular evaluations to ensure tangible outcomes.



This project exemplifies the joint commitment of PARC and Christian Aid to empower local communities, enabling them to drive transformative change and achieve long-lasting, sustainable development. It underscores a shared vision of placing citizens at the core of development efforts to create resilient and cohesive rural communities in the West Bank.

# PARC Concludes Second Phase of Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) Training in the West Bank



The Agricultural Development Association (PARC) concluded the second phase of EORE training under the "Emergency Awareness of the Risks of Occupation Waste in the West Bank" project, funded by the Danish Refugee Council-DRC. The training addressed the risks of Explosive Ordnance (EO) contamination, aiming to enhance the capacity of local communities to manage these threats.



Over five days, 13 members of Community Protection Committees (CPCs) from Hebron and Bethlehem participated in sessions focused on raising awareness of EO risks and safe handling methods. The training also emphasized the vital role of CPCs in spreading awareness and protecting communities.

**This initiative reflects PARC's commitment to empowering local communities to reduce risks and create a safer environment in the West Bank.**



As part of PARC efforts to support rural communities and enhance their resilience in addressing developmental challenges, the Agricultural Development Association (PARC), with support from the German Government through the German Development Bank (KfW) and in partnership with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), implemented a project targeting central communities in the Jordan Valley. The project focuses on improving social cohesion and building the capacities of rural communities through two main interventions:

**STRENGTHENING RESILIENT  
RURAL COMMUNITIES AND  
SOCIAL COHESION IN THE  
JORDAN VALLEY**



## 1. Establishing a Community Center in Al-Jiftlik:

- Constructing a modern community center to serve as PARC's development interventions in the Jordan Valley.
- Providing workspace for institutions and civil society organizations operating in the Jordan Valley.
- Acting as a hub for local residents by organizing training workshops, community activities, lectures, and events aimed at enhancing participation and skill development.

## 2. Conducting a Comprehensive Study of Challenges and Needs:

The study covered six local communities in the central Jordan Valley region, aiming to accurately identify the needs and challenges facing residents. It seeks to effectively guide developmental efforts to address urgent needs.

## Expected Impact of the Project

- Strengthening the role of community institutions by providing a modern facility to support their work in the Jordan Valley.
- Offering a civic space for interaction and learning.
- Achieving sustainable social cohesion by effectively addressing the population's needs.

### The role of PARC

Implementing the construction of the community center.

Conducting a comprehensive field study of challenges and needs.

**This project reflects the commitment of funding and partnering entities, alongside PARC, to support rural communities in the central Jordan Valley and empower them to achieve comprehensive and sustainable development that meets the aspirations of their residents.**

## **OUR LAND” CAMP“**

### **“ENGAGING YOUTH, WOMEN, FARMERS, AND GOV-OFFICIALS IN LOCAL DEVELOPMENT LEADERSHIP”**

The Agricultural Development Association (PARC), organized a three-day camp titled “our Land” aimed at empowering youth, women, and farmers to actively participate in local planning and development processes. This activity came as part of Environmental and Climate Justice Program in Palestine (ECJP) implemented in partnership with We Effect. The program is funded by the Swedish Consulate General in Jerusalem.

The camp brought together 31 young men and women from various governorates in the West Bank, alongside women activists and young farmers. It sought to enhance their ability to influence environmental and climate policies in Palestine by equipping them with the necessary knowledge and skills to shape developmental policies.

The event featured workshops designed to facilitate participant engagement in local planning from an environmental and climate perspective. The program also aimed to raise awareness of environmental and climate justice issues by developing participants’ planning and implementation skills. Additionally, it aimed to build networks among participants to foster future cooperation and improve dialogue between youth, women, and local decision-makers.



A key highlight of the camp was the use of the "Social Transformation" methodology in workshops, which created safe logical spaces to encourage participants to engage in community-based environmental discussions. This approach helped enhance participants' capabilities for active community participation, introduced them to concepts of planning and management, and emphasized the importance of integrating gender perspectives into planning processes. A focus was on representing all societal components in formulating local plans to promote environmental justice.



## "ENHANCING LIVELIHOODS, FOOD SECURITY, AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH IN THE WEST BANK AND GAZA STRIP, PALESTINE"

The Project is a 16-month initiative (starting in September 2024). The project targets key areas in the West Bank (Jenin, Nablus, Tubas) and the central Gaza Strip (Khan Yunis, Deir al-Balah), funded by the Netherlands Representative Office and implemented by the Agricultural Development Association (PARC) and implemented in partnership with the Palestinian Economic and Social Development Centre (ESDC), the Palestinian Agricultural Cooperatives Union (PACU), and the Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture.

**The project focuses on developing value chains for three main crops:**



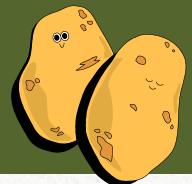
**Almonds and Apricots in the West Bank, targeting 140 farmers with 700 dunums of land (including 250 dunums of new land).**



**Tomatoes in Gaza, targeting 220 farmers with 220 dunums of land.**



**Potatoes in both regions, targeting 280 farmers with 530 dunums of land (including 185 dunums of new land).**



PARC oversees all project activities, including conducting training for farmers to improve their productivity, providing necessary agricultural inputs such as seedlings and seeds, and supporting agricultural operations such as land preparation and fencing in the West Bank. In Gaza, the project also includes rehabilitating water sources for irrigation to ensure sustainable crop cultivation.

The project aims to strengthen the consumption and quality of local products in collaboration with partner institutions. PACU, in cooperation with PARC, works on enhancing the marketing of these products, ensuring their competitiveness and economic profitability.



By focusing on improving agricultural production, crop quality, and effective marketing, the project seeks to achieve food security and sustainable economic returns, positioning the agricultural sector as a key pillar of economic development in Palestine. The project also prioritizes supporting agricultural cooperatives, aiming to activate two existing cooperatives within PACU and establish two new ones, thus integrating cooperative farming to enhance crop cultivation.

In addition, the project includes cross-cutting interventions, such as capacity building through intensive training for staff and targeted groups, with a special emphasis on creative youth from agricultural university graduates. It supports innovative agricultural initiatives through grants to develop environmentally and economically sustainable techniques.

The project is expected to create around 1,000 job opportunities, contributing to improved rural working conditions. Additionally, it includes marketing campaigns, technical activities, and advocacy efforts to protect agricultural workers' rights and ensure a legal and dignified working environment.



## ***Enhancing Agricultural Infrastructure: Signing Agreements for New Agricultural Road Projects***

The Agricultural Development Association (PARC), represented by its Director-General Mr. Manjad Abu Jish, has signed new agreements with local partners to implement agricultural infrastructure development projects in several villages in the Ramallah and Jenin governorates.

### **Ramallah Governorate Projects**

The agreement includes the implementation of a project to excavate and rehabilitate 3.1 kilometers of agricultural roads in four villages: Kafr Ein, Aroura, Al-Nubani Farms, and Qawara Bani Zaid.

This project aims to improve access to agricultural lands, boosting productivity and reducing costs for farmers. It is part of the "Towards Green Agriculture in Palestine: Developing Comprehensive and Sustainable Models Contributing to Rural Economic Growth" program, funded by the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID).

### **Jenin Governorate Projects**

In Jenin, agreements were signed for the excavation and rehabilitation of 8.3 kilometers of agricultural roads serving 3,193 dunams in six towns: Maslia, Al-Zababda, Zbuba, Maythalun, Al-Jadida, and Marqa. The agreements were signed with the heads of the municipal and village councils of these towns, under the same program funded by AECID, implemented in partnership with FPS and the Rural Women's Development Association.

These projects aim to provide infrastructure that supports sustainable agriculture, improves working conditions for farmers, and creates economic growth opportunities in rural areas, in line with the "Towards Green Agriculture in Palestine" program's vision.



# Community-led Initiatives

**The Activities of Community Protection  
Committees- CPCs Over the Past Three Months**



## PARC Enhances the Capacities of Community Protection Committees- CPCs in Bethlehem

Agricultural Development Association (PARC) organized a training session titled "Mechanisms for Documenting Violations and Principles of International Humanitarian Law" in Bethlehem Governorate. The session targeted 23 members of the CPCs in the towns of Al-Khader and Jurat Al-Shamaa.

This training is part of the project "Enhancing Resilience and Improving Livelihoods of Farmers and Communities Vulnerable to Climate Change," funded by the World Food Programme (WFP). The training aims to empower local communities to adapt to harsh climatic conditions, with a focus on improving livelihoods and promoting agricultural sustainability.

During the training, participants discussed the significance of international humanitarian law in protecting the rights of vulnerable communities. They were also equipped with practical tools for documenting violations and advocating for farmers' rights in the face of environmental and political challenges posed by climate change.





## Community Protection Committees- CPCs: A Step Toward Strengthening Rural Resilience

PARC held a series of meetings to activate CPCs in ten locations as part of the project "Enhancing the Resilience of Palestinian Rural Households," funded by Danish Muslim Aid and implemented in partnership with Taawon.

The project aims to support rural communities in the West Bank by improving livelihoods and enhancing protection. The committees focus on engaging communities to address daily challenges, contributing to a more sustainable future for these households.



## PARC Concludes Training in Hebron to Strengthen the Capacities of Community Protection Committees

PARC concluded a training session titled "Participatory Vulnerable capacity Assessment Tool-PPCA" which targeted members of CPCs in Dura city.

This training was part of the activities under the project "Enhancing Resilience and Improving Livelihoods of Farmers and Communities Vulnerable to Climate Change," funded by the World Food Programme (WFP) and implemented in Bethlehem and Hebron Governorates.

The session aimed to strengthen the capacities of CPCs to address natural and human-made threats, including those resulting from climate change. Participants were trained on community analysis, vulnerability assessment, risk management, and developing community plans with effective solutions to these challenges.



**Together, we continue to plant the  
seeds of change for a brighter future.**

**INFO@PAL-ARC.ORG**

