The local value chain approach

Akkar, Bekaa and South ADPs

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Introduction

Objectives

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- ✓ Assess specific local value chains in Akkar, Bekaa and South
- ✓ Increase the economic net assets of the poor involved in selected value chains and improve their food security and economic well-being.
- ✓ Provide support to strengthen the ability of economically active adults to improve their income-earning capacity

Methodology

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Families were assessed using a mapping tool to gain a holistic understanding of their work and identify their main income source

All the Registered Children (RC) households involved in these value chains were contacted in order to participate in the relevant producers' groups and share the challenges that they face

Findings

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South: 3 producers groups

- Open-field vegetables farmers
- Milk producers groups
- Olive farmers

Bekaa: 3 producers groups

- Grapes farmers in central Bekaa
- Grapes farmers Zahle
- Open-field vegetables farmers in West Bekaa

In Akkar: 8 producers groups:

- 2 leafy green vegetables farmers
- 2 open-field farmers
- 2 greenhouse vegetables farmers
- 2 fishing producers groups farmers

South

South-Open-field vegetable farmers

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An average of 30 vegetable farmers attended 8 sessions in the demo plot

Key learnings:

- Identifying main insects and diseases on crops
- Planting their own seedlings (soil mix preparation, planting seeds,..)
- Setting proper irrigation plan and identifying main irrigation systems
- Applying efficient spraying, insect control and monitoring through traps, compost, etc

An average of 11 milk producers attended 10 sessions in the demo plot

Key learnings:

- Identifying economically feasible techniques to reduce the cost of production (control feeding cost) and increase the income by improving milk quality and hence its price
- Performing California Mastitis Test (CMT)
- Applying sanitization practices

An average of 11 milk producers attended 8 sessions in the demo plot

Key learnings:

- Identifying diseases and insects on olives
- Applying efficient spraying, insect control and monitoring through traps, compost, ..
- Applying effective weed control

Bekaa

Bekaa-Grape farmers

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An average of 15 farmers attended 10 sessions in the grapes demo plot (Zahle) and 14 farmers attended 8 sessions in the grapes demo plot (Central Bekaa)

Key learnings:

- Identifying main diseases and insects on grapes
- Setting proper irrigation plan and identifying main irrigation systems
- Performing soil lab analysis and setting fertilization plan
- Applying efficient spraying, insect control and monitoring through traps
- Learning about different certificates required in countries (Global GAP, SMETA, etc.).

Bekaa- Open field vegetable farmers

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An average of 19 farmers attended 7 sessions in the demo plot

Key learnings:

- Identifying main insects and diseases on vegetables
- Setting proper irrigation plan using tensiometer and identifying main irrigation systems
- Performing soil lab analysis and setting fertilization plan
- Applying efficient spraying, insect control and monitoring through traps, compost
- Record keeping

Akkar

Akkar-Greenhouse, Open-field and Leafy vegetable farmers

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- 35 farmers attended 9 training sessions in a greenhouse demo plot
- 33 attended 9 training sessions in open-field vegetable production demo plot
- 32 farmers attended 9 training sessions in leafy-green vegetable demo plot

Key learnings:

- Identifying main insects and diseases on vegetables
- Preparing greenhouses (shading net, ant-insect net, ..)
- Setting proper irrigation plan using tensiometer and identifying main irrigation systems
- Applying efficient spraying, insect control and monitoring through traps, compost

Akkar-Fishermen producers groups

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18 fishermen from Arida and another group comprising 18 fishermen in Tall-hayet attended 4 sessions (4 sea trips remaining)

Key learnings:

- Identifying new fish species that can be targeted
- Identifying new sustainable fishing techniques and tools that can be used
- Finalizing basic fishing map: identify good fishing spots in Akkar district(between Arida and Aabdeh)

Challenges and lessons learned

Questions