**Vegetable Market assessment in NW Syria**

***Agriculture Working Group (FSL Cluster-Turkey Hub)***

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Agriculture working group (FSL cluster) has conducted a market assessment for the most strategic vegetable in NW Syria to understand the accessibility and the availability of the vegetables in both seasons summer and winters and compare the prices among the two areas.

Three Key Informant Interviews (KIIS) were conducted in Each area targeted farmers, Big traders and customers. The questionnaire included question about the following information:

* Availability of the vegetable in the local market in both summer and winter seasons in both Idleb and Euphrates Shield areas in NW Syria.
* Prices of the vegetables in both seasons and areas.
* The surplus in the products at the harvesting time
* Need for vegetable products exporting
* Need for alternative local production

The data were collected by the field team and the data were analyzed accordingly.

**Key Finding of the assessment:**

**Availability**

Most of the vegetables are present in both seasons Summer and winter except the Cauliflower, Cabbage, Vabe Bean and peas which are present only in winter and not in summer, since there is no importing and the demand on these vegetable not so much

Five of the summer vegetables (Tomato, eggplant, Pepper, cucumber and zucchini) are present in winter as imported from Turkey and not from the local production because the demand on these essential vegetables are so high in all months over the year as mentioned in table 1

**Prices**

The results of the need assessment showed that variation in vegetable prices were recorded when comparing between summer and winter and in both Azaz and Idleb (Fig 1 and 2); and in general all the vegetable with higher prices in winter since most of the vegetable are produces in summer and imported in Winter from Turkey which will cause more cost for transportation. Moreover, these winter vegetables already with high prices from the origin since they are produced under greenhouses controlled conditions.

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| Table 1 | Presence in the local market in summer | Source in Summer? Local or imported? And from where? | Presence in the local market in winter | Source in winter? Local or imported? And from where? |
| Vegetable crop |
| Tomato | Yes | Local | Yes | Imported from Turkey |
| Eggplant | Yes | Local | Yes | Imported from Turkey |
| Pepper | Yes | Local | Yes | Imported from Turkey |
| Cucumber | Yes | Local | Yes | Imported from Turkey |
| Zucchini | Yes | Local | Yes | Imported from Turkey |
| Potato | Yes | Local | Yes | Imported from Turkey |
| Broad bean | Yes | Local | Yes | Local  |
| Onion | Yes | Local | Yes | Local  |
| Garlic | Yes | Local | Yes | Local  |
| Cauliflower | No |   | Yes | Local  |
| Cabbage | No |   | Yes | Local  |
| Vabe Bean | No |   | Yes | Local  |
| Peas | No |   | Yes | Local  |
| Lettuce | Yes | Local | Yes | Local  |
| Parsley | Yes | Local | Yes | Local  |
| Menth  | Yes | Local | Yes | Local  |

**Vegetable crop (s) that need certain intervention at the harvesting time:**

1. Potato
2. Tomato

**Potential interventions and support:**

1. Study of potential production of the summer crops in winter through the green houses with detailed economical study.
2. Empower the population in NW Syria to be able to purchase the vegetables and do food processing such as Tomato and pepper paste and pickles.
3. Implement sustainable food processing projects for preserving tomato and pickles.
4. Finding potential exporting corridors for potato and tomato at the production season.