

With the participation of



Liberté Égalité Fraternité RAPID RESPONSE
MECHANISM IN THE ACCESS
RESTRICTED AREAS (ARA) IN
THE GAZA STRIP

Project Details

Project Title: Rapid Response Mechanism in the Access Restricted Areas in the Gaza Strip.

Project budget: 445,000 €

Project duration: 12 months (01/11/2021 – 31/10/2022)

Partners:

Union of Agricultural Work Committees (UAWC)

Palestinian Center for Human Rights (PCHR)

No. of BNFs: 810 Households (4,455 individuals)

Location: Gaza Strip (5 Governorates)

Donor: CDCS: French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs –

Centre De Crise et de Soutien

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OVERALL PROJECT OBJECTIVE

To contribute to the protection of populations at risk in the Gaza Strip through the establishment of a Rapid Response Mechanism.

Specific Objectives:

SO (1): Establish an alert system for incidents occurring in the ARA.

SO (2): Enhance farmers and fishers' capacities to cope with protection incidents.

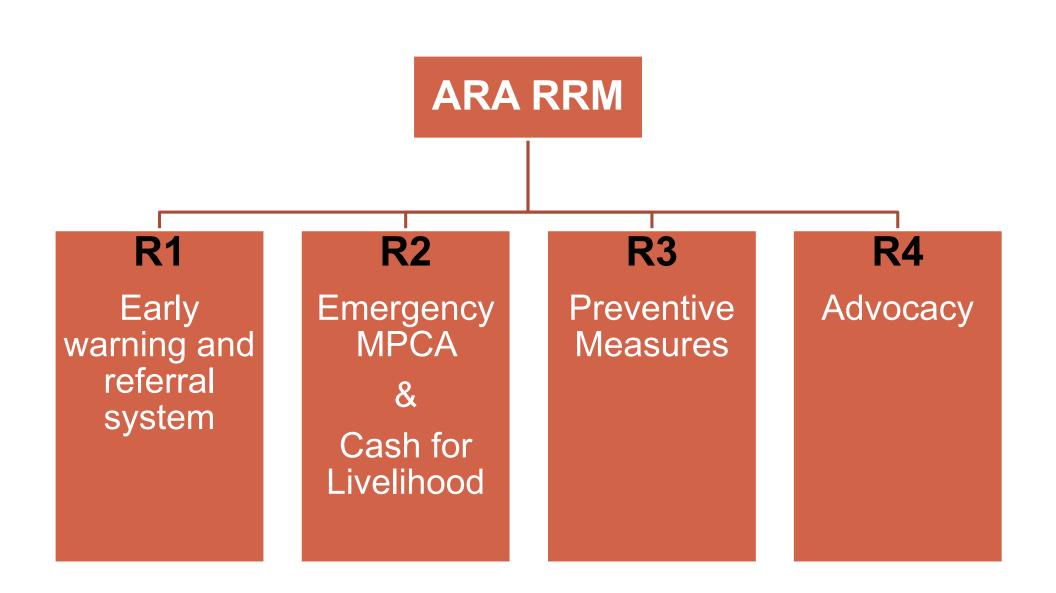
SO (3): Prevent further risks for farmers and fishers who have their livelihoods in the ARA.

SO (4): Defend farmers and fishers' rights to work and access livelihoods in the ARA

TARGET BENEFICIARIES AND LOCATIONS

Total number of beneficiaries: 810 households (4,455 individuals).

- Cash assistance (MPCA): 200 farmers/fishers (1,100 individuals)
- Cash for livelihoods: 60 farmers/fishers (330 individuals)
- Preventive measures using solar energy for farmers: 200 beneficiary farmers (1,100 individuals)
- Preventive measures using solar energy fishers/sea harbor: 350 fishers (1,925 individuals)
- Locations: All GS governorates.



Result 1: An early warning and referral system is put in place to report incidents affecting the livelihoods of fishers, farmers and herders working in the Access Restricted Area

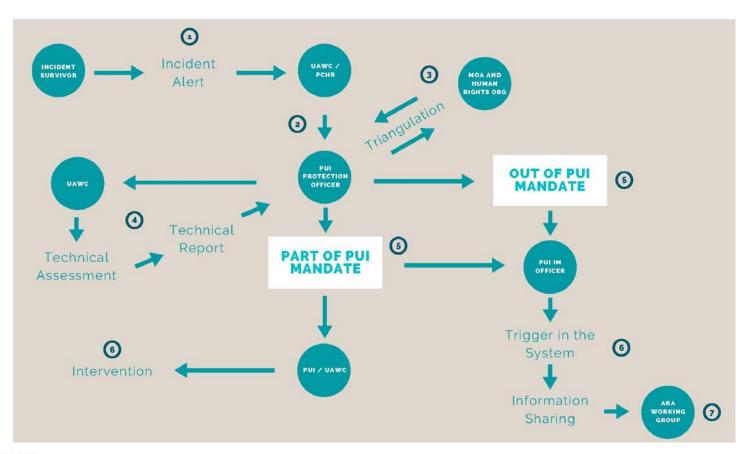
Activity (1.1): Identification of farmers and fishers' committees in the five governorates of the Gaza Strip.

Activity (1.2): Training of local committees on alerting and response mechanisms

Activity (1.3): Activation of the alert and referral system

ARA RRM

Information and Intervention Flowchart









Result 2: Affected households identified through the alert mechanism are supported through an emergency cash transfer and/or tailored livelihood restoration support

Activity (2.1): Identify the beneficiaries through conducting verification exercises.

Activity (2.2): Provide rapid response through emergency multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA). (878 ILS/one-off)

Activity (2.3): Essential livelihood restoration support to the most vulnerable farmers and fishers (including referred cases). (Average amount of assistance: 2,900 ILS)

Activity (2.4): Post-response monitoring through PDM and impact surveys



CASH FOR BASIC NEEDS MPCA





Cash for Livelihood



Result 3: Protection risks are mitigated through implementing preventive measures targeting farmers and fishers

Activity (3.1): Installing solar systems for two agricultural water wells in the ARA.

Activity (3.2): Installing lighting system for a small harbor in the middle area.

Solar Energy for agricultural water wells



Lighting system for the small harbor in Al Nusseirat



Result 4: Israeli practices regarding violations of IHL/IHRL are denounced at national, regional and international levels.

Activity (4.1): Active participation of PUI in national and international coordination platforms for awareness raising on violations of IHL/IHRL in the ARA.

Activity (4.2): Development of 2 advocacy products to raise awareness on violations of IHL and IHRL with a focus on protection concerns in the Access Restricted Areas

Activity (4.3): Organizing four advocacy meetings at local and European levels to hold the occupying state accountable.







THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR IN THE ACCESS RESTRICTED AREA OF THE GAZA STRIP: STATE OF PLAY AND CHALLENGES AHEAD

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The study aims at describing the situation in the Access Restricted Areas (ARA) in the Gaza Strip by highlighting major challenges that impact farming activities and livelihoods, exploring existing interventions and recommending additional ones. In addition, it looks into existing advocacy efforts, identifies the gaps and recommends improvement measures. To achieve these objectives, the study used a range of secondary and primary data, using several data qualitative collection tools.

Results of the study indicate that ARA has no clear definition neither for Palestinians and aid agencies nor for Israelis who imposed the ARA. ARA enforcement mechanisms include a wide range of tools such as live shooting to warn or kill, cutting trees, destroying farm assets, military increasing each.

Also, the study shows that ARA communities were **continuously affected by the consecutive** wars and the restrictions on access to their lands. They suffer at farm, household and community levels, and resort to **different types of coping strategies**. At farm level, and in comparison with farmers in other areas, ARA farmers have a low profit margin and hence suffer from deteriorated livelihood and had to adjust their copping patterns. At household level, ARA communities were obliged to change their diet and became more dependent on food distribution programs. Finally, at community level, ARA communities lack public and social services even though some individuals use their own money to try to rehabilitate some public services.

The study also indicates that most of the implemented interventions were of a humanitarian nature with limited and constrained strategic nature rather than of a development nature with a long-term objective. The Ministry of Agriculture has a strategic plan called 2020 and a mid plan



MAIN UPDATES

R1: RRM (Early warning and referral system)

- ** Training materials were finalized.
- ** The training of the local committees (fishers/farmers) will start next week.
- ** The early warning system was activated.

R2: Emergency MPCA and LH support

- ** Beneficiary selection methodology and forms were finalized.
- ** PUI and its partners are ready to respond to any livelihood-related incident in the ARA through emergency MPCA and conditional livelihood support.

MAIN UPDATES (Cont.)

R3: Preventive measures

- ** The identification of water wells for solar energy is ongoing in coordination with MoA, national partners, and external solar energy experts.
- ** BoQs for solar energy and harbor's lighting system are being finalized in consultation with MoA and partners.
- ** The implementation on the ground will start during the coming two months.

R4: Advocacy

** PUI's advocacy officer is working on preparing some advocacy products in consultation with partners and other relevant stakeholders. She will hold consultation to FSS and humanitarian actors to identify the main issues to be highlighted. (Participated in webinars to highlight the impacts of IHL/IHRL violations, video on the impact of 11-day escalation on the livelihoods of farmers and fishers is being produced, infographics, lobby tours, event with AIDA on ARA, etc.)

THANK YOU!

ANY QUESTIONS?