

**Theme: Humanitarian-development nexus & livelihoods**

**Country: Palestine**

Timeline: 1 year to 3 years

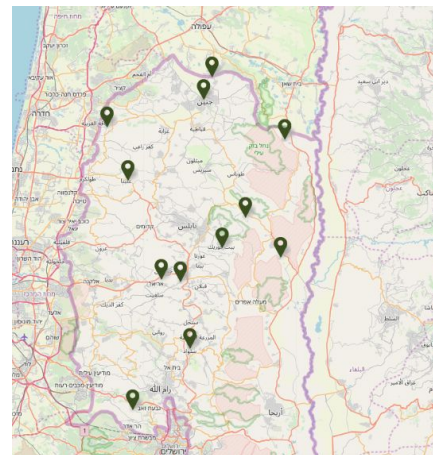
Nablus, Jenin Selfit Governorate, area C

Key objectives:

- Create new job opportunities for women living in rural areas
- Improve export capacities of the agricultural cooperatives from *Mawasem group* (<http://mawasem.ps/>)
- Support beekeepers in order to enhance the biodiversity in the area
- Reduce the usage of plastic bags

Key activities:

- Creation of production line of beeswax wraps
- Bee hives maintenance
- Trainings about alternative usage of beeswax
- Sales and export of the beeswax wraps through the marketing channels of existing *Mawasem group* (<http://mawasem.ps/>) in Jordan and Arabian Gulf.
- Awareness campaign about the reduction of plastic usage



**COOPERATIVES:**

AL-JALAMAH  
AL-AQRABANIEH  
AL-JIFTLIK  
ANABTA  
BAQA AL-SHARQIEH  
BARDALAH  
BEIT AL-KARAMEH  
BEIT FOURIK  
JENIN  
MARDAH  
SILWAD  
YASSOUF

*Mawasem cooperatives supported by PCPM since 2015.*

Project rationale:

The project will create new job opportunities for the women living in Nablus, Selfit and Jenin governorate rural areas by providing them with the production line of beeswax wraps. In the same time, it will support beekeepers in order to increase the biodiversity in the area. The implemented activities will fight against the extensive usage of plastic bags and desertification process.

In the West Bank there is no sustainable recycling policy. Local authorities are struggling to collect waste and keep the environment clean. Beeswax wraps would reduce the usage of plastic bags. In the same time, its production would create new job opportunities for the women from rural areas where unemployment rate reaches up to 50%. The export capacities of such product are very high since other countries in the region are struggling with the same problems. Moreover, previous sales experience of PCPM and Mawasem group would assure marketing channels for the beeswax wraps and other products from agricultural cooperatives.



*Beeswax wraps to be introduced in Palestine as an alternative to plastic bags.*

Related PCPM activities:

Since 2010 PCPM has been involved in the development of agriculture in Palestine. The activities carried out by PCPM were aimed at helping cooperatives in the West Bank to become independent of donor support, mainly through the implementation of an effective production, marketing and business model (Cooperative to Cooperative). The project raised the competences of cooperatives gathered around the Mawasem brand in the areas of crop management, quality control, food safety, hygiene, product sorting and packaging, as well as marketing. The group of agricultural cooperatives Mawasem, together with the social organization New Farm Company (NFC), undertook the task of adapting their production and processing rules to the requirements of international quality certificates. In 2019 they managed to obtain Fairtrade, Bio-UE, Halal and FSSC22000 certificate. The products were promoted during international food fairs in Canada, Sweden, Poland and Dubai. By the end of 2019 we successfully finalized contracts with traders from United States, Portugal, Germany, Jordan, Kuwait and Qatar.

Through other project in Palestine we installed alternative irrigation systems and developed the usage of hydroponic crops.

PCPM is also targeting agricultural cooperatives in Lebanon. Through the project financed by World Food Programme we supported business development of lebanese food products in order to enhance the export opportunities and increase the profit of cooperatives.

PCPM believes that food security is one of the biggest challenges in the time of severe climate changes.



Members of Aqrabaniya women cooperative supported by PCPM projects.



The range of Palestinian food products supported through PCPM projects.

Indicative project budget:

Budget line	Amount (USD)
Bee hives maintenance and needed equipment	20 000 USD
Production line of beeswax wraps	40 000 USD
Trainings and awareness campaigns	10 000 USD
Expo-marketing of Palestinian products	15 000 USD
Staffing & operations	25 000 USD
Project support cost (7%)	7 700 USD

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