

Expert Group Meeting on Promoting Best Practices  
On sustainable Rural Livelihoods in the ESCWA Region  
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## **FURUSH BEIT DAJAN PROJECT, PALESTINE**

*by*

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# "PROMOTING BEST PRACTICES ON SUSTAINABLE RURAL LIVELIHOODS IN THE ESCWA REGION"

Furush Beit Dajan Project, Palestine

## Introduction: Furush Beit Dajan

- Located in Area C (Jordan Valley)
  - Occupied territory
  - Settlements
  - Building restrictions
  - Exposure to settler violence
  - Checkpoints

## Introduction: Furush Beit Dajan

- Population: 1 200 Bedouin inhabitants
- Living situation: containers or tents, 12 to 16 m<sup>2</sup> housing an average of 7-13 people
- Main source of income: agriculture
- There is one spring, Ein Shibli, but inhabitants are prohibited to dig wells. The spring water is used for agriculture, for daily water use they purchase water tanks.
- No health and community center

## Problem identification

- No access to basic services (water, electricity, healthcare, education) provided for settlers
- Temperatures reach up to 50 degrees in summer, which increases the need for decent shelter and cold water
- High price of seeds and pesticides causes lower income and disinvestment in farming machines
- Lack of water and irrigation systems prevent agricultural development

## Comprehensive approach

- Activate an agricultural cooperative
- Enable farmers to reclaim and cultivate 3000 dunums of land using energy to pump water
- provide machines for pesticide control
- provide seeds and fertilizers at reasonable prices
- Help more than 170 students to continue primary education by improving living facilities
- Installation of cells for the production of 300 kW power electricity, through the installation of solar panels system

## Comprehensive approach

- Discussion with all relevant stakeholders in the region in order to develop a sustained and supported project
- Start up a cooperative committee and raise contributions from the locals

## Tools

- ☐ Training members of community centre
- ☐ Training committee of cooperative
- ☐ Provide agricultural machinery, seeds, fertilizer
- ☐ Install containers to be used as health centre and headquarter cooperative
- ☐ Installing 500 solar panels with ability of 130 watts and batteries
- ☐ Install engineering system

## Guarantee sustainability

- ☐ Cooperative
- ☐ Community centre
- ☐ Staff training on the mechanics of modern agriculture and ways to increase production
- ☐ Providing farmers will supporting machines and tools
- ☐ Provide training for technician in charge of maintenance of the system to generate energy
- ☐ Store 5% of the reserve components of the system fixed upon request.