



**United Nations Trust Fund
for Human Security**

Occupied Palestinian Territory

Livelihood protection and sustainable empowerment of vulnerable, rural, and refugee communities in the Jordan Valley

Background information

In the Jordan Valley area of the occupied Palestinian territory, approximately 56,000 people, of which 39% are identified as refugees, face various human security challenges. Notably, roughly 57% of the total area of the Jordan Valley has been designated as closed military zones, thus segregating the Valley from adjoining Palestinian regions. This constrains the movement of people, posing challenges to traditional livelihood activities, including tourism and agriculture, thereby amplifying levels of poverty and unemployment. Consequently, socio-economic and cultural dynamics within the Jordan Valley have been disrupted, constraining prospects for long-term sustainable development.

Goals and objectives

The overall goal of the programme is to empower and protect the livelihoods of vulnerable, rural, and refugee communities in the Jordan Valley. Specifically, the programme: (i) enhances and diversifies income-generating activities through water-efficient agricultural production, tourism, and creative industries; (ii) builds the capacities of farmers, women, and youth through vocational and technical support in good agricultural practices, agricultural machinery, food processing, and sustainable construction methods; and (iii) ensures adequate housing for vulnerable families and internally displaced persons using local resources and skills.



DURATION

July 2010 – June 2013



UN IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES

FAO, UNESCO, UNRWA, UNWOMEN



OTHER KEY PARTNERS

Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Local Government, Ministry of Women Affairs, Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Interior, CBOs, and local governments



BENEFICIARIES

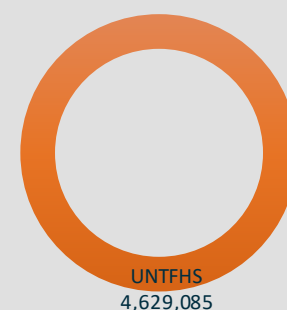
65,000



TOTAL BUDGET

US\$ 4,629,085

POOLING OF RESOURCES



Beneficiaries

The programme directly benefits more than 13,140 people, encompassing farming families, women, youth, refugees, and other vulnerable groups who participate in capacity development training, technical capacity-building activities, and job creation initiatives. In total, the programme benefits 65,000 individuals residing in the Jordan Valley by strengthening income generation activities, improving agricultural production, diversifying food production, fostering growth in the construction sector, rehabilitating historic sites, and actively including women and youth in the productive sector.

Applying the Human Security approach

Complex crises derived from intertwining challenges to development, peace and security, and culture require comprehensive and context-specific responses informed by the perspectives of the local population and the specificities of the context on the ground. By empowering local stakeholders and fostering inclusive dialogue, human security ensures that interventions are tailored to the unique needs and capacities of the Jordan Valley's population. Through active support of NGOs, Community-Based Organizations (CBOs), and various ministries at both the national and district levels, the programme ensures that interventions align with local priorities, enhancing programme effectiveness and relevance, and fostering a sense of ownership and accountability to help lay a foundation for enduring progress in the region.

The programme catalyzes transformative change from within, amplifying the voices of marginalized groups and driving development initiatives that resonate with the aspirations of the community. As poverty rates persistently hinder educational attainment and economic prosperity in the region, particularly among refugee youth, the programme delivers technical capacity-building activities and vocational education and training. By equipping vulnerable groups with relevant personal and technical skills in agriculture, efficient use of water, construction, tourism, and marketing, the programme enhances their employability and ability to contribute to community development.

Central to the human security approach is the commitment to leave no one behind. As such, the programme ensures meaningful integration of women, often excluded from economic, social, and political spheres, through income-generating initiatives, such as food production, and the establishment of female-led CBOs. These initiatives promote gender equality and empower women with neglected skills, helping to transform community attitudes and promote a more inclusive development trajectory. By empowering local stakeholders, fostering participatory engagement, and promoting sustainable development, the programme addresses some of the pervasive causes of insecurity and promotes the dignity and well-being of vulnerable communities in a challenging and dynamic context.



www.un.org/humansecurity



humansecurity@un.org



[@UNHumanSecurity](https://twitter.com/UNHumanSecurity)



[@UNTFHS](https://www.facebook.com/UNTFHS)



United Nations Trust Fund
for Human Security