

ICU



REPORT 2015



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The Institute for University Cooperation is a non-governmental organization that has been implementing for half a century development projects focused on the training of beneficiaries at each level (from base education to higher education) in order to implement independent and sustainable development processes. Indeed, our aim is to stimulate the progressive autonomy of the populations involved in our projects in order to promote their accountability and freedom.

We prepared the following report with the aim of giving a better understanding about our activities, with a result oriented approach, to briefly describe the concluded and the ongoing activities.

In 2015 has been completed the important "ACCBAT" Project held in Tunisia, Lebanon and Jordan in connection with the International Mobilization of the "Water for Life" Decade. The project has been accomplished thanks to the support of the European Commission and all the Ministries of Agriculture of the member states and also thanks to the "Fondazione Terzo Pilastro - Italia Mediterraneo". Through this initiative the presence and the relevance of ICU in the Middle East and North Africa has been further consolidated. In this area ICU has 14 ongoing projects widely described in the following pages.

With the aim of promoting a rational use of water, we have intervened in Bolivia. In this country, we have realized different development plans which ensure the efficient management of the hydrological heritage and make possible the protection of water sources.

In Latin America we are also active in Guatemala and Peru with several initiatives whose aim is to support the most vulnerable segments of their respective populations: indigenous communities, small farmers and fishermen of the Southern coast of Peru. In this country we are currently working on initiatives dedicated to the protection and the recovery of maritime resources which have been object of uncontrolled exploitation over the last century.

As well as in the previous years, also in 2015, as a reaction to the well-known ongoing war, we have intervened in the Middle East to support the growing waves of refugees from Syria. We have worked to improve their living conditions with a particular focus on hygienic and sanitary aspects and on job opportunities building.

In the following report is offered a detailed description of the programs held during the past years. We have done our best in order to meet human needs by providing support to the people involved and putting at their disposal our knowledge and the financial resources assigned to us, enhancing the work already undertaken by these populations and guaranteeing their involvement in the decision making process. In particular, as confirmation of the Christian spirit that drives our vision of international cooperation, we assisted displaced persons of different faiths, for example in the Middle East.

The realization of all the above mentioned activities has been possible thanks to the support received by our generous and numerous donors, and through the work of the HQ and Local Staff, professionally involved in projects implementation; as introduction to this report, to all these people I extend my heartfelt thanks and appreciation.

Giovanni Diana
ICU President



ICU Institute for University Cooperation Onlus is recognized by the European Commission and by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation as a nongovernmental organization operating in the Cooperation for Development sector.

ICU was established in 1966 by some Italian university professors whose aim was to develop the Culture and the Science at the service of mankind in an international level. In order to reach this goal, ICU promotes measures and initiatives designed to:

1. Support human and social growth in developing countries through programs of Cooperation and Development focused on the training to local human resources;
2. Disseminate the idea of Cooperation for Development as a medium to promote the Integral Human Dignity.

Since its foundation ICU has completed over 480 Cooperation and Development projects in 35 countries among Latin America, Africa, the Mediterranean Basin and Near East, Eastern Europe, Asia and the Pacific.

The main sectors are: inter-University Cooperation, Education and professional training, Sanitation and Healthcare, Rural Development, Women's promotion, Social Development and Emergencies.

ICU is a partner of ECHO - European Community Humanitarian Office - for the management of emergency projects. It is also a member of Link 2007 and recognized by USAID.

ICU collaborates with the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI) and it is funded by it as well as by European Union and several International Organizations and some Italian local authorities.

WHY ICU?

To carry out Cooperation and Development projects, based on flexible approaches and long-term vision, far from a pure charitable attitude.

Because we believe in a solidarity culture culture that makes each individual protagonist of his own development, considered not only in economic terms but also in its social aspects.

To spread the idea of International Cooperation within universities, promoting relations between institutions of higher education and research and stimulating actions for peace and development.

To support the increase of Academic Institutions in Developing Countries in the belief that the method of University Research, creative and at the same time rigorous, can be put to the service of man to find possible solutions to the underdevelopment problems.

To consider the human work as a key factor of Development and to promote training at all levels (basic, vocational and tertiary).

To involve young people in International Cooperation , promoting exchanges between students as well as experiences of international voluntary work.

To know more about ICU activities and news, please visit the ICU website at the following page: **www.icu.it**

Highlights of our work in 2015

ICU's Presence in the world

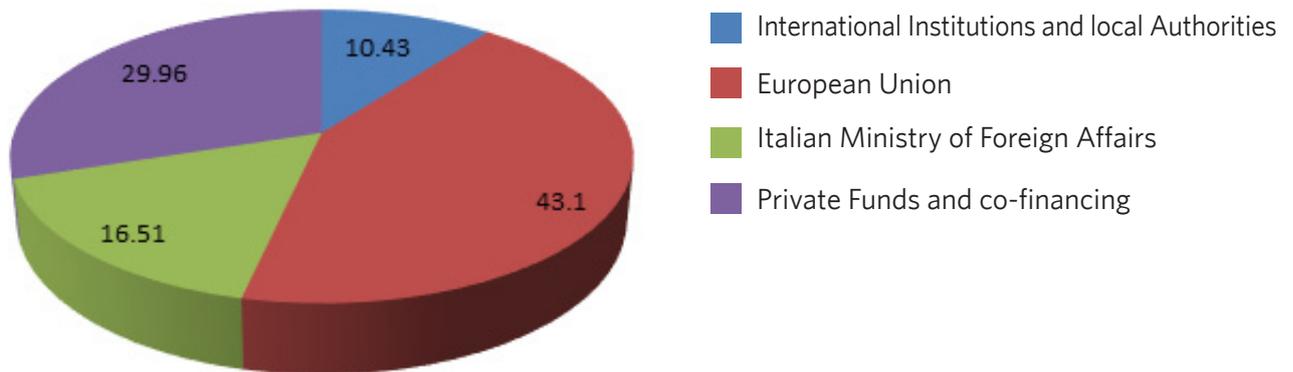
In 2015 ICU worked in 9 different Countries with 25 projects

	Projects	Sectors
Latin America		
Bolivia	1	Environmental protection and Sustainable development
Perù	5	Fisheries; Agriculture and Economic Development
Guatemala	2	Health, Child malnutrition
Middle East, North Africa		
Jordan	4	Sustainable Agricultural Development; Water Management
Jordan/Lebanon	2	Sustainable Agricultural Development; Water Management
Jordan/Lebanon/Tunisia	1	Sustainable Agricultural Development; Water Management
Lebanon	5	Sustainable Agricultural Development; Water Management
Tunisia	2	Agriculture; Emergency; Economic Development; Vocational Training
Africa		
Burundi	1	Agriculture and Vocational training
R.D. Congo	1	Electrification of Rural areas; Renewable energy
Europe		
Italy	1	Education on Cooperation and Development
Total	25	

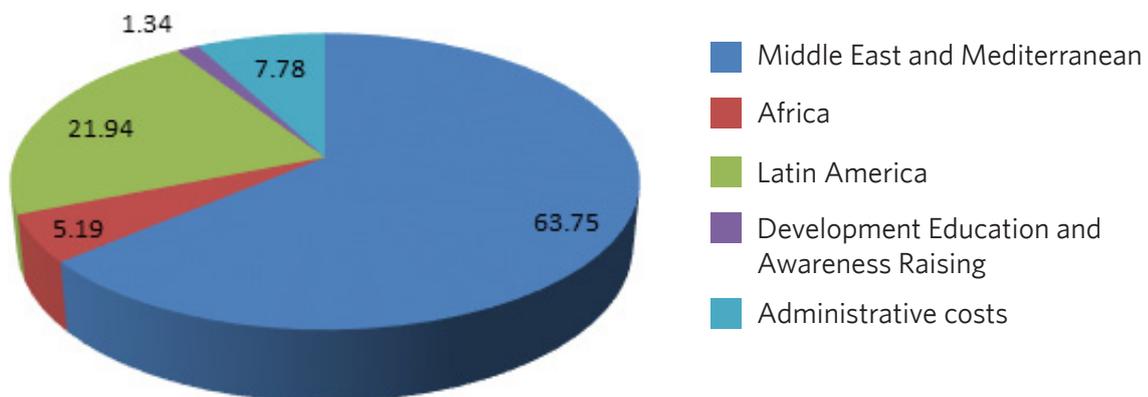
	Projects	Countries
America Latina	8	3
Medio Oriente, Nord Africa	14	3
Africa	2	2
Europa	1	1
Totale	25	9

Funds used in 2015*

Funds used by source: Euro 7.172.340,71



Funds used by destination: Euro 7.172.340,71



* ICU's balance sheet is audited and certified by an external auditor.
Documentation available at

PARTNERS

In 2015, ICU realized its projects with the support of:

Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI)

European Union (EU)

USAID (United States Agency for International Development)

Corporacion Andina de Fomento (CAF)

Italian Peruvian Fund (FIP)

OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID)

United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

**Energy and Environment Partnership Programme of Southern and East Africa (EEP
S&EA)**

Italian Episcopal Conference (CEI)

Lombardy Region

Cariplo Foundation

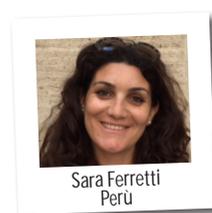
Symphasis Foundation

Fondazione Terzo Pilastro - Italia - Mediterraneo

Monsanto Fund

Otto per Mille Chiesa Valdese

ICU'S COORDINATION STAFF



A stylized map of Latin America, including Central America, the Caribbean, and South America, rendered in a light blue color against a white background.

Latin America

In 2015, in Latin America, projects have been realized in Bolivia, Peru and Guatemala.

In Bolivia, ICU continues to: protect the hydrological cycle in the Region of Santa Cruz through a project started in 2014 and which is aimed to promote collective consciousness on water as common good; realize vocational training activities and capacity building opportunities addressed to local institutions and stakeholders; spread knowledge about the efficient water resources management through the installation of irrigation systems in 14 local communities and thanks to an applied research on the local water resources which will be the start point for inter-municipalities development plans. In addition, thanks to a better access to water, the life quality of many families was improved.

In 2015 in Peru have been implemented 5 projects. In particular one project, which started in the second half of the year, had the aim to improve the accessibility to water for irrigation purposes by 667.000 local farmers in the Peruvian coast. The project allows the installation of "climate stations" in strategic points in order to better arrange the irrigation and to give the farmers precise indications about irrigation methods.

Always in Peru, two projects started in 2014 have achieved important results: a project about the development and improvement of quinoa cultivation in the province of Anta, Region of Cuzco, has reached the production of 180 tons of quinoa, the construction of a storage center and the start of three associations of producers; the second project, which was held in San Juan de Marcona district, was a support action to the fishers through the strengthening of aquaculture and traditional fishing activities. The project also provided the construction of a site for algae treatment, trainings on first aid for local farmers and 75 official professional licenses for fishermen.

Along the Southern coasts of the country, in the regions of Ica, Arequipa, Moquegua and Tacna, two projects are being implemented. These projects wanted to take action against the exploitation of natural resources. In this sense, ICU worked to give the adequate support to artisanal fishermen with technical trainings for the recovery and sustainable use of marine resources. In addition, a big goal has been achieved: the first extraction of sea urchin has been realized after a 4 year hard work to repopulate the area. The sea urchins available have been sold to the best restaurant of the capital and this has given a great visibility to the project promoting also a responsible consumption of the product.

In Guatemala ICU continues its work in Chimaltenango Department to fight children malnutrition. In the municipalities of San Martin and San Juan Comalapa Jilotepequez, since 2014 ICU is working to "health networks" in 30 local communities through trainings addressed to leaders, midwives, traditional doctors, community animators, families. In 2015 a new project started in the Municipality of San Jose Poaquil aimed to fight children malnutrition providing to 150 families sufficient and quality food.

Bolivia, Santa Cruz

“Support Program in Rio Grande, a natural area of integrated management”

Local Partner: Istituto per la Capacitacìon del Oriente - ICO

Main Donor: Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Budget: 1.694.533 €

Duration: 2014 - 2017

Objectives:

To collaborate to manage and conserve the environmental heritage of the Rio Grande basin through sustainable development in the environmental, economic and social sectors. In particular, the aim is to improve the capacity of the population in Santa Cruz Valley to adapt to climate change and to the related impact on the hydrological cycle.

Activitie:

- Diffusion of new practices on agriculture, agroforestry, forestry, in order to adapt the production to the new climate conditions.
- Promotion of sustainable management of water resources
- Construction and/or improvement of water distribution systems
- Inventory and mapping of natural resources
- Establishment of conservation areas for water sources and surrounding areas
- Evaluation of the physical factors for the conservation of water resources
- Evaluation of ecological factors and of the landscape for the water resources conservation
- Dissemination of the study results and of the impacts produced by the project within local, national and international development institutions
- Organization of local working groups to plan a program able to apply and amplify research results, in Rio Pirai basin area.
- Strengthening of local products through short trainings, promotion of commercial trades, installations of cheap kitchens
- Realizations of radio programs to raise awareness on environmental issues
- Training sessions on environmental management issues for High school professors
- Training for High school students
- Updating for forest rangers

Results in 2015:

- Realization of 16 theoretical and practical trainings about techniques of agro-ecological cultivation addressed to 254 local farmers; realization of 16 demonstration activities on 3 different kinds of techniques.
- Implementation of 79 drop irrigation systems or by sprinkling for the benefit of many farmers. Other 50 farmers have been trained and received the materials on how to implement their irrigation systems. Technical studies and implementation agreements have been realized together with 40 more irrigation systems.



Bolivia - workshop on need assessment of 3 local farmers associations

- Construction of 6 drinking water supply systems in 6 communities for the benefit of 116 families (527 people), in collaboration with the Municipalities and with the Associations responsible for water system management and active within the community.
- Dissemination of 11 different practices for the making of improved stoves for the benefit of 155 families. The necessary materials for the construction of 100 improved stoves it has already been supplied.
- Data collection and coordination with local, governmental, and ministerial institutions to implement a research on water resources available in the Rio Pirai basin area. The research will contribute to better manage the area and its natural resources. This activity has been carried out in collaboration with the University of Florence.
- Carry out of 3 workshops on need assessment with 3 local producers associations.
- Preparation of 22 radio spots and their dissemination in local radios and realization of 56 radio shows to sensitize the local population on environmental issues.
- Realization of the first two training sessions of the Diploma in Environmental Education addressed to 41 people including teachers of local secondary schools as well as to technicians employed in the local municipalities and institutions. This activity has been carried out in collaboration with the University Gabriel Rene Moreno of Santa Cruz de la Sierra.
- Training closure for 64 community leaders in "Sustainable Management of water resources" (6 meetings of 3 days each).
- Setting up of a hydraulic technical training (3 meetings of 3 days each) addressed to 34 managers of maintenance of drinking water and irrigation systems in their own community.
- Training for 38 forest rangers in collaboration with the Departmental Government of Santa Cruz and the Protected Areas office.

Perù, Ica, Arequipa, Moquegua and Tacna Regions

"Resource Development of Artisanal Fishery and of Aquaculture in Peru"

Local Partner: Ministry of Production

Main Donor: OFID Opec Fund for International Development

Budget: 1.133.800 USD

Duration: 2012 - 2015

Objectives:

the aim of the project is to support artisanal fishing organizations by increasing efficiency in their productive activities, in accordance with the current laws and by following a sustainable approach.

Activities:

- To increase the safety level in fishing activities:
 - » Practical training sessions on appropriate diving equipment and first-aid in fishing;
 - » Training sessions to obtain the scuba diving license and providing of necessary medical exams to the fishermen;



Peru – Fishermen officially licensed to work, according to safety standards

- To strengthen the Extension Program on artisanal fishing:
 - » Training for field technicians;
 - » Recording of video training for fishermen;
 - » Purchasing of equipment for field technicians;
- To encourage the participation of female fishermen communities to productive activities:
 - » Analysis on production activities dedicated to women;
 - » Training session for women on production issues;
- Financing and evaluation of productive projects realized by women.

Results in 2015:

- 170 fishermen have obtained the official license for working in accord to safety standards
- 6 courses have been accomplished for the proper maintenance of outboard motors and for the isolation of the holds of the boat
- Formalized and launched 6 micro enterprises managed by women; provided supplementary materials for the development of activities.
- Project concluded

Perú, Ica, Arequipa, Moquegua, Tacna regions

“Study on the fishery resources of the artisanal fishing in the Southern coast of Peru”

Local Partner: Ministry of Production

Main Donor: CAF Corporación Andina de Fomento

Budget: 789.114 USD

Duration: 2013 - 2016

Objectives:

the project aims to support a sustainable economic development in the aquaculture sector of Southern Peru coast through sustainable recovery and exploitation of the benthic marine resources made by the artisanal fishermen communities (OSPAs).

Activities:

- Training for 38 OSPAs on technical aspects related to aquaculture production and marine benthic resources management, such as sea urchins and macro algae in the natural environment;
- Training for the OSPAs on environmental issues;
- Rehabilitation of 6 aquaculture areas to be managed by some local OSPAs: 4 areas for “macha”, and 2 of macroalgae;
- Restocking of 7 areas (6 of the current project and one of the previous project) with sea urchin, bivalve mollusk “macha” and macroalgae;
- Technicalization of the productive chain of these resources in order to meet the demand of domestic and export market;
- Training for 38 OSPAs on management and leadership;
- Training for at least 30 local professionals on technical issues related to benthic resources management and production.



Perù - Marine benthic resources

Results in 2015:

- Further training course on aquaculture production of sea urchins and seaweed in 4 Universities and in the National Research Centre of Tacna Region.
- Two training cycles held in Chile for the benefit of 15 fishermen leaders.
- Training for the Regional Government of Arequipa Region.
- 2 additional restocking areas for restocking of macro algae established.
- 4 technical studies implemented in order to obtain the restocking license.
- Imported 60,000 units of juvenile forms of sea urchins for restocking purposes.
- Sea urchins growing method started.
- Realized the first controlled extraction of the sea urchin in the restocking area recovered thanks to the activities of the last four years.
- Realized the first sale of a ton of sea urchin at a fair market.
- Realized a second training course SAS System of Social Analysis on the consolidation of leaders using participatory methodologies. The course has been conducted by the Centro de Estudios Sociales de Sistemas, based in Coquimbo Chile.
- The shooting of the project documentary started for dissemination purposes.

Peru, Cusco region

"Strengthening and Development of the cultivation of Quinoa in Anta Province, Region of Cusco"

Local Partner: Asociación Peruana para la Promoción del Desarrollo Sostenible (APRODES)

Main Donor: Fondo Italo Peruano (FIP)

Budget: 549.000 €

Duration: 2014 - 2016

Objectives:

to improve the economic conditions of 250 farmers and their families in the districts of Anta, Ancahuasi y Huarcocondo through the increased production of quinoa and the development of appropriate forms of marketing.

Activities:

- installation of two seedbeds and seed lots for quinoa cultivation;
- soil analysis of 250 hectares of land;
- installation of 250 hectares of quinoa cultivation;
- training courses regarding the field notebook and production costs management;
- training courses regarding agricultural techniques;
- startup of 3 associations for the market access simplification;
- creation of a collecting and processing center of products.

Results in 2015:

- Installation of 250 hectares of quinoa cultivation and 250 famer beneficiated.
- Built 1 storage and processing center for quinoa
- 1400 technical visits at farmers in their farmlands.
- 26 days of team work on the field realized.
- 3 producers associations formalized for the commercialization of quinoa.
- 180 tons of quinoa produced

Peru, Ica region

“Support to the fishing communities of San Juan de Marcona district through the strengthen of aquaculture activities and traditional fishing”

Action Leader: ELIS Center Association
Local Partner: Ministry of Production, Ica Regional Government, Cooperativa de Pescadores Artesanales de San Juan de Marcona (COPMAR)
Main Donor: EGP Enel Green Power
Budget: 406.200 €
Duration: 2014 - 2016

Objectives:

To support the fishing communities of San Juan of Marcona District, Nazca, Peru, through the strengthening of traditional fishing and aquaculture activities; the infrastructural improvement; the support to complementary activities as conservation and transformation of products fisheries which are managed by women community.

Activities:

- Improving the security of fishery activities:
 - » practical training courses about proper equipment for diving, first aid, rules for a safe diving;
 - » trainings to obtain the sub licence and medical support to fishermen
- Creation of a primary processing plant for seaweed.
- Training on entrepreneurial management and organization.
- Creation of generating income activities complementary to fishing and aquaculture run by women.
 - » Analysis on women oriented productive activities;
 - » Training for women regarding production;
 - » Evaluation and financing of productive activities run by women;
- Design a laboratory for aquaculture.
- Strengthening the visibility of the project.
- Installation of solar panels for lighting of supervisory points in the coast.

Results in 2015:

- 75 fishermen obtained the official license for fishing according to security standards.
- Training course on first aid methods for 80 beneficiaries.
- Seaweed primary processing plant created.
- 7 training cycles on organizational and entrepreneurial management.
- Seaweed and sea urchin aquaculture production lab project.



Peru – Trainee of sea security course

Peru, Ica region

“Improving water efficiency in vegetable productions through the implementation of an Irrigation System ”

Local Partner: RITEC Riegos Tecnificados

Main Donor: USAID

Budget: 498.700 €

Duration: 2015-2018

Objectives:

to reduce water consumption in agricultural sector along the Peruan Coast. The aim is to install climate station in order to correct the water use considering the local conditions of water scarcity. Thanks to that, the farmer has the possibility to use an Irrigation Schedule based on the real demand of water on the field.

Activities:

Installation of 10 climate station on 2.500 hectares available for the benefit of 500 producers. Through a climate station, the system measures air temperature, humidity, wind speed and direction, intensity of solar radiation, and rains. These data are processed in a GIS platform (which considers also soil characteristics and type of food produced) and provides recommendations directly to farmers through texts, e-mails or a tablet.

- To set up 5 partnerships with local institutions in order to disseminate the innovation
- Technical assistance activities on the field addressed to producers

The innovation is game changing because the farmer switches from a turn driven irrigation to a demand driven one.

Results in 2015:

- Network creation with local institutions: Ministry of Agriculture, public and private local organizations
- Selection of human resources
- Operational plan realized

Guatemala, Chimaltenango region

“Combating child malnutrition”

Local Partner: ASECSA - Asociacion de Servicios Comunitarios de Salud e PPI Pastoral de la Primera Infancia

Main Donor: CEI - Italian Episcopal Conference, Symphysis Foundation, Otto per Mille Chiesa Valdese

Budget: 331.416,00 € - 25.000,00 € (Otto per Mille Chiesa Valdese)

Duration: 2014 - 2016

Objectives:

To reduce child deaths due to malnutrition, in 30 indigenous communities of San Martin and San Juan Comalapa Jilotepequez municipalities, through trainings for young mothers on nutrition and hygiene, techniques of food cultivation issues, and through the creation of community networks led by specially trained leaders.

Activities:

- 30 community promoters for health trained and equipped in order to start little community pharmacies (1 for each community)
- 30 midwives trained and equipped (1 for each community)
- 30 traditional healers trained and equipped in order to make ointments and syrups made from healing herbs (1 for each community)
- Creation of a network for community animators
- Realization of a Nutritional screening to recognize malnourished child and priority cases
- Follow-up of 250 families selected by the screening results

Results in 2015:

- Nutritional screening realized for 1158 children from 0 to 5 years old living in 13 communities.
- Selected children to be followed by the project and selected also the type of supplements to use;
- Organized 4 training sessions of three days each for 30 community promoters;
- Delivered the kit for the Mini Community pharmacy;
- Organized 4 training sessions of two days each for 30 traditional healers;
- Bought material for gardens and medicinal plants;
- Completed the training for 30 midwives through 5 meetings of 2 days each;
- Delivered to every midwife the kit for births and to take care of pregnant women;
- Trained 135 early childhood animators in 12 parishes;
- Realized 11 radio spots in Spanish and Kakchiquel which have played 4 times a day in the diocesan radio "Linea Activa" of Chimaltenango

Guatemala, Chimaltenango Department

"Combating child malnutrition"

Local Partner: Fundación para el Desarrollo Integral (FUDI)

Main Donor: Monsanto Fund

Budget: 110.710 €

Duration: 2015 - 2016

Objective:

to reduce child malnutrition in 5 indigenous communities in San José Poaquil Municipality, through the distribution of nutritional supplements and medical treatments for malnourished children; Training sessions on prevention of malnutrition, nutrition and hygiene issues for all the mothers of the communities, provision of filters for drinking water, diversification of the family diet through the implementation of family gardens, rearing small animals and installation of silos for grain storage.



Guatemala, Chimaltenango – Silos to stock grains

Activities:

- Beneficiary communities selection;
- nutritional screening for all the children less than 5 years old in the 5 selected communities and identification of the malnourished children;
- treatment of diagnosed cases of acute or chronic malnutrition (at least 200 children);
- training for 700 women of the communities in order to improve their knowledge about personal and home hygiene, principles of nutrition (how to prepare healthy and balanced dishes, nutritional components of foods);
- distribution of 150 filter to produce drinkable water and training of at least 150 family members about filters use and maintenance;
- implementation of 150 family gardens managed by women;
- installation of 150 silos to stock grains;
- training of 150 families about poultry rearing techniques and installation of small henhouses.

Results in 2015:

- selected the 5 beneficiary communities;
- completed the nutritional screening for 1.002 children less than 5 years old;
- completed the first cycle of treatment for the malnourished children;
- trained 171 mothers of malnourished children through 5 training sessions on hygiene issues;
- installed 150 water filters;



Middle East, North Africa

In the Middle East, ICU has implemented 13 projects. In addition to the work accomplished in 2014 for the improvement of environmental sustainability in agricultural production, ICU has implemented several projects aimed to mitigate the effects of the Syrian crisis.

During the last year, Lebanon has been one of the most effected countries by the crisis, most of all considering the increasing number of refugees present in the country. For that reason, in 2015 ICU has given assistance to the Syrian refugees and to the poorest part of the local population (in particular women and children) by creating job opportunities in public services as well as by the reconstruction and re-equipment of the primary schools, covering education and transports costs.

In Lebanon ICU has also implemented projects aimed to promote rural economic development; to improve the performance of the local agro-enterprises through trainings addressed to farmers and to cooperatives; to rehabilitate infrastructure for production. These projects covered the whole agricultural productive process, from the production to the transformation and the commercialization.

Jordan has suffered the consequences of the Syrian crisis as well as Lebanon did, so ICU worked on several sector in order to improve the resilience of the Jordan host community. In 2015 3 projects started. The first one is aimed to support the Jordan healthcare system for the cure and the rehabilitation of disabled by amputation. Through the project, some prosthesis have been provided, the infrastructures rehabilitated and the medical staff trained. The disability has been faced working on both physical and psychological health. The second one is a project focused on energy and environment aimed to improve the energetic efficiency of the Jordan public buildings. Finally, a new project is going to promote the use of an innovative agricultural technology which can better the production and it can reduce as well the water consumption for irrigation.

In 2015, ICU launched a project in Lebanon, Jordan and Tunisia (countries with a high level of soil drought) to work on the improvement of water management by a better use of waste water for irrigation purposes. Thanks to this initiative, ICU accomplished the ACCBAT project started in 2012.

In Lebanon and Jordan, ICU's effort to improve environmental sustainability in agricultural production is still ongoing with a new project aimed to accelerate the development and the use of technology on renewable energy for agriculture.

In 2015 also ENSIAP project in Lebanon and Jordan closed. The project worked to improve the efficiency of irrigation techniques by using photovoltaic solar energy to pump the water combined with traditional systems.

In Tunisia ICU started a new project to commercialize a pop-up lawn head which it's going to improve the cultivation together with the water consumption. In addition, another project started on electric energy based on photovoltaic energy addresses to public buildings in Nabeul.

Libano, Baalbek

“Reducing the impact of Syrian refugees on local communities in the Lebanese region of Baalbek, District of Deir El Ahamar”

Local Partner: Lebanon Caritas

Main Donor: European Union

Budget: EU Contribution: € 224,716.05; Co-financing ICU: € 24,968.45

Duration: 2014 - 2015

Objectives:

to reduce the impact of Syrian refugees on local communities in the Lebanese region of Baalbek, District of Deir El Ahamar (Lebanon). The aim is to improving also the technical skills of Lebanese and Syrian farmers members of agricultural cooperatives which are part of the union.

Activities:

- increase of the capacity of the water storage basin in Zarazir;
- construction of an irrigation network in Zarazir;
- training activities concerning best agricultural practices;
- training activities concerning post-harvesting practices;
- construction of a packaging centre;
- training on marketing-related issues.



Lebanon -
Trainings with
farmers

Results in 2015:

- Realized 38 training sessions to 1096 participants among which 700 Lebanese farmers and 396 Syrian workers;
- Doubled the number of workers and of productivity;
- Creation of a network between the 14 cooperatives and building of their potential market through training;
- Reduction of the production cost of 10% for the Association of cooperative (stockage cost reduced);

Lebanon, Mohafaza of Nabatiyeh and South Lebanon (Czas di Marjeoun, Bent Jbeil, Tyre, Nabatiyeh, Zahrani and Saïda) "Socio economic support for olive growers in South Lebanon"

Local Partner: Regional Union of Cooperatives in South Lebanon (RUCSL)

Main Donor: European Union and OMSAR (The Office of the Minister of State for Administrative Reform) management

Budget: EU Contribution: € 300,000; Co-financing ICU/RUCSL: € 75,000

Duration: 2014 - 2015

Objectives:

to improve socio-economic conditions of olive farmers' families through the reform and the development of the olive oil sector by focusing on the quality and marketing aspects.

Activities:

- collecting data and information about the entire olive oil value chain directly from the actors;
- realization of a sectorial market analysis;
- planning the building rehabilitation and drawing up of the Bill of Quantities (BoQs);
- rehabilitation on the Olive Oil Collecting Centre (OCCC);
- equipment procurement;
- equipment installation and startup of OCCC (contract with farmers, collect and store oil, bottling and packaging, marketing);
- OCCC human resources selection and recruitment (Director of the centre and marketing expert);
- training session for farmers on all topics related to olive oil production;
- training session for olive millers capacity building;
- realization of a broadcast on radio for public awareness and promotion of extra virgin olive oil;
- preparation and dissemination of promotional materials.

Results in 2015:

- Olive Oil Collection Centre rehabilitated and equipped. 100.000 litres of olive oil stored in good conditions, bottled and marketed;
- 10 training sessions for RUCSL and MoA staffs;
- 15 training sessions for olive millers;
- 1 olive oil tasting event realized in Beirut;
- Participation to 1 event in the South;
- 1 documentary realized;
- 3 promotional brochures prepared and printed;
- 1 website created and activated;
- 3 interviews realized and 2 news published on the media;



Lebanon - Bottling machine

Lebanon, Zahle, Beirut

“Support to schools of Wadi Al Ain Kfar Zabad and Arayesh (Zahle) to ensure an equitable and quality access to students which are victims of the Syrian crisis”

Local Partner: Wadi Al Arayesh School, Ain Kfarzabad School, Sed El Boushrieh School

Main Donor: Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI)

Budget: 199.346,67 €

Duration: 2015 - 2016

Objectives:

The overall objective of the project is to contribute to the resilience of the Lebanese host communities in relation to the influx of Syrian refugees in the educational sector. The specific objective is to increase and to improve the educational opportunities of the public schools of Wadi Al Ain and Arayesh Kfarzabad Zahle and Sed el Boushrieh in Mount Lebanon.

The project provides the renovation and the re-equipping of primary public schools in Ain Kfarzabad (Zahle) and Sed El Boushrieh (Mount Lebanon) and the coverage of some educational costs incurred by households for the purchase of stationery and school transport in Ain Kfarzabad, and Wadi Al Arayesh Schools (Zahle).

The beneficiaries are about 950 students who have access to school facilities of higher quality and about 200 families in vulnerable situation which can count on reimbursement of transport costs and school supplies.

Activities:

- Rehabilitation of schools in Ain Kfarzabad and Sed El Boushrieh.
- Coverage of the costs of school transport and school supplies for the school children of Ain Kfarzabad and Wadi Al Arayesh.

Results in 2015:

- Prepared and distributed the tender between 7 local construction companies.
- The dialogue with the Lebanese Ministry of Education opened in order to carry out the rehabilitation works in the schools.
- Prepared the questionnaires for a socio-economic analysis to be distributed among 285 beneficiaries pupils of the reimbursement of transport costs and school supplies and their families.



Lebanon – Students from a restored school

Lebanon

“Increasing the income of women and children among Syrian refugees and Lebanese people through a cash-for-work program of rehabilitation of public services”

Local Partner: Municipality of Zahle

Main Donor: Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI)

Budget: 318.575,00 €

Duration: 2015 - 2016

Objectives:

The project aims to strengthen the resilience of Syrian refugees in Lebanon and of the local communities, in order to improve living conditions in the Municipalities of Zahle and Saadnayel (Bekaa). The action provides the creation of temporary jobs for most vulnerable Lebanese and Syrian refugee population groups (women and youth), in order to increase their family income and their living conditions (program Cash-for-Work). The unskilled paid workers are employed for the rehabilitation of some public services in the Municipality of Zahle with an environmental impact (drainage network, sewage system, waste disposal and recycling service). Through this the hygienic conditions of Syrian refugees in the city of Zahle and Saadnayel (Bekaa) is also improved

Activities:

- Creation of employment opportunities for the Syrian and Lebanese population.
- Routine maintenance of the drainage system of the road network in the Municipality of Zahle (gutters/ drains and road drainage for about 20 km), allowing the optimization of the extraordinary maintenance and functional rehabilitation of the drainage system.
- Routine maintenance of the sewerage network in the municipality of Zahle (50 km of sewerage networks with 1,000 manholes), allowing optimization of the extraordinary maintenance and functional rehabilitation of the drainage system.
- Environmental rehabilitation of spaces and public areas of the municipality of Zahle through:
 - » cleaning of the riverbed of the river Berdawni in the urban section (1 km)
 - » maintenance of public and urban green gardens (5 km²)
- Enhancement of the recycling and disposal of municipal solid waste collected by the municipality of Zahle and neighbouring municipalities.
- Environmental remediation of areas adjacent to the informal settlements of Syrian refugees in the municipality of Zahle and Saadnayel (Berdawni cleaning the river for about 2 km)

Results in 2015:

- 321 paid workers, of which: 51 women (15.63%), 30 Lebanese men, 9 women Lebanese, Syrian women 42 men Syrians 240. Total: Syrian 282 (87.81%), Lebanon 39 (12.18%)



Lebanon - Beneficiaries at work

- 321 families have increased their income
- 4968 days / man were paid
- 99,945 compensation paid to 321 day labourers
- 17.5 km of drains cleaned in the municipality of Zahle. 100% reduction of extraordinary maintenance of drains and 100% reduction of flooding rains in the season of 2014-2015
- 80 inspection wells of the drainage system of Zahle cleaned. 100% reduction of extraordinary maintenance of the sewer system Zahle.
- 100% reduction of water overflowing manholes compared to 2014
- 5 km² of the green space of the municipality of Zahle properly maintained.
- 50 tons per day of recyclable material sold (increase of 42.86%) from the plant of Zahle sorting.
- USD 80,000 received by the city of Zahle, 3,500 tons of recyclable material sold (50% increase).

Lebanon

“Support for host communities in Lebanon affected by the high influx of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon- Phase III”

Local Partner: Ministry of Industry - MoI - Chair of the Project Steering Committee, Ministry of Agriculture – MoA, Ministry of Economy and Trade – MoET, Association of Lebanese Industrialists – ALI, Syndicate of Lebanese Food Industrialists – SLFI

Main Donor: Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale

Executive agency: United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

Budget: 855.000,00 €

Duration: 2015 - 2016

Objectives:

The overarching goal of the project is to assist the Government of Lebanon (GoL) and host communities of Lebanon to cope with the high influx of Syrian Refugees. More specifically, the project aims to: (i) Enhance the capacity of Lebanese institutions to deal with the crisis; and (ii) Improve host communities’ production capacity enabling them to respond to local and external market demand, while generating livelihood support and economic recovery for both themselves and the Syrian refugees.

The expected results of the project are: (i) Improved sources of income and employment for host communities to alleviate the impact of the Syrian Crisis; (ii) A number of beneficiaries from both communities provided with technical and market-based skills; and (iii) Increased capability of selected enterprises and cooperatives to respond to market demand from relief agencies in Lebanon and the region.

Activities:

- Jointly with the MoA identify the most affected communities in the target regions (Akkar and Bekaa).
- Conduct an assessment of community agricultural infrastructure, including upgrading needs and job creation potentials.
- Plan and conduct participatory workshops at the community level to increase the awareness on project objectives and planned activities.



Lebanon – Capacity building session

- Conjointly with the cooperatives, develop detailed work plan including activities specific per sector, the timetable, the responsibilities for each party , the performance indicators, etc.
- plan and conduct training programs
- Implement activities specifically tailored for women, such as sewing, food processing, kitchen gardening, handicraft, etc.
- Develop and implement an evaluation strategy for the training program, including mentoring activities.
- Monitor activities and corrective measures

Results in 2015:

- Meetings were held with the Ministry of Agriculture in Beirut and in the regional offices. The marketing of olive oil was selected as the sector where the project should intervene. Furthermore, meetings were held with the Ministry of Agriculture in Beirut and in the regional offices to review the list of cooperatives in the Bekaa Valley and Northern Lebanon.
- During the field visit to the pre-selected cooperatives, an assessment of their needs was done. After the selection of the cooperatives beneficiaries of the project, a reconfirmation of their needs was undertaken.
- 4 Meetings (2 in the Bekaa, 1 in Batroun, 1 in Chadra) with different stakeholders (Regional offices of the Ministry of Agriculture, local NGOs..) as well as cooperatives were
 - » done in the North and the Bekaa Valley for clarifying the general and specific objectives of the project
- After several meeting with the 3 cooperatives, work plan including the activities, the modalities of implementation, expected results and key indicators has been established with the selected beneficiaries
- Meeting held with UNIDO and the Ministry of Industry for explaining the project implementation modalities and selection process of Cooperatives.
- The identification of training programs has been done by UNIDO and ICU in coordination with Mol and MoA and the beneficiaries.

Jordan

“Out of the shadow: support to refugees and Jordanians amputees or with walking disabilities, to favour their social reintegration, through the provision of prostheses”

Local Partner: Jordanian Hashemite Fund for Human Development (JOHUD), Our Lady of Peace Center (OLOPC) e University of Jordan

Main Donor: Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI)

Budget: 379.702,50 €

Duration: 2015 - 2016

Objectives:

The proposed project is fully integrated in the national plan for the resilience and the response to the Syrian crisis (JRP - Jordan Response Plan), which seeks to mitigate the medium-long term consequences of the Syrian crisis on Jordan.

Jordan is among the countries in the region that hosts the higher number of refugees, not only of Syrian origin. For this reason, Jordan seeks since a long time to ensure an adequate level of health services to its citizens as well as to refugees. However, the resilience of the national health system is being increasingly challenged by the shortage of resources and the perpetration of the crisis.

In this context, the general objective of the action is to contribute to the resilience of the Jordanian health system and the Jordanian host communities in relation to the influx of Syrian refugees.

More specifically, the objective is to improve the responsiveness of Jordanian health centers for disabled persons in relation to the provision of prostheses, orthoses and aids, and rehabilitation of men, women and children with disabilities.

Il progetto è iniziato nel mese di dicembre 2015, attività e risultati saranno visibili sul Report ICU 2016

Jordan

“Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Demonstration Project - REEED”

Local Partner: National Center for Agricultural Research and Extension (NCARE)

Main Donor: European Union - Contracting Authority: Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources (MEMR)

Budget: 936.900,00 €

Duration: 2015 - 2017

Obiettivi:

Objectives: The overall objective is to contribute to the diffusion of know-how and to the implementation of renewable energy (RE) and energy efficiency (EE) measures among private and public building sector actors and population in Jordan.

The specific objective is to demonstrate, through 5 highly-replicable pilot installations, the technical feasibility, the economic and market advantages, and the environmental benefits of EE and RE solutions for buildings, fostering Green Economy, stimulating public administration driving of private initiatives, and enhancing public awareness.

Attività:

- Improvement of Energy Efficiency in 5 NCARE buildings
- Introduction of RE solutions in 5 NCARE buildings
- Demonstration of EE and RE solutions benefits
- Increasing public awareness on EE and RE

Results in 2015:

- The first year of the project has been focused on the initial assessment of energy consumption for each of the station and launch of tender procedure for the contracts



Baq'a - Installation of PV panels to NCARE building

Giordania

"100 feet to walk toward peace"

Local Partner: Our Lady of Peace Center (OLOPC); Princess Basma Center di Irbid (JOHUD)

Main Donor: Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI)

Budget: 399.662,75 €

Duration: 2015 - 2016

Objectives:

Strengthening the structures and the medical staff in order to deal with those difficulties linked to disability (amputees) improving the living conditions of the Syrian refugees and of the local communities through: 1) fitting dentures 2) prosthetic center equipment, made of a fixed (at the center OLOPC) and a mobile part 3) physical, and psychological rehabilitation.

Improve the physical, and psychological health of 50 amputees of the Syrian refugee community in Jordan, and 50 amputees of the Jordanian host community.

Improve the efficiency and responsiveness of the rehabilitation center, and psychological support.



Jordan - Participant to non-competitive sporting event of hiking and climbing

Activities:

- Visits for the creation of the recess of the prosthesis;
- Adaptation and fitting of prostheses to the beneficiaries of the community of Syrian refugees and the host Jordanian community
- Physiotherapy rehabilitation, and psychological support program for amputees who received implants
- Creation and equipping of a fix prosthetic center at the rehabilitation center OLOPC
- Creation of a mobile prosthetic laboratory
- Organization of a non-competitive sporting event of hiking and climbing
- Mini-workshop of dance therapy for physiotherapists, and psychologists who follow the patients in the partner centers OLOPC, and JOHUD
- Update intensive course for physiotherapists of OLOPC and JOHUD partner centers.
- Update Intensive course for technical prosthetic
- Implementation of a DVD of the project

Results in 2015:

- 54 lower limbs prosthetic kits (trans-tibial, trans-femoral) and consumables for adaptation and installation, provided for amputees of the Syrian community refugee
- 54 lower limbs prosthetic kits (trans-tibial, trans-femoral) and consumables for adaptation and installation, provided for amputees of the Jordanian community refugee
- 108 amputees fully reintegrated into society
- Creation and equipment of a prosthetic center at the rehabilitation center OLOPC
- Creation of a Mobile prosthetic laboratory
- Involvement of the 15 project beneficiaries in a sporting event of non-competitive biking and climbing, which took place in Wadi Rum in southern Jordan
- Production of 1 DVD of the
- 3 dance therapy sessions (Fux method) using a two days mini workshop
- Training of five days for technical prosthetics held at OLOPC
- Training of 4 days for physiotherapists of the OLOPC and JOHUD partner centers
- Production and distribution of two brochures as training material for participants in the training course for physiotherapists of OLOPC and JOHUD partner centers

Lebanon, Jordan

"PV integrated irrigation systems in Jordan and Lebanon"

Local Partner: MENA SOLAR Srl (Lebanon), NUR Solar Systems (Jordan)
Main Donor: United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
Budget: 499.688,00 €
Duration: 2015 - 2018

Objectives:

General objective: To support a new and sustainable business model to accelerate the development and adoption of technologies for the use of renewable energy in agriculture.

Specific objective: To promote photovoltaic systems for drip irrigation systems and fertigation in Jordan and Lebanon supported by an efficient business model.

The action aims to test the effectiveness of photovoltaic systems of drip irrigation systems and fertigation in energy savings and water by installing 10 pilot land with the contribution of 50% by the pilot farmers, facilitate the access to financing for farmers interested in purchasing these systems, technology promotion in the Lebanese and Jordan markets by identifying potential future customers.

Activities:

- Installation of 10 pilot plots of photovoltaic systems with drip irrigation and fertigation systems.
- Development of a business model that starts the widespread use of photovoltaic systems in the drip irrigation and fertigation systems, through:
 - » a) information and knowledge events with credit institutions to identify funding opportunities to purchase from farmers systems,
 - » b) Training with agents from the Ministry of Agriculture and engineers from partner companies to enable them in the preparation of technical studies and feasibility studies required by the credit institutions to finance those systems, as well as training in marketing and business development.
- Marketing activities to expand the network of potential consumers through:
 - » a) Realization of marketing studies on potential consumers;
 - » b) Organization and realization of commercial events;

Results in 2015:

- Participation at the training course organized by PAEGC team (Powering Agriculture: An Energy Great Challenge) in Washington
- Establishment of initial contacts with donors to discuss implementation modalities
- Prepared the work plan for the first year and a monitoring and evaluation system required to start of activities
- Contacts with partners and local institution

Lebanon, Jordan

"Groasis Waterboxx"

Local Partner: Desert Tulip
Main Donor: United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
Budget: 499.606,07 €
Duration: 2015 - 2018

Objectives:

The Groasis Waterboxx (GW) is an integrated planting technology that allows planting fruit, fodder trees and shrubs in degraded farmland and rangelands, thus covering eroded soils and building up organic matter while providing valuable nutrient sources of fruits and feed for both humans and animals.

GW is an inexpensive technology that allows the restoration of degraded ecosystems and the productive use of land on large scale. This is especially needed in MENA Countries where a rising demand for agricultural products combined to a fragile natural environment is rapidly increasing pressure on scarce land and water resources.

Country of operation is Jordan, where the Groasis Waterboxx (GW) would allow expanding pastures to underutilized desert steppes and increasing feeding value and resilience to environmental stresses of overexploited areas. Expected end-users are rural population living in Ghor and Badi a regions. The solution will help improve and diversify their production, cutting their costs. The GW will also tackle food security issues in less developed areas by increasing fruit and fodder trees establishment in marginal lands.

Activities:

- Install plastic and paper Groasis Waterboxx (GW)
- Teaching, and assistance for at least one fourth of the Groasis Waterboxx's (GW) installed
- 8 field visits
- Establishment of Groasis Waterboxx (GW) technology and demonstrative activities

The project started on November 2015 so the result will be available in the 2016 report.



Jordan – The Groasis Waterboxx System

Lebanon, Jordan and Tunisia

“Adaptation to climate changes through improved water demand management in irrigated agriculture by the introduction of new technologies and best agricultural practices (ACCBAT)”

Local Partner: Lebanese Ministry of Agriculture, Tunisian Ministry of Agriculture, River Po Basin Authority (ADBPO) e National Centre for Agricultural Research and Extension (NCARE)

Main Donor: European Commission - ENPI CBC-Med Program (EU)

Budget: 4.998.952,50 €

Duration: 2012 - 2015

Objectives:

To improve water demand management encouraging local farmers to use new agricultural technologies allowing water-saving (use of treated waste water in agricultural irrigation).

In Jordan, Tunisia and Lebanon, water use efficiency and the use of treated wastewater in agriculture have already been incorporated in national strategies and priorities.

ACCBAT aims at improving water demand management and ensuring water needs of the agricultural sector through the increase of water-use efficiency and of use of treated waste water.

Activities:

- development of recommendations and common water quality index on waste water quality and dissemination to all stakeholders involved;
- surveys to identify and locate the exact target regions and participating final beneficiaries for pilot installations;
- installation of demonstration plots using: (1) improved dripping-irrigation and fertigation systems in areas irrigated with conventional water resources; (2) improved local irrigation systems in perimeters irrigated with treated waste water;
- development of adapted irrigation and fertigation solutions;
- development of farmers training modules and materials;
- training of managerial staff, extension agents, and laboratory technicians;
- establishment of a network linking the project with research institutions, international organisms and agencies, Wastewater Treatment Plants, Ngos, and private sector



Tunisia - Ministry of Agriculture at the Desalination unit realized by the ACCBAT project

Risultati nel 2015:

- 160 farmers beneficiaries of the project at farm level
- 160 demonstration farms equipped with more efficient irrigation systems
- 110 hectares of land with improved irrigation systems
- 63 hectares of land irrigated with non-conventional waters
- 29 water storage basins installed for a total capacity of 21,550 m3
- 6 pilot sites established
- 5 agro-meteorological stations installed
- 2,000 presences over 37 training modules for institutional staff
- 1,800 presences over 41 modules on farmers' training
- 12 target group dissemination material developed by the project
- more than 3,000 flyers distributed to broad public
- 3 international conferences realized with more than 250 presences
- 1 final event with more than 100 presences
- 1 Study tour on wastewater treatment technics and reuse in Italy
- Irrigation Water Quality Index for the use of treated wastewater in irrigated agriculture in Jordan, Lebanon and Tunisia developed by the project
- Collaboration Agreement among institutional project partners of Jordan, Lebanon and Tunisia based on the common and shared Irrigation Water Quality Index
- More than 60 articles, videos, radio services and presence of the web
- 28 presentations of the project in national and international events and participation to EXPO Milano 2015



Lebanon - 15 000m3 water storage for treated waste waters

Tunisia

“Municipality of Nabeul: renewable solutions for basic public services”

Local Partner: Nabeul Municipality, ANME. National Agency for Energy Conservation, ONAS – National Utility for water sanitation

Main Donor: European Union

Budget: 1.250.000 €

Duration: 2015 - 2017

Objectives:

The project aims to enable local authorities in the ENPI South Mediterranean Partner Countries to implement local action plans targeting sustainable urban development and it is implemented in Tunisia in collaboration with the Municipality of Nabeul, ONAS and ANME. The overall objective is to contribute to the implementation of the initiatives promoted in the urban sustainable development field by local authorities.

The specific objective is to provide the Municipality of Nabeul with the possibility to realize, replicate autonomously and demonstrate to the neighboring municipalities, photovoltaic solutions that can be undertaken in order to ensure the electricity supply needed for the public water, public buildings and urban lighting use.

Activities:

The project includes the installation and connection of two solar power plants, PV1 and PV2 which provide about:

- 58MWh / year for municipal building
- 131MWh / year to power more than 100 light points
- 158MWh / year in addition to the wastewater treatment plant of ONAS in Nabeul
- Moreover,
- 20 people will be trained on PV plant maintenance
- 8 people of the Nabeul Municipality will be trained on how to set up a sustainable energy plan for the Municipality of Nabeul.
- 10 visits will be realized for other Tunisian municipalities to the installations

Results in 2015:

- Energy audit of the building of the Municipality of Nabeul and of ONAS wastewater treatment station ;
- Preparation of the information campaign of the local population, tourists and college students of the city on the importance of using renewable energy sources.
- Participation in the inaugural event of the project staff of the European program SUDEP - Sustainable Urban Development Energy Projects in which the project is financed in Morocco in May 2015.
- Participation of project personnel to training on renewable energy and sustainable urban development plans organized by SUDEP program in Belgium in August 2015.



ONAS Nabeul – Wastewater treatment station

Tunisia

"The Buried Diffuser: an underground water-saving irrigation system"

Local Partner: Chahbani Technology SA

Main Donor: United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

Budget: 500.000,00 €

Duration: 2015 - 2018

Objectives:

The Buried Diffuser: an underground water-saving irrigation system is a project of business development and technology innovation in small-scale agriculture through the marketing of the Buried Diffuser to smallholder farmers in the central and southern regions of Tunisia. ICU has been working in partnership with the Chahbani Technology SA, owner and producer of the awarded patented innovation.

Activities:

- 8 demonstrative installations will be realized in lead farmer's fields, selected with the following criteria: willingness in investing, good agricultural practices and farms' size convenient for project purposes.
- The demonstrative installation will comprise a complete Buried Diffuser irrigation system to serve a cultivated area of a minimum 1 ha ;
- 60 On-farm field days for a total number of 1800 farmers will be carried out on the demonstrative installations in order to show the advantages of using the BD ;
- 24 Commercial events will be implemented to display the innovation and data on pilots' performance to relevant audiences ;
- 9 Buried Diffuser informative and promotional campaigns for retail agents of irrigation equipment (47), technicians of the Regional Agricultural Development Center (48), private technical offices (12), will be organized to promote the BD at different level in order to stimulate the adoption of the innovation ;



*Tunisia –
Installation
of the BD*

The project started on November 2015 so the result will be available in the 2016 report.



Sub-Saharan Africa

During 2015, ICU managed 2 projects in the sub - Saharan Africa countries.

Specifically, in October, the active project in the Democratic Republic of Congo, aimed to reduce poverty and improve nutritional status of the population in urban and peri-urban areas of the city of Kinshasa, ended. This objective has been achieved, not only through the production process, viability and marketing of horticultural producers, cooperating with the center (CPC - Multipurpose Center CEPROSEM) for goods and services, but also focusing on raising awareness of consumers about proper nutrition and food security.

In 2015, ICU began working for the first time in Burundi through an ambitious project to restore and increase the energy capacity of 4 hydroelectric plants that supply the villages of Kigwena, Ryarusera, Butezi and Nyabikere with energy. The unreliability of the electricity supply makes it difficult to everyday life and productive activities of the population and small and medium enterprises. The project, in collaboration with the Burundian Agency for Rural Electrification, will improve and increase the power of plants, provide clean energy through hydroelectric and solar power.

Democratic Republic of Congo, Mont-Ngafula (Kinshasa)

“Improvement of the horticultural agro-food chain - by the mean of social enterprise for a sustainable promotion of seed production and producer services in D.R. Congo. CEPROSEM Poly-functional Center”

Local Partner: CECFOR - Centre Congolais de Culture, de Formation et de Développement and CEPROSEM - centre for seed production

Main Donor: Cariplo Foundation, Lombardy Region

Budget: 267.000,00 €

Duration: 2012 - 2015

Objectives:

the project aims to reduce poverty and to improve the nutritional status of the population in the outskirts of Kinshasa. It focus on the productive process, the profitability and the commercialization activities conducted by the agricultural producers developed in the “CEPROSEM Multifunctional Center”. Through the same Center, the project provides services and agricultural goods and introduces innovations in the sector of seed production. Finally, the project aims to influence consumers’ habits in order to raise awareness of proper and safe nutrition.

Activities:

- implementation of the operational framework, provision of equipment in order to ensure the functioning of the CEPROSEM Multifunctional Center;
- selling of CEPROSEM seeds, materials and inputs for agriculture; launching of Help Desk service;
- training courses for farmers and technicians;
- collaboration with the academic community in order to create a platform to facilitate networking among technical employers and employees.
- information and awareness campaign about nutritional benefits of local products;
- implementation of a pilot plot for production of *Jatropha curcas*.

Results in 2015:

- Regular activities were carried out by the CEPROSEM Multifunctional Center in order to sell seeds, pesticides and other agricultural items.
- 10 theoretical - practical training courses tailored to groups of horticulturists and production’s technicians made a total of 374 direct beneficiaries involved. The courses were related to the improvement of production capacity in horticulture. They were focused on best agricultural practices: seedbed preparation, fertilizing using, transplanting methods, integrated pest management. Additional information regarding the economical and trade management were also provided and discussed during the training with the farmers.



TR. D. Congo - Tomatoes harvest

- 2 trainings for 54 horticulturists each were performed under request of the Italian NGO COOPI in the framework of a wider agricultural development program in the village of Mbankana-Bateke Plateau (145 km far from the capital Kinshasa). An additional training was implemented for 30 young horticulturists under the request of Don Bosco Vocational Training Centre.
- Consultancy services were provided on the topics of horticulture through the established Help-desk office;
- 9 students were hosted by CEPROSEM for one-two months internship. Some of them were coming from the University of Kinshasa, project partner, some from technical high school and some other from Congolese universities;
- a store was opened in the city of Mbanza-Ngungu;
- 3 FAO's tenders were successfully obtained for the purchase of vegetable seeds addressed at humanitarian programs in emergency areas;
- 40 CEPROSEM contracts of seed production and supply were signed by horticulturists;
- information and communication activities were carried out in order to promote CEPROSEM seeds to encourage local agricultural production quality among consumers.

Burundi

"Electrification of the rural areas of Burundi through the activation of two micro and two mini hydropower plants, photovoltaic reinforcement, extension of rural grid and connection to the national grid."

Local Partner: Burundian Agency for Rural Electrification, Burundi, and official support from the Ministry of Energy and Mines, Ministry of Finance and Economic Development Planning of Burundi

Main Donor: European Union

Other Donors: Energy and Environment Partnership Southern and East Africa (EEP SEA) e OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID)

Budget: € 1,472,369 (UE) - € 594,255 (EEP) - \$ 500,000 (OFID)

Duration: 2015 - 2017

Objectives:

The overall objective is to contribute to the improvement of life conditions and access to the energetic services of the rural population. The action is attaining this objective through a bigger energy availability, a more reliable energy supply and through the reinforcement of local capabilities. The specific objective is to provide the population, the sanitary centers, schools and the rural centers of Ryarusera, Kigwena, Butezi and Nyabikere with a more reliable energy supply.

Activities:

- Reactivation of the hydroelectric plant of Kigwena (62.2 kW for 94h/week) by replacing the damaged material; 4km extension of power lines and low-voltage connection to the national grid via 1km of medium voltage line. Staffing for the supervision and management of the plant.
- Reactivation of the hydroelectric plant of Ryarusera (24kW for 104h/week) by replacing the damaged material and staffing for the supervision and management of the plant.
- Reactivation of the hydroelectric plant of Butezi (200kW for 82h/week) by replacing the damaged material and staffing for the supervision and management of the plant.

- Reactivation of the hydroelectric plant of Nyabikere (140kW for 76h/week) by replacing the damaged material and strengthening the system by installing a photovoltaic system of 40kWp. Staffing for the supervision and management of the plant
- Training to the staff of ABER for maintenance, administrative management and plant safety
- Awareness campaign to the population about the responsible use and production of electricity

Results in 2015:

- Carry out diagnostic missions to hydropower plants of Kigwena and Ryarusera in collaboration with ABER.
- Executed surveying to define the extension activities of the electrical lines to Kigwena
- Contract signed for the commissioning of the hydroelectric plants of Kigwena and Ryarusera, turbines and equipment are being built.
- Contracts with suppliers of equipment related to the extension of 4km of local low-voltage lines and the extension of 1km of medium voltage line to connect to the national grid.
- Carry out diagnostic missions at the facilities of Butezi and Nyabikere in partnership with ABER
- Signed contract for the photovoltaic project in Nyabikere.



*Burundi –
Hydroelectric
plant*



Europe

Since several years, ICU is dedicated to the realization of programs of development education aimed especially at a universities and high schools.

In this context, from 2014 to 2015 ICU has implemented a project aimed at raising awareness of the university and high school students as well as of the Italian public, on issues related to the scarcity of water resources in developing countries and the importance of activities that the national and international cooperation undertakes to respect.

The project was mainly oriented to the creation of an information campaign, through the conduct of seminars at universities and three Italian High schools of issues related to the shortage of water resources and their proper management in Jordan, Lebanon and Tunisia, where ICU is currently engaged in concrete development cooperation projects in this area.

Under the project, it was carried out a program of internships in Italy and abroad, in order to actively involve several students in cooperation and development activities in Jordan, Lebanon and Tunisia.

The constant and stable relationships that ICU has with universities induce different teachers to solicit regularly interventions over several academic years.

Italy

“Water Scarcity e Water Cooperation in the Mediterranean: university and school courses for development education in order to create a new water culture from the International Year of Water Cooperation 2013”

Local Partner: Monserrate ONLUS

Main Donor: Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

Budget: 172.645,00 €

Duration: 2014 - 2015

Objectives:

to promote the achievements of the Italian and international cooperation in the fight against water scarcity in development countries among university and high school students of all over the Italian territory and to public opinion.

Planned Activities:

- Redaction of the final publication of the project and distribution of the same at 20 university libraries and high schools involved;
- Organization of the final conference of the project;
- Preparation and distribution of ad hoc number of the publication “Storie ICU” dedicated to the project;
- Implementation of internships in Lebanon, Jordan and Tunisia for data collection and processing of case studies;
- Implementation of internship in Italy for construction information and the final publication of the project;

Results in 2015:

- Project Final publication distributed to 20 university libraries and high schools involved;
- Final conference of the project realized in Rome, at INEA February 9, 2015 and distribution of the final publication of the project;
- Redaction, printing and distribution of “Storie ICU” dedicated to the project;
- 3 internships in Lebanon, Jordan and Tunisia for data collection and processing of case studies;
- 1 internship in Italy for the redaction of informative material, and the final publication of the project.



Italy - Final WSWC Conference in Rome



REPORT 2015