Agricultural Development Association
(PARC)

Annual Report
2013
## West Bank

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Who We Are:
The agricultural development association (PARC) is a leading Palestinian non-profit, non-governmental organization involved in rural development and women’s empowerment.

PARC provides advice, awareness, support services, and special consultancies for individuals, groups, and institutions involved in similar domains. PARC relies on the broad and efficient participation of its beneficiaries and, moreover, on developing the qualifications of its experts to better benefit and develop a democratic Palestinian civil society.

General Goal:
To contribute in achieving sustainable and integrated rural development.

A Policy Of Quality:
We do what we say and ensure the quality of our work

A policy of quality is identified at PARC as the adherence by management and staff to providing technically distinguished development services (in the approach and professional sense) such as services spring from the needs and expectations of the marginalized rural communities extending from their living humanitarian and environmental prospects and in line with best utilization of available resources. PARC seeks to provide services through a permanent and developed system of administration focusing on staff and maintaining team and voluntary spirit.
### Board of Directors:

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<td>Issam abu al haj</td>
<td>Ramallah</td>
<td>chairman</td>
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<td>Naser abu alata</td>
<td>Gaza</td>
<td>Deputy chairman</td>
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<td>Husam Abu faris</td>
<td>Ramallah</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hatem Al – Shanti</td>
<td>Gaza</td>
<td>Deputy Treasurer</td>
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<td>A’hed Ghanem</td>
<td>Tulkarem</td>
<td>GENRAL Secretary</td>
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<td>Sahab Shaheen</td>
<td>Nablus</td>
<td>Member</td>
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<td>Jamal Ed-Dadah</td>
<td>Gaza</td>
<td>Member</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dawoud Ereiqat</td>
<td>Jericho</td>
<td>Member</td>
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<td>Salah ZAKARAN</td>
<td>Jerusalem</td>
<td>Member</td>
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<td>Abed al – Razeq Salameh</td>
<td>Gaza</td>
<td>Member</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lutfi Abu Hashish</td>
<td>Beit lahem</td>
<td>Member</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asma Atawneh</td>
<td>Hebron</td>
<td>Member</td>
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<td>Jameel abu hamida</td>
<td>Gaza</td>
<td>Member</td>
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### Supervision Committee:

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<td>Ameera Abu – Shosheh</td>
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<td>Fatima Altous</td>
<td>Ramallah</td>
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<td>Ahlam Khdair</td>
<td>Nablus</td>
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<td>Basel Abu Daka</td>
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Contents:

1. An Overview of the Palestinian Situation during 2013
   1.1 Political Situation 1
   1.2 Economic Situation 4
   1.3 Social Situation 4
   1.4 Local Non-Governmental Organization0 5
   1.5 Agricultural Situation 5

2. Directions for 2014 11
3. Achievements 15
4. Targeted Locations and Beneficiary Groups
   4.1 Beneficiary 29
   4.2 Targeted Action Locations 29
   4.3 Targeted Beneficiaries 30

5. Implementation Environmental and Procedures
   5.1 Program Environment 33
   5.2 Mechanisms to Ensure Stakeholders’ Participation 35
   5.3 Implementation Procedures 38
   5.4 Monitoring Arrangements 41

6. Progress towards Sustainability
   6.1: Ownership by Beneficiaries 43
   6.2 Appropriate Technology 44
   6.3 Respect for Socio-Cultural Norms and Attitudes 44
   6.4 Gender Issues 44
   6.5 Institutional and Management Capacities 44
   6.6 Economic and Financial Viability 45
   6.7 Environmental Protection and Climate Change 45
   6.8 Sensitive Intervention in Local Disputes 45
   6.9 Equality and Human Rights 46
### 7. Partnerships and Alliances

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7.1 Partnerships with Non-Governmental Organizations</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.2 Partnerships with Governmental and Quasi-Governmental Institutions</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.3 Relationships with PARC Companies and Institutions</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.4 Relationship with universities and academic institutions</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.5 The private sector</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>7.6 Success Stories</strong></td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>8. Appendices</strong></td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.1 List of PARC’s Ongoing Projects in 2013</td>
<td>57</td>
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Message from the Board:

During 2013 there was a major escalation in the actions of the brutal Israeli occupation on the ground and in relation to Palestinian water rights, both prior to and following the resumption of negotiations. Israel intensified its settlement activities overtly and covertly and Israeli officials made tough statements about the annexation of the Jordan Valley and settlements. This systematic policy was accompanied by an upsurge in settler attacks against Palestinians and their properties.

At the very time that Palestinian-Israeli negotiations were resumed with the purpose of reaching a final solution to the conflict, Israeli occupation policies of escalation and displacement continued unabated, along with violations of Palestinian rights. In addition, the detrimental political division between the West Bank and Gaza Strip persisted and all efforts to bring it to an end failed to achieve their objective. Matters worsened when Gaza was excluded from the final-status negotiations, which were centered on the West Bank. This situation was exacerbated by the build up of tension between the Gaza Strip and Egypt in the aftermath of the Muslim Brotherhood losing power in Egypt.

Given the implications of the situation in Egypt, the growing crisis in Syria in which Lebanon became entangled, and the internationalization of some of these crises, primarily the Syrian one, the situation in Palestine deteriorated further and Arab support for the Palestinian cause eroded. The Palestinian Authority’s crushing financial crisis dragged on despite all the measures taken to address it and cast a shadow over Palestinian living conditions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Israel continued to impose a blockade on the Gaza Strip and restrict the movement of people and goods, exacerbating the economic and social vulnerability of the Palestinian people. General economic growth slowed, poverty and unemployment rose, and social safety nets came under mounting pressure, while the foundations of Palestinian civil and political rights contracted.

The political and economic instability, along with its social implications, highlighted the fragility of institutional structures, particularly those of governmental institutions. It proved that real structures for state institutions are lacking; all the achievements in this area have merely prolonged the occupation and backfired on resilience
and resistance, which remain distinctive features of Palestinian community-based strategies to counter the onerous burden posed by the Israeli occupation and consolidation of its control over Palestinian land and the Palestinian people’s sovereign rights.

The European Union’s decision to label products from Israeli settlements and deny them entry into European markets was the most significant decision taken by the international community in support of the Palestinian people in 2013. This decision compelled many businesses, including European banks, to divest from Israel; the Israeli government viewed this divestment as a powerful tool that would have adverse implications on the Israeli economy.

As a national institution, PARC monitors with concern the negative impact of Israeli occupation policies aimed at displacing Palestinian farmers from their land and stripping them of their resilience. PARC exerts every effort through its programs to strengthen Palestinian resilience in affected communities, particularly in the Jordan Valley and Area C. In addition, PARC views the policies of the Palestinian government and Hamas-run government in the Gaza Strip as detrimental to the economic and social system and rights. These policies have reduced the prospects of resilience, exacerbated poverty and entrenched the Palestinian market’s dependence on Israel, which will impinge directly on the future national enterprise. Based on this realistic understanding, PARC has developed rights-based strategies and introduced several interventions to enable Palestinians to remain resilient and confront all policies and schemes that prejudice their inherent rights enshrined in international covenants and treaties.
Overview of the Achievements of the Board of Directors in 2013:

The PARC Board of Directors held six sessions in 2013 and seven sessions during the period from its election last July until the end of 2013. During these sessions, the Board of Directors devoted special attention to the following issues:

» Implementing the 2014-2018 five-year strategic plan.

» Approving the salary and grade scale based on institutional restructuring.

» Completing institutional restructuring based on the changes required by the strategic plan.

» Completing the first phase of administrative, financial and procurement-related policy development.

» Organizing several field visits and participating in activities and exhibitions sponsored or co-staged by PARC.

» Following up work undertaken as well as discussing and approving the report issued by the fact-finding committee formed following the resignation of four staff members in the Gaza Strip.

» Approving the arrangements made for releasing Papay Garden after its restoration upon the expiration of the Benefit Agreement granted to Al-Reef Company.

» Approving the regulations of the relationship with the Union of Saving and Credit Cooperatives and concluding a joint cooperation agreement with them to regulate future relationships and clearly setting forth the financial, administrative and technical obligations of the two parties.

» Endorsing the financial and administrative report before submitting it to the General Assembly for approval.

» Nominating (22) new members (11) from the West Bank and (11) from the Gaza Strip) to the General Assembly.

» Organizing the annual General Assembly meeting.

» Administering all issues related to PARC property with the relevant parties bilaterally and judicially.

» Discussing and endorsing several scenarios addressing PARC’s financial obligations and covering personnel entitlements.

» Approving funding to the Rural Women Development Cooperative, which faced financial problems in 2013, to enable it to continue to provide services for targeted groups.

» Recommending the restructuring of partner institutions by their respective board of directors to complement the structure of PARC; this will have a positive impact on the operation of both these institutions and PARC.

» Regulating PARC’s relationship with Jericho Municipality regarding land plots earmarked for public services
under the agreement signed several years ago.

» In response to Ramallah Municipality’s order for the crater excavated by PARC on its land to be filled, the Board of Directors reached an agreement with a company to pave the plot and lease part of it. This will reduce the filling costs and also generate an additional income for PARC.

» Resolving the issue with Wattan TV regarding accrued rent, contributing to the recovery of (US$140,000), settling the dispute on the annual increase and confirming the accrued rents totalling (US$213,000).

» Holding the General Assembly’s annual meeting. Organizing various field visits by the Board of Directors on an individual and collective basis to PARC sites of activity for evaluation and follow-up.

» Involving members of the Board of Directors in receiving delegations and fundraising.

» Attending meetings, organizing visits to PARC facilities and submitting recommendations on exploiting the revenues generated by these facilities by the Board of Directors’ committees, especially the Properties Committee. Approving the nomination of a deputy for the Board of Directors of REEF Finance.

These activities took place against a backdrop of ongoing incitement against us, including other non-governmental organizations participating in the attempt to libel and discredit us. The organizational restructuring triggered concerns among staff and it required an extraordinary effort by the Board of Directors to navigate this stage with minimal staff losses to achieve our goal. Although the hands of the Board of Directors were restricted in some aspects by the general atmosphere, we can confidently say now that the difficult period is behind us and we are in the process of forging forward once again.
جمعية التنمية الزراعية (الإغاثة الزراعية)
An Overview of the Palestinian Situation during 2013

1.1 Political Situation

With the exception of the resumption of US-sponsored negotiations with Israel and the release of three batches of pre-Oslo prisoners, no politically significant change occurred in 2013. On the contrary, the Palestinian leadership was slow in acceding to United Nation institutions, which was one of the most important political shortcomings of this stage. The significant events of 2013 were:

» Political negotiations with Israel resumed without any clear terms of reference; the US continued to dominate the negotiations while the role of the Quartet declined considerably.

» The resumption of the political process without any clear terms of reference led Israel to frantically expand settlements, especially in Jerusalem, and gave settlers a carte blanche to act against Palestinians. The plan to extend Israeli sovereignty over the Jordan Valley commenced under different pretexts.

» With the resumption of negotiations, intra-Palestinian reconciliation was relegated to the margins of the political arena despite statements and initiatives launched to end the division. The situation was exacerbated by the strong regional polarization in which both Hamas and Fatah clung doggedly to their convictions and interests.

» Gaza continued to suffer under the strict Israeli blockade; border crossings were only opened by Israel following a specific agenda to allow the entry of basic necessities, none of which could play a role in reviving the economy. This situation worsened in the aftermath of the Egyptian government’s decision to destroy tunnels along the border close to the Rafah border crossing and cease political communications with the displaced government in Gaza.

» During 2013 Israel intensified its campaign of arrests, raids and incursions into various areas, including Area A that falls under the Palestinian Authority’s full control. There were also many arrests, house demolitions, displacements and cold-blooded murders of Palestinians.

» Temporary and permanent Israeli military checkpoints, over 300 in number, continued to fragment Palestinian territory in the West Bank.
جمعية التنمية الزراعية (الإغاثة الزراعية)
1.2 Economic Situation

» According to reports published by the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), Gross Domestic Product grew by (3.7%) compared with (43.60%) in 2012, a decrease of (2.25%), while per capita Gross Domestic Product dropped by (0.7%).

» There was only a slight change in workforce participation, which increased from (43.6%) in 2012 to (44.5%) in 2013. The unemployment rate increased from (23%) in 2012 to (25.2%) in 2013, the brunt of it borne by youth at approximately (44%). In the Gaza Strip unemployment was (39%), reaching (48%) in Rafah governorate, while in the West Bank it was (18%), with the highest rate in Hebron governorate at (25.3%).

» The average cost of living rose by (3.1%) in 2013 compared with 2012 due to rising prices of basic commodities, in particular agricultural products, food products and fuels, and had an adverse impact on those on limited incomes.

» While expenditure rose in various sectors, expenditure in the agricultural sector remained low despite its significant role.

» The annual losses of the Palestinian economy totaled (US$3.4) billion as a result of the ongoing Israeli control over border crossings and Area C, as well as the system of blockade, checkpoints and barriers.

1.3 Social Situation

The social environment is linked to developments in the economic situation. The following present the main aspects of the social situation:

» Increasing incidence of poverty in occupied Palestine; it exceeded a (27%), distributed as (19%) and (39%) in the West Bank and Gaza Strip respectively, with youth bearing the brunt of it.

» Increasing incidence of murder, robbery, family disputes and fraud. The number of murders registered in 2013 totalled (57), including (27) cases of family honour murder. This is an indicator of the deteriorating security situation in several governorates and the emergence of unlawful groups; it underscores the need to update relevant legislation and strengthen the rule of law in Palestine.

» Health services have deteriorated considerably and the doctor-per-population ratio has not improved.

» Strikes conducted by teachers, doctors and engineers’ syndicates have decreased the quality of services provided to the public.

» Strikes by personnel of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA) to promote their demands had a detrimental effect on the services provided by UNRWA to refugee camps, in particular education and health services.
Local Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs)

Despite the vitality of NGOs in Palestine, they did not play a significant role during 2013. On the contrary, the services offered by these organizations came under mounting pressure and output declined. As a result, less funding was made available to them, monitoring bodies became varied, and the role of international institutions expanded at the expense of national institutions. The following is a brief presentation of the work undertaken by NGOs in 2013:

» The role of NGOs in imposing the rule of law declined.

» A prerequisite for NGOs to play their role, public freedoms and democratic practices were curtailed and, as a result, this role declined.

» The decline in the political role of NGOs is an indicator of the nature of the political regime, particularly in the Gaza Strip.

» There was fierce competition between organizations for funding and several organizations conducted activities in any sector where funding was available. Accordingly, they did not comply with their own bylaws.

» The number of international institutions that are not subject to sufficient control increased.

» As a result of increasing demand on their services, the role played by NGOs in monitoring governmental performance and human rights advocacy declined. Competition between organizations became based on performance in service delivery, stripping them of their unique function.

» As a result of their direct intervention in beneficiary NGOs, there was a rollback in the role of international organizations and the procedures, standards and specifications adopted by NGOs and international organizations became problematic.

» Attempts by NGOs to build partnerships with the private sector failed.

1.5 Agricultural Situation

1.1.5 Israeli Violations

» Ongoing Israeli violations and attacks on the agricultural sector intensified in 2013, exceeding (716) violations and causing direct losses of an estimated (US$9) million.

» Direct attacks by the Israeli occupation army constituted (65%) of the violations against the agricultural sector and the remaining (35%) were direct violations committed by settlers, some under the protection of the army.

» The uprooting, torching and destruction of olive trees ranked top of the violations of the agricultural sector and the demolition of agricultural structures came second.

» Olive trees were the target of Israeli violations due to their symbolism of Palestinian attachment to their land.
» Qalqilya governorate sustained the most losses as a result of Israeli occupation and settler practices, while the Jordan Valley governorates and Hebron were ranked second and third respectively.

» Israel demolished over (246) houses and issued demolition notices for over (1,313) houses, mostly located in rural areas of the West Bank.

» Israel demolished (371) structures, mostly used for agricultural purposes, and issued demolition notices for over (510) other structures.
1.2.5 Economic Indicators of Agricultural Sector

» The contribution of agriculture to employment decreased from (11.4%) in 2012 to (10.5%) in 2013 due to the lack of investment and the low allocations for this sector in the general budget.

» As a result of Israeli violations, grazing land and local fodder are in short supply and international fodder prices are high. The number of livestock fell, undermining competitiveness and reducing profitability in the livestock sector.

» Due to restrictions on the fishing zone designated to Palestinians by Israel within Gaza territorial waters, fish production decreased in 2013 by (22.5%), particularly during seasons such as that of sardines. Palestinian fishermen were compelled to fish in Egyptian territorial waters until they were prohibited by the Egyptian authorities.

» The contribution of agriculture in the Gross Domestic Product dropped from (5.7%) in 2012 to (4.9%) in 2013.

» The volume of agricultural exports totalled 58 million dollar, constituting (7.5%) of all Palestinian exports.

1.3.5 Structural Development of Agricultural Sector

» Specialized agricultural councils were regenerated and their work reorganized in 2013.

» The long-overdue Risk Prevention and Agricultural Insurance Fund Law were approved in 2013.

» Efforts continue to enact a law for agricultural credit institutions.

Natural Damage and Disasters

» The olive fruit fly and peacock spot caused extensive damage and reduced the quality of olives in the 2013 harvest. This reduced opportunities to market products to international markets, particularly fair trade markets.

» Rainfall variability induced by climate change caused damage to several crops despite abundant rainfall in the 2012/2013 season.

» The Alexa snow storm caused extensive losses to the agricultural sector. Direct and indirect losses were estimated at approximately (US$23) million and (US$46) million respectively.
Directions for 2014

The five year strategic plan for 2014-2018 introduced changes into operational strategies and rights-based targets. This year PARC will focus on preparing the internal and external environment to implement its strategy and placing it on a track conducive to achieving the goals envisaged by PARC’s references. Accordingly, PARC will undertake the following activities:

» Complete the program for the five year plan covered by the strategy.

» Restructure the institution in line with the new strategy and identify tasks to reflect the changes introduced.

» Restructure offices in governorates and determine their tasks under the new strategy.

» Review financial and administrative policies and make them responsive to the strategy adopted.

» Ensure prudent allocation of human resources to transform the strategy into reality.

» Strengthen media aspects to underpin the rights system in the work undertaken.

» Contribute to the provision of a legal environment and policies that empower and support the agricultural sector.

» Reinforce the relationship with grassroots communities and organizations;

» Focus on investment with the Palestinian cooperative movement as leverage for development of the agricultural sector.

» Enhance food security and sovereignty over food by improving agricultural practices and optimum exploitation of resources to achieve a balance between production and consumption patterns.

» Reinforce partnerships and relationships with relevant institutions to support rights for Palestinian products, particularly for disadvantaged farmers and women in rural areas.

» Develop the institution’s self-generated resources and enhance its independence.
- Direct agricultural interventions to Palestinians in the Diaspora through regional relationships.

- Establish relationships and partnerships with all grassroots movements dedicated to supporting Palestinian rights.

- Promote PARC’s membership in local and international networks.

- Promote opportunities, competitiveness and accessibility of local products, particularly rural products, in domestic and international markets.

- Expand programs for implementation in Jerusalem, with special attention to Jerusalem neighborhoods.

- Increase investment in the scheme to reduce natural risks and disasters and the damages sustained by the agricultural sector.

- Integrate human rights standards and social justice throughout the various stages of PARC’s interventions.
جمعية التنمية الزراعية (الإغاثة الزراعية)
Achievements

This report covers the key achievements of PARC in 2013 and complements PARC’s strategic plan for integrated rural development via the following strategic goals:

- Strengthen the economic role of the agricultural sector by contributing to food security and sustainable agriculture.
- Enhance the sustainability of specialized rural grassroots, trade-union and community-based organizations.
- Strengthen the role of agricultural relief in the national and social struggle.
- Maintain sustainable agricultural relief.
To realize the first strategic goal, PARC conducts the following activities in the West Bank and Gaza Strip:

**Outcome 1: Improve accessibility and provide protection to natural resources (land and water)**

The land development program involved (11,215) dunums of land directly owned by (11,236) farmers, with female farmers constituting (40%) of the beneficiaries. It also indirectly benefited (28,341) farmers, with female farmers constituting (42%) of beneficiaries, through the following interventions:

**Land Preparation, Rehabilitation and Cultivation**

» Preparation, fencing and ploughing of (1,052) dunums.
» Constructing agricultural roads (2 km) to serve (340) dunums.
» Constructing (24,564) stone retaining walls to serve (1,121) dunums.
» Cultivating (118,857) fruit trees on (3,296) dunums.
» Supplying environmental inputs to serve (205) dunums.
» Rehabilitating 8 greenhouses to serve 8 dunums of land and 8 beneficiaries.
Water Program Activities

» Drilling (210) wells with a total capacity of (13,690) cubic meters to serve (1940) dunums.
» Drilling (139) wells to serve 55 dunums of home gardens.
» Constructing (36) metal water reservoirs to serve (504) dunums of rain-fed land and (109) dunums of irrigated land.
» Designing and installing irrigation networks with a total length of (22) km to serve (2,225) dunums.
» Constructing wastewater treatment plants for farmers on an individual and group basis and using treated water to serve (306) dunums benefiting (6,284) beneficiaries.
» Restoring two water springs to serve (40) dunums benefiting (420) beneficiaries.
» Distributing (59) plastic water tanks to serve (14) dunums benefiting (59) families.

Training Activities

» Conducting (31) training courses on various topics including creative practices with olive trees; the importance of cooperative action and sustainable management for agriculture, water and irrigation; home gardens; organic agriculture; and water consumption smoothing, from which (658) participants benefited.
» Conducting (15) workshops on topics including agricultural policies and extension; the situation of water and agriculture in Palestine; concepts of integrated pest control; organic agriculture; and fair trade, benefiting (654) participants.
» Conducting a survey on sustainable olive production in the Nablus district.
Outcome 2: Improve professionalism in the agricultural sector and technical and developmental extensions

The New Graduate Agronomists Training Program is one of three strategic programs that have constituted a distinctive feature of PARC for over (20) years. The Program equips agronomists with theoretical and practical skills in modern agricultural and technical techniques, systems and technologies to meet the requirements of the agricultural market. Three training courses were held during this year over a period of 8 to 10 months for 52 new graduate agronomists, with female agronomists making up (37%) of the participants. The training courses held this year were unique as they focused on practical applications and trainees were given the task of conducting study research. Trainees also had the opportunity to receive loans to encourage agronomists to start their own income-generating businesses. Each training course ended with an overseas study tour.

The practical aspect of each training course, in particular courses in livestock and plant production, included trainee agronomists being offered the opportunity to observe a livestock production unit, including cows, sheep, rabbits, chickens and ducks, in addition to plant production in PARC’s palm tree orchards.
Training of Target Groups

Human resources are one of the most important resources and PARC intensified its efforts to offer training to target groups of farmers in 2013. PARC held 106 training courses for (622) farmers, males and females, and organized 62 workshops for 828 farmers. These training courses and workshops featured detailed explanations on agricultural policies and extension, and the situation of water and agriculture in Palestine. The courses introduced participants to the concepts of integrated pest control, organic agriculture, fair trade, packaging, post-harvesting procedures, saplings and vegetable grafting, effective communication, methods of negotiation, processes of agricultural marketing, farmers’ rights, lobbying and advocacy, and intervention and crisis management.

Field Observations

» To introduce new techniques and provide farmers with practical training, PARC conducted (40) irrigation water practical demonstrations for (114) families. It also carried out (230) field practical demonstrations in safe agriculture, grafting and hydroponics with the purpose of offering participants detailed information about safe organic alternatives, irrigation water management and smoothing and increasing production by the use of modern techniques. These practical demonstrations benefited (460) families.

» PARC also conducted (57) empirical and research studies on development farms, including modern environmentally friendly agricultural techniques, the origin of Palestinian seeds, protected agriculture, complementary irrigation, and olive fly disease control.

» Two Studies on the implementation of the economic and social impact of water treatment.

» PARC provided 455 farmers with simple agricultural tools and material inputs for use in organic agriculture.

» PARC trained personnel inspected and prepared (1,205) farms to enable farmers to be granted the Best Agricultural Practices Certificate by the relevant authorities.

Exchange Field and Awareness Visits

» PARC engaged in various methods of sharing experiences and information through field and awareness trips and exchange visits locally and internationally. PARC conducted 2,906 field awareness trips for (279) farmers to enable them to develop their knowledge. It also conducted (32) local exchange visits for farmers to schools and cooperatives to share experiences on modern agricultural practices and techniques, including grafting. PARC also conducted three foreign training missions and study tours to exchange experience and information between agronomists. PARC designed and published three technical and informational pamphlets on hygienic procedures for using wastewater, urban agriculture and treated wastewater.
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<th>Outcome 3: Improve quality and enhance marketing of local agricultural products</th>
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<td>» Designing and undertaking six promotion campaigns locally and abroad.</td>
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<td>» Conducting an assessment study of the local market to examine food production and marketing for women’s cooperatives in the Gaza Strip based on fair trade concepts.</td>
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<td>» Offering farmers the opportunity to participate in (142) advisory and promotional visits for the purpose of quality control and compliance with the requirements to acquire an organic production certificate.</td>
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<tr>
<td>» Examining and testing (302) samples (pesticide residues, water and soil).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>» Completing the design and installation of a compressed dates packaging line to enhance the marketing of local Palestinian products.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>» Completing a study on the genetic specifications of Medjool dates planted in the Jordan Valley in cooperation with Birzeit University.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>» Conducting a session attended by relevant agencies to discuss the study findings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>» Organizing eight training courses on product quality control and packaging for cooperative societies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>» Conducting an insecticide spraying campaign for olive trees benefiting (25) farmers in the Gaza Strip.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>» Producing five videos about income-generating women’s projects in the Old City of Jerusalem, al-Isawiya and Sur Baher and about farmers’ human rights in the Jordan Valley.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>» Publishing eleven leaflets on topics including environmental clubs, savings, credit, medical herbs, citizens and elections, and fostering civil cooperative values.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>» Distributing (13) densitometers to farmers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>» Holding (20) practical demonstrations and training courses on pipe-based horizontal agriculture, viticulture, aquaculture, conflict management and resolution, and community innovation in water resource management.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Outcome 4: Enhance social solidarity and support for poor families in emergencies

- Providing (153) poor families with material inputs to develop home gardens.
- Distributing food baskets to (764) poor families and creating employment opportunities (4,177 work days) for 41 unemployed workers. Each food basket ranged between ($100) and ($120) and PARC plays a prominent role in purchasing food parcels from local farmers and providing them to poor families. This contributes to improving the income of farmers, marketing products locally and assisting poor families.
- Offering training to (30) local committees.

PARC achieved the following as part of the second strategic goal:

Outcome 1: Increase the capacity of grassroots organizations, unions and CSOs

CSOs, including those dedicated to women, youth and farmers, play a leading role in reaching out to marginalized groups and organizing projects; these projects require identification, then implementation and finally assessment. PARC acknowledges the importance of these organizations through the following activities:

- Training courses for grassroots organizations: (81) training courses were held for grassroots organizations dedicated to women, farmers and youth, and informing (856) male and female trainees about good governance, the documentation of human right violations, campaign management, strategic planning, and reuse of wastewater. The trainees included (230) males and (626) females.
- Organized exchange visits: Organizing (31) local exchange visits to share experience and best practices for (191) male and female beneficiaries.
- Financing the Sur Baher Saving and Credit Group to build its capacities and increase its status in the local community.
- Developing the infrastructure of (10) CSOs and NGOs for farmers, women and youth by providing them with logistical support (equipment, furniture) to improve their communication structure.
- Conducting (205) advisory visits to share experience and best practices.
- Carrying out (86) workshops for (1,147) farmers and women on various topics,
» Conducting four exchange visits for grassroots organizations to share knowledge and experience.

» Holding three local conferences; two annual forums for farmers in Qalqilya (guavas) and Hebron (grapes) and a national conference to introduce the European Union-funded Beit Dajan and ‘Anza project, attended by the Prime Minister and other government figures.

» Publishing eight promotional leaflets on the products of target cooperatives.

» Engaging in five media activities in the form of TV shows, radio spots and newspaper advertisements to promote rural women’s organic products, announce summer camps and distribute saplings in Jerusalem.

» Renovate facilities in Zababdeh, benefiting (460) students.
Outcome 2: Organize target groups within social and economic frameworks

» Holding (50) training courses for (111) male and female farmers for the implementation of small projects.
» Presenting (84) group scholarships to enroll females in groups.
» Publishing seven leaflets and posters on women’s issues (5,000 copies).
» Holding 16 workshops on announcing projects and implementation mechanisms.
» Conducting two field surveys on the local market for women’s products.
» Organizing exchange visits involving 30 female students with local institutions for experience sharing.
» Participating in two informational activities: a radio show on early marriage attended by mothers and women, and an open day (exhibition) for embroidery designed by women.
» Establishing and registering three societies involved in irrigation water.
» Building the capacities of six cooperatives and developing operational and management systems, work manuals and policies.
» Providing the six target cooperatives with logistical support.
» Distributing basic farm requirements to cooperatives in ‘Atouf, Shufa, Shufa, an-Nassariya and Kufr Dan villages.
» Giving a practical demonstration of aquaculture for an-Nassariya cooperative.
» Organizing six educational visits to Shufa, Danaba, Sanur, Tammun, an-Nassariya and Meithalun.
» Organizing a visit to Senegal for information sharing on integrated natural resources management.
» In cooperation with Khodori Institute, drafting two booklets on creative models and cooperative action in the use and management of water and distributing (700) copies.
» Printing two informational posters to be used by farmers.
» Holding a national meeting on the current situation and future of irrigation water in West Bank. This was attended by (10) irrigation farmer cooperatives, the Palestine Water Authority, the Ministry of Agriculture, several universities, local councils and concerned stakeholders.
» Producing an informative video on integrated water management.
» Renovation and restoration of (14) public gardens benefiting (4,000) people.
» Establishing eight libraries for (3,515) people, including 2,005 females and (1,510) males.
» Holding nine winter camps for students benefiting (1,054) male and female students from Jerusalem (Sur Baher, Wadi al-Joz, the Old City, Silwan and al-Isawiya).
Income 3: Increasing the assets, portfolios and capacities of institutional credit organizations

- Conducting (30) advisory visits.
- Holding four training courses.
- Making an additional contribution of (US$1.5) million to the capital of REEF Finance.
- Providing financial support of (US$588,000) to the portfolios of saving and credit associations.
- Producing eight TV shows on income-generating projects.

PARC has achieved the following as part of the third strategic goal:

Outcome 1: Develop the role played by PARC in local and regional networks and increase its influence in the national struggle

- Organizing four field promotional campaigns to support national products and boycott Israeli and contraband goods, with the participation of (400) volunteers.
- Conducting exchange visits abroad to Tunisia, Lebanon and Kurdistan.
- Conduct three media activities, namely radio spots, a marketing show and a social media page to help market agricultural products.
- Organizing a lobbying and advocacy campaign involving (200) people to promote the Disaster Fund.
- Participating in the production of a documentary about residents’ rights in the Jordan Valley.
- Organizing two campaigns on the right to access natural resources in the West Bank and Gaza Strip involving (200) volunteers.
- Developing two strategic development plans to benefit six action locations in Nablus and Jenin governorates (Sabastia, Burqa, Bazaria, Jaba, al-Fandaqumiya, and Silet ad-Dhahr) whose population totals approximately (30,000).
- Developing a strategic development plan for the northern Gaza Strip, whose population totals (270,000).
- Publishing and printing (5,000) copies of Holy Land Plants.
- Developing a social media page for PARC, which currently has over (10,000) likes.
- Repeat the publication of over 100 news articles published in newspapers and websites.
- Conducting three courses in civil defence attended by (90) male and female volunteers.
- Conducting three English language courses for (60) male and female volunteers.
- Conducting three courses in first aid attended by (60) male and female volunteers.
Outcome 2: Improve staff skills in lobbying and advocacy techniques

» Conducting (21) training days attended by (400) people on how grassroots organizations can build communication with the public.

» Conducting two courses on campaign execution and design attended by (40) volunteers.

» Producing a media session about the legal environment of grassroots organizations.

» Conducting two courses on social media attended by (50) male and female volunteers.

» Conducting two courses on leadership and communication skills attended by (30) male and female volunteers.

» Organizing (17) media and TV interviews in the Gaza Strip.

Outcome 3: Promoting civil society values among PARC personnel and volunteers

» Conducting five training courses on topics including the training of trainers, strategic planning and organizing lobbying and advocacy campaigns.

» Undertaking two campaigns on the legal environment of grassroots organizations in the West Bank and Gaza Strip attended by (150) local activists.

» Engaging in eight media activities on the environment, the law for CSOs and the right to access natural resources.

» Organizing (55) workshops for (1,280) personnel and volunteers on tolerance, transparency, legal environment of grassroots organizations, data archiving, procedures for meetings, and writing minutes.

» Organizing (5) needassessments for 1,405 people on female workers in settlements, documentary reports on the Jordan Valley and the identification of project needs.

Outcome 4: Support for freedom and justice-based peace values

» Conducting four training courses attended by 80 volunteers on the documentation of violations and organizing campaigns to expose the occupation’s practices.

» Conducting a campaign attended by (200) volunteers on the free movement of people and goods into and out of the Gaza Strip.

» Organizing a TV show about the occupation’s practices in the Jordan Valley and the interventions that the Palestinian Authority should undertake.

» Conducting a study of female workers in settlements and distributing (500) copies.

» Organizing (30) workshops for (300) activists on the importance of forming a unified committee for the Jordan Valley.

» Organizing (15) workshops for (300) activists in the Gaza Strip on human rights laws.
PARC achieved the following as part of the fourth strategic goal:

**Outcome 1: Ongoing development of PARC’s human and material resources**

In December (31, 2013), PARC’s personnel totaled (128), with females making up (33%) of the total number of staff. PARC has made strenuous efforts to achieve a gender balance in employment despite obstacles facing the recruitment process due to intense competition by qualified candidates. Also, the nature of the activities undertaken and locations targeted for action by PARC make it more difficult for women to get involved. The most important achievements in this area are as follows:

» Facilitating the participation of (35) PARC personnel in training courses in media, negotiation management, conflict resolution, documentation, and financial management, grassroots organizations’ code of conduct and disaster management.

» Participating in three ceremonies.

» Providing (19) personnel with the opportunity to participate in training and conferences overseas.

**Outcome 2: Enhancing PARC’s long term fundraising capacity**

» Visiting donor countries and holding dozens of meetings with donor parties.

» Developing fruitful relationships with institutions and initiating prospects of relationships with new countries.

» Carrying out many development studies and research studies that form a solid basis for fundraising.

**Outcome 3: Promoting the involvement of PARC’s reference bodies in its work**

PARC has clear references for policy making and decision making; these are the General Assembly, the Board of Directors and the various departments. The General Assembly consists of (103) members, eight of whom are honorary supportive members (males and females) distributed throughout governorates and the Diaspora and representing different sectors; the General Assembly is PARC’s highest legislative reference.

The Board of Directors includes 13 members: Five from the Gaza Strip and eight from the West Bank, elected by the General Assembly. The Board of Directors is responsible for scrutinizing the executive and compliance with laws, policies and regulations adopted by the General Assembly. The introduction to this report refers to the achievements of the PARC Board of Directors.
جمعية التنمية الزراعية (الإغاثة الزراعية)
#### Targeted Locations & Beneficiaries

**4.1. Beneficiaries**

PARC operated in (168) locations nationwide in 2013 through associations, communities and action committees, reaching 130,685 people directly or indirectly. Women constituted (77%) of the staff members and PARC provided (47,394) days of work to (6700) workers.

**4.2. Targeted locations**

The following table represents the locations targeted for PARC activities during 2013.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Governorate</th>
<th>No. of Villages</th>
<th>Villages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tulkarem</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Kufr Zibad, Kufr Aboush, Ramin, Baqah Ash-Sharqiyyah, Danabah, Beir Lid,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Shufa, Kufr al-Labd, Kattaba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jenin</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Kufr Rai, al-Yamun, Az-Zababdeh, Anzah, Meithalun, Qabatya, Kufr Dan,</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Silet Ad-Dhafer, Jaba, al-Fandaqumiyya, al-Jalama, Ya’bad, Faqqua’a,</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ajja, Zbuba, Sanur, Kfret, Arraba, Arrana, Burtcin, Arbuna, Deir Abu</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Da’if, Abu, Deit Qad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nablus</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Qabalan, Bazzariya, Zwata, al-Luban, As-Sawiyah, Aqrafa, Jamma’in,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Burqa, Beir Dajan, Zita, Sabastiya, An-Naqura, Jamma’in</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jerusalem</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>Beit Surik, Kharb al-Lahem, Ath-Thawri, Um Tuba, Biddu, Old City, Sur</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Baher, al-Isawiyah, Silwan, Wadi al-Jouz, Hizma, Anata, Shu’fat, Beir</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Hanina, Beir Safafa, al-Jib, Qattana, Beit Ikza, Beir Anan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramallah</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Al-Mazra’a Ash-Sharqiyya, Khrabatha al-Misbah, Beitillu, Deir Ghassana,</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Silwad, Bani Zeid al-Gharbiyya, Mazare An-Nubani, Arura, Kufr Malek,</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Kufr Nemeah, Dura al-Qare’, Yabrud, Al-Mazra’al-Gharbiyya, Sinjil,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Aboud, Beir Liqya, Kharbatha Banin Harith</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hebron</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>As-Samu, Yatta, Khalit Saleh, Adh-Dhahiriya, Bani Naim, Idhna, Khirbet</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Surra, Marish, Wadi ar-Rim, Surif, Deir Samit, Nuba, Beit Ummar, Halhul,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bethlehem</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Beit Iskariya, Al-Khader, Wadi Fukin, Taqou, al-Masara, Wadi Rahhal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salfit</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Deir Istiya, Farkha, Ammuriya, Iskaka, Az-Zawiyah, Bidiya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tubas</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Tubas, Aqqaba, Al-En Al-Bida, Atuf, Tammun, Bardala, Kardala</td>
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<tr>
<td>Qalqilya</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Kufur Thulth, al-Nabi Elias, Jinsafut, Azzun, Ras Atiya, Al-Mudawar,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Beit Amin, Azzun Al-Atma</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gaza</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>Beit Lahia, Beit Hanun, Jabalia, Al-Qaraya Al-Badawiyah, Al-Zaytun,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ash-Shajaiya, Juhr Ad-Dik, Al-Mighraqa, Al-Tufah, Al-Breij, An-Nseirat,</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Al-Maghazi, Deir Al-Balah, Wadi Al-Salqa, As-Sawarrah, Absan Al-Kabira,</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Absan As-Saghira, Khan Younes, Al-Qarara, Hay Al-Manara, Khuzaa, Al-Fakhari,</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mawasi Khan Younes, As-Satir Al-Gharbi, Ash-Shuka, Hay Al-Nasr,</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Khirbet Al-Adas, Mawasi Rafah, Rafah Al-Gharbiyya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jericho and the</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Jericho, Al-Jaftak, An-Nassariya, Al-Aqrabaniyya, Farrush Beit Dajan,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordan Valley</td>
<td></td>
<td>Beit Hasan, Ein Shibli, Az-Zbeidat, Al-Uja</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1948 Palestine</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Al-Naqab, Sikhnin, Arraba, Deir Hanna, Allabun, Um Al-Fahim, Al-Mghar</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total number of communities targeted - 168**
4.3. Targeted Beneficiaries

The following provide details of the target beneficiaries of the activities undertaken by PARC in 2013:

» Farmers who use rain fed agriculture and irrigated agriculture and households in rural areas: This is the group most targeted by PARC in its projects and includes small farmers, war casualties in the Gaza Strip or those affected by systematic land razing to allow them to cultivate trees and vegetables, whether on open land or in greenhouses.

» Women in rural areas: This is the second most important group to which PARC directs projects and programs. This focus is due to the special circumstances of women, especially in rural communities where women assume (60%) of the farming burden. PARC highlights the gender role and allows women equal opportunities to take advantage of projects, but the main activity of this group is the home garden where they produce food for domestic consumption.

» Graduated agronomists: PARC focuses on this group to provide the agricultural sector with trained professionals and to provide agronomists with information and practical experience that will benefit the agricultural sector. Many long term training courses are held (over 10 months each year).

» Associations targeting farmers, women and youth: PARC engages the local community in the identification of needs and project execution as well as assessment of different activities by involving associations in work conducted in different locations and in capacity building.

» Community activists: PARC encourages the expansion of participation and work with entrepreneurs and activists in the community. This includes multiple action locations and training, organization and incorporation in various programs and local committees to give these individuals a greater role to serve society.

» PARC supports volunteering and a group of volunteers give their utmost individually and collectively; they are motivated and committed to the importance of volunteering.

» Unemployed workers: As part of its efforts to fight poverty, PARC has concentrated on this group during recent years. This group includes workers who were willing to look for employment opportunities, having lost their source of income inside Israel as a result of closing checkpoints following the outbreak of the al-Aqsa uprising, in settlements because of Israel’s unilateral disengagement of Gaza and the closure of Erez Industrial Zone, or farmers denied access to their land alongside the so-called security buffer zone.

» PARC’s staff: PARC cares for its staff as it considers investment in human resources as crucial for institutional sustainability and project quality and efficiency.
» Staff capacity building (technical, administrative, professional locally and abroad) is a key underpinning taken into account by PARC, although there has been little staff capacity building in 2013. As the year ended and many large-scale projects ended, project staffing has been downsized.

» Female graduates from rural areas: Work with these individuals has brought to light a new group in the agricultural sector. This group is loyal, motivated and requires greater attention to create qualified individuals within the sector. PARC created 16 temporary employment opportunities for this group.
Implementation Environment and Procedures

During 2013 many local, regional and international events affected the work of PARC, mainly the following:

5.1: Program Environment
5.1.1: Overall Environment of Programs

» Decrease in funding available due to the international financial crisis and its effects on donor countries.

» Exchange rate fluctuations (mainly the USD against NIS) that had a negative impact on project activities. On the other hand, community contribution to most offered services increased.

» The Israeli occupation authorities took steps to counteract financial support by donors to areas classified as C areas. Donors therefore are required to provide political follow up and support to their assistance.

» The division of the West Bank and Gaza remained in effect and impeded communications between the two regions, reducing opportunities for funding projects as donors tend to fund projects in the West Bank more than in Gaza; it also impeded work in joint activities.

» The Alexa snowstorm hindered the work of institutions in December 2013 and caused considerable damage to projects completed recently by these institutions.

» The Israeli siege and blockade had a direct impact on inputs and services (seeds, plants, pesticides, equipment and labor) and increased the prices of raw materials. The high prices hit low-income families and increased the demand for services.

» The duplicity of projects and programs implemented by international and local agricultural and non-agricultural organizations, and the lack of coordination among organizations implementing similar projects, all had a negative impact on services, making it difficult to choose the appropriate beneficiaries and decreasing societal contribution to such projects.

» Focus on humanitarian projects in the Gaza Strip at the expense of developmental projects damaged civil society and exacerbated weaknesses caused by the division.

» Limited interest in projects implemented in Jerusalem as result of the political situation and absence of agricultural productive projects offered to Jerusalem.
5.1.2: Medium term environment of programs

This was affected by several elements as follows:

» An increase in Israeli attacks on implemented projects raised the cost of activities.

» The repeated closure of Gaza Strip crossings and the rise in unemployment and poverty impacted standards of living. Demand increased by the unemployed for temporary employment opportunities in reclamation projects and the ability of beneficiaries to make their own contribution declined.

» Continuous Israeli violations caused direct damage to farmers despite efforts to reduce the number of Israeli and settlement products in the Palestinian market.

» The increase in demand led to intense competition for available services, sometimes creating difficulties for the institution and for beneficiaries despite transparent selection procedures.

5.1.3: Main obstacles

Here are some of the obstacles faced during 2013:

Community participation:

» Difficulties in attracting participation by the community in different activities continued during 2013 as result of the economic deterioration that led to delays in works at some target locations and withdrawal of some of the selected beneficiaries.

» Some foreign and international institutions executed projects close to the locations targeted by PARC without community participation. This led to complaints by beneficiaries and damaged the values nurtured with beneficiaries.

Technical problems:

» Some contractors and workers refuse to work in sites exposed to the occupation, while attacks by settlers forced items required, such as rainwater cisterns, to be cancelled or delayed the implementation of activities.

» Poor collaboration between local councils and project committees resulted in cancellations or delays in implementing some activities.

» The high cost of building rainwater cisterns due to the nature of the site and type of rock prevented beneficiaries from building these (pear shaped) cisterns, but cement tanks are very expensive to build. As a result, some beneficiaries were unable to build their own wells.

» The poor economic situation forced some beneficiaries to perform activities themselves as they could not employ skilled workers. This was detrimental to the quality of the finished product and created problems as the applicable specifications were not adhered to.

» A limited number of local companies and contractors participated in tenders for purification plants.

» The impact of delays in obtaining the required permits and licenses from the relevant department of the Palestinian Authority such as the EQA and PWA to establish treatment plants in Beit Dajan and Anza threatened the potential implementation of the entire project, forcing PARC to request that the duration of the project be extended without paying additional costs.

» The decline in contractors participating in tenders because of prices linked to the project currency; the increase in
inputs costs led to tenders having to be advertised more than once.

» Lack of funding budgets for the institutional structure led to a decline in the training of technical staff despite the need for skills development.

» Power outages in the Gaza Strip raised the costs of most agricultural interventions.

**Lack of skilled labor:**
The agricultural sector still suffers from a shortage of skilled labor and this reverberates on the cost and quality of work.

**Seasonal problems:**

» The timing of the month of Ramadan in the summer affects the implementation of activities during this month.

» Natural disasters and weather directly impact some activities and delay their implementation.

» Price fluctuations of agricultural products.

5.2: Mechanisms to ensure stakeholder participation

5.2.1: Main stakeholders

1. During project management:

PARC established various procedures to ensure effective participation by stakeholders, including:

» The location is selected in collaboration with all the parties to identify the location with the greatest need that complies to the required standards and specifications of each project.

» The project is publicized widely within the target locations with its specifications and activities clearly defined in participation with local councils and grassroots organizations and throughout the different stages of the project implementation.

» Exploratory visits are made and an initial inventory conducted of the institutions operating in the intended locations.

» Initial meetings are held with the institutions operating at the locations to identify potential partners.

» Forming a steering committee consisting of representatives of all parties to ensure agreement over decisions, roles distribution and monitoring each party’s interests and concerns.

» Developing the project implementation through workshops for technical and financial staff and partners to ensure one mechanism is used by all in the project implementation.

» Signing contracts on all technical, financial, and operational matters and clarifying the agreements to the target groups.

» Hold periodic meetings for the project directors to encourage partnership discuss achievements and obstacles and find solutions.

» Participate in the technical committees of projects, which have a mechanism for institutions to exchange experiences and information. These include the standard of living improvement project in the occupied territories funded by the Representative of the Netherlands, a natural resources management program funded by IVAD via the Ministry of Agriculture, the development of Jerusalem land funded by the Islamic Bank through UNDP, and improvement to the lives of marginalized residents in East Jerusalem funded by the European Union in coordination with Oxfam.
2. Final beneficiaries:
The strategy used by PARC during 2013 promoted the participation of male and female beneficiaries in the implementation follow up and evaluation of projects, in addition to focusing on gender issues during the selection of the local committees.

» Committees formed in target locations consist of delegates of local councils, grassroots organizations and legal experts and have at least one woman on each committee who participates in all stages of project implementation from the initial advertisement to completion of the activity. This process promotes a sense of possession and capacity building by these institutions and committees and makes partner municipalities and organizations more committed to required community participation in farm roads and collective irrigation systems.

» Target group training contributes to the continuity of the implemented activities and maximizes the benefits of the implemented projects.

» Project delivery in cooperation with beneficiaries and the committees plays a powerful role in the delivery of activities according to the required specifications.

» Volunteers in some target locations were trained to research community participation and define the risks and advantages of the target locations. These groups made field research with community participation.

» The beneficiaries participated in all the project activities starting from needs assessment through to implementation and evaluation of the results.

5.2.2: Sub-stakeholders
The sub-stakeholders consisted of representatives of different Palestinian ministries and Palestinian and international NGOs to ensure cooperation and coordination in their participation in PARC activities.

Centrally:

» Held several meetings for the steering committees of the implemented projects.

» Held periodic meetings between the Ministry of Agriculture and some institutions working in the agricultural sector about projects implemented between them (Netherlands, IVAD, development of Jerusalem land).

» Studying the establishment of water use cooperatives in coordination with PWA and the Ministry of Agriculture to ascertain the challenges faced and the installation of main water systems (carrier lines).

» Work in coordination with the Ministry of Labor to study developmental interventions with cooperative societies for livestock and agricultural associations (NGOs development center and SIRAI) to categorize lists of workers, excluding PA workers and other institutions with employment programs.

» Coordinating with local councils in the target locations before and during the implementation.

Regionally:

» In collaboration with Ministry of Agriculture employees, arranging for field visits to target locations for projects funded by the Ministry of Agriculture. This was very important, especially
during preparation to buy fruit trees and view nurseries, to ensure that good plants are supplied.

» Coordinating with local councils and grassroots organizations.

» Making field visits to institutions working at the target location to expand the benefits of activities undertaken or through coordination with the groups and interventions in the target location.

» Coordinating with Ministry of Agriculture Directorates in the target locations to identify the beneficiaries of the projects implemented by PARC.

» Making technical visits in coordination with grassroots organizations operating in agriculture.
Implementation Procedures

5.3.1: Strengths and weaknesses of the implementation strategy

Strengths:

Effective participation:
Community participation is one of the most important strategies in PARC when working with target groups because it enables target groups to participate in decisions related to the intended programs and activities and contributes to ensuring the effectiveness and sustainability of projects.
The participation of local institutions, committees, and councils in defining, implementing, and evaluating projects also has a positive impact on interaction in the implementation process and is a point of excellence. This take place through:
» Formation of local committees with the target groups in workplaces.
» Participation by beneficiaries in project planning and implementation and interventions.
» Grassroots participation and encouragement during the project implementation.
» Coordination with NGOs and governmental institutions in the project’s activities.

To secure community participation in all services:
Despite the importance of community participation, there have been difficulties in community participation in different activities over the past three years due to the deterioration in economic conditions, the increase in unemployment and poverty, and implementation of projects by local and international organizations without community participation of beneficiaries, which promoted reliance on others and is removed from real development due to the lack of possession of the implemented project.

Transparency and open competition:
Transparency and open competition are crucial elements in the implementation of programs and projects and working procedures exist to define the sequence of tasks and steps in project activities.
The selection of beneficiaries is highly transparent and special procedures apply to each project; these are announced via different means and in partnership with the municipality, the local committee and on-site institutions. The opportunity to apply is open to everybody, the project activities are specified in detail and the benefit of the project is made known. The beneficiaries are selected through three phases: Initial sorting, then field visits, and the final selection. The site committee and project coordinator explain why a beneficiary is not selected in coordination with the relevant authorities of ministries, civil society organizations, and municipalities to ensure that no beneficiary may benefit more than once from the same activity. All procedures ensure transparency in the selection of beneficiaries. The same is done for the procurement of services and materials by tenders published in newspapers and bids opened in front of the bidders, a representative of the donor, the project manager and PARC’s bodies.
4. Quality control:
Quality control is a very important component of any project and excellent and high quality services should be provided to beneficiaries. PARC established a manual of technical specifications for all materials based on Palestinian standards and specifications, in addition to a laboratory test of any services bought through tenders to obtain the best price and quality. The local committee participates in opening tenders with the receiving committee and a form is completed after delivery of services to avoid working again with suppliers who do not comply with the best standards. The delivery of materials should be documented during implementation by an internal supervisor to guarantee high quality services offered to beneficiaries and their satisfaction with the services offered to them is evaluated during the project. Visits take place by the project manager to perform monitoring and evaluation at the project termination. All this guarantees the high quality of work.

5. Volunteer work:
Since its inception, PARC has provided volunteer work by a group of agronomists and volunteering is its main strength; several campaigns and activities are implemented entirely by volunteers who prepare for workshops to announce projects in target regions and form special committees for each separate project. Volunteers play a substantial role in planning, implementing, monitoring, and selecting beneficiaries. They are also responsible for the project’s sustainability later through their participation in the committees formed on site.

Weaknesses:

» The limited technical capacities of local councils and some committees representing farmers were an additional impediment that deterred PARC from fully applying implementation procedures. This has also increased pressure on employees, particularly from those who did not have a chance to benefit from the activities implemented in various locations.

» Some activities, such as farm roads, were linked to local councils and could not be implemented due to measures imposed on local councils by the Ministry of Local Governance.

» Weak and inaccurate evaluation of target location selection during the design period, with inappropriate locations chosen for some projects.

» Delays in funding approval led to changes of location in the hopes that another location would obtain funding from other organizations while waiting for funding approval.

» The implementation of some activities was linked to governmental approval and there were long delays for bureaucratic reasons by government authorities.

» Despite problems in applying selection standards to beneficiaries, there are sometimes errors with beneficiaries in terms of maintaining projects and ensuring sustainability.

» The delay of payments for projects hinders procurement and the implementation of plans associated with the planting season.

» Poor digital documentation of completed projects, lack of proper ar-
chiving (hardware, software) and the absence of institutional resources create difficulties in ensuring sustainability, especially activities completed shortly before the project termination.

The lack of neutrality of some local committee members in the selection of beneficiaries, especially relatives, means that clan-based structures and political competition may sometimes contribute to discrepancies in the application of standards.

### 5.3.2: Executive and regulatory measures:
PARC adopted measures to ensure the greatest participation, transparency, and free competition in the provision of its services in the following steps:

| » | Formation of a steering committee (advisory) and a technical committee to follow up projects, especially large ones, on the ground. |
| » | Announcing projects by various means, including workshops. |
| » | Formation of local committees in the project workplace. |
| » | Preparing a manual for the projects’ practical and operational methods. |
| » | Develop an operational plan and a plan to monitor activities. |
| » | Filling of application forms by the beneficiaries on site. |
| » | Selecting beneficiaries through field visits and local committees. |
| » | Define and evaluate the needs of beneficiaries. |
| » | Use a full series of procurement, inspection, and delivery procedures. |
| » | Signing agreements, acknowledgments of receipt, and commitments with the selected beneficiaries. |
| » | Joining groups active in planning, implementation, and evaluation (the committees). |
| » | Use various procedures to identify the donor of the project, starting with a notice on the site, and placing the funding party’s name and logo on the project manual. |
| » | Presenting technical and financial reports according to the regulations in effect. |
| » | Follow up after completion through volunteer committees at the workplace. |
5.3.3: Success and restrictions of using technology:
PARC attempts to employ new technology to develop the agricultural sector at all stages of production and beyond. The use of technology and modern applications and practices on the ground faces many difficulties. For example, the use of treated water in irrigation, use of pheromone traps, methods of pruning trees, especially olive trees, and agricultural vaccination techniques are treated with suspicion by farmers unsure of the usefulness of such techniques.

5.4: Monitoring arrangements
PARC has in place regulations and strategies to ensure the quality of all operations at every level:

» At central level: the general plan is one of the most important foundations for general supervision. Projects and activities form the base to supervise the implementation of the project. Evidence to monitor activities is taken from different mechanisms, starting with steering and committee meetings, project staff meetings, work flow reports, and planned and unexpected visits to the field.

» In branches: the plans of branches, excluding our branch in Gaza, state the basis for monitoring in addition to the use of an information system, periodic meetings by branches, internal evaluation of activities, beneficiaries’ meetings in workshops, the regional project team meetings and numerous reports from the site, along with field visits; These offer the opportunity to practice all types of supervision by branch directors and supervisors.
جمعية التنمية الزراعية (الإغاثة الزراعية)
Progress towards Sustainability

PARC is committed to the sustainability of its interventions, based primarily on the following:

6.1: Ownership by Beneficiaries

A sense of individual and community ownership towards the projects implemented is reinforced by the efficient application of the concept of joint administration by PARC, grassroots societies, committees and beneficiaries of all elements (planning, follow up, monitoring, and assessment) at project sites. The procedures taken during the implementation of the projects include the formation of a steering committee that involves both active and related shareholders, the formation of local committees, and beneficiaries to directly enhance community and individual ownership of projects.

Procedures that reinforce a sense of ownership by targeted groups are as follows:

- Participation in partner gatherings and societies during the various stages of project implementation.
- Encouraging participation by targeted groups during the different stages of the project (defining needs, participating in meetings, workshops, training courses, attending tender opening and award, and receiving special resources for projects).
- Community cash and in-kind contributions based on the project nature.
- Permitting the reporting of complaints or suggestions by beneficiaries and the community during the work process.
- Implementing several extension projects and maintaining direct and continuous communications with the targeted groups.
- Capacity building and enhancement of the targeted groups, meetings, partner societies and grassroots communities.
- Interventions for targeted groups are mostly donated projects (owned by beneficiaries).
- Raising awareness among community members about the project and public property, and their role in administering and maintaining it.
6.2: Appropriate Technology

The use of technology to achieve the best revenue for farmers is the best way to convince them to adopt new techniques. PARC uses samples and experimental practical demonstrations to deepen acceptance by farmers of changes to traditional practices. It also provides beneficiaries with capacity building and training on new agricultural technologies throughout the entire stages of production and post-harvesting.

6.3: Respect for Socio-Cultural Norms and Attitudes

» PARC is sensitive and committed to Palestinian society, especially the rural community, and takes measures to ensure this respect during all stages of the implementation of projects. The aim of these projects is to strengthen farmers’ connection to their land and their resilience, in addition to encouraging land use.

» Many of the projects were designed to strengthen the values of work, collective connections and voluntary work.

» PARC takes all precautionary procedures to form committees that express the concerns and interests of different sectors of rural society and involve less fortunate groups in these committees.

» PARC takes the norms of rural society into consideration and instills the importance of respecting these norms as a positive phenomenon to serve a considered process of change.

6.4: Gender Issues

PARC addresses gender issues by the application of the principle of equal opportunities and the empowerment of women to overcome the obstacles that hinder their involvement and interaction in the developmental process and bridge educational and economic gaps. PARC has translated its understanding of gender concept into the practices below:

» The projects implemented by PARC have a positive bias towards women and priority is given to females who are breadwinners for their families.

» Women are encouraged to be involved in project committees formed at work sites and their work and efforts are appreciated.

» All work procedures aim to ensure an equitable distribution of projects to rural women and farmers.

» All the training courses directed to men confirm the pivotal role played by women and their pioneering role in Palestinian rural areas as an element of Palestinian heritage and customs.

6.5: Institutional and Administrative Capacity

PARC has extensive skills and experience in all fields and it is this that has enabled it to build community partnerships and win public confidence. PARC benefits from its volunteers, its geographical distribution and its growing number of interventions. During 2013 PARC achieved the following to ensure sustainability:

» Empowering beneficiaries with the concept of sustainability and its importance in achieving desired changes, particularly in living standards for individuals, societies and local communities.

» Providing beneficiaries with sustainable techniques through the interventions provided during the implementation of projects.
» Reinforcement of partnerships and alliances among the implementing parties to build on achievements and maintain sustainable intervention.

» Develop professional staff and ensure their continuity during the implementation of interventions to maintain a positive outlook and impact towards sustainability.

**6.6: Economic and Financial Viability**

Economic vitality forms a fundamental pillar in the process of designing and following up interventions to ensure sustainability and deepen the impact on beneficiaries within the framework of the projects executed as follows:

» All PARC interventions include socio-economic implications and are closely linked to the improvement of living standards and the presence of beneficiaries and sectors from the community.

» PARC ensures that interventions will not cause any additional burden on the resources of families and will be consistent with their financial and human capabilities.

» The interventions implemented aim to improve incomes, reduce poverty gaps and lift families out of the poverty trap.

» Empowerment and capacity building through training and expertise development is a strategy to improve the living standards of farmers and achieve sustainability.

**6.7: Protection of the Environment and Climate Change**

Environmental protection is fundamental to sustainable intervention and PARC has worked to implant the following concepts:

» Encouraging farmers to reduce use of chemical fertilizers and replace them with organic fertilizers in land reclamation projects.

» Raising farmers’ awareness of the safe use of pesticides and fertilizers through extension, providing farmers with written instructions, and explaining methods of spraying to control pests.

» Use of new eco-friendly techniques such as agricultural grafting to reduce the use of pesticides and overcome the saltiness of the water.

» Use techniques that reduce the impact of drought on plants.

» Use techniques that reduce the impact of natural disasters caused by climate change.

» Encourage the use of indigenous seeds that are drought and disease resistant to enhance bio-diversity and maintain indigenous origins.

» Encourage land rehabilitation to improve land productivity and protect the environment and bio-diversity.

**6.8: Sensitive Intervention in Local Conflicts**

» Most interventions resolve existing or anticipated conflicts over the use of limited resources or where there is loss of control over them, whether in relation to water or public property.

» PARC ensures that its interventions will not create new grounds for future conflicts.

» PARC shares information with different shareholders in a fair and transparent manner.
6.9: Equality and Human Rights

» PARC interventions usually ensure fundamental rights as a priority over economic, social, and political rights.

» PARC works to ensure the involvement of rights-holders and attempts to surmount difficulties that hinder positive participation in any activity related to the development of their resources.

» PARC interventions enhance the principle of equality and non-discrimination of gender, race, location, religious or political beliefs.

» PARC’s interventions provide beneficiaries with opportunities to hold officials in the government and other sectors accountable.
جمعية التنمية الزراعية (الإغاثة الزراعية)
Partnerships and Alliances

The work of PARC is based on partnerships for programs and the integration of roles to achieve rural development. PARC has embarked on implanting the values of institutional work and has created alliances with various parties in the development process as follows:

**7.1: Partnerships with non-governmental organizations**

- PARC has retained its effective role within the NGO Network (PNGO) and has developed new regional alliances in Jordan and Lebanon.
- Develop alliances with grassroots associations, committees and informal groups.
- Maintain alliances with international institutions such as the ACCP, ACS, CARE, CCP, CERAI, UNFPA, FPSC and open prospects for new alliances.
- Coordinate directly with international institutions working in locations as much as possible to ensure that there is no duplication of services for targeted beneficiaries.
- PARC is active in many specialized networks nationally, regionally and internationally (rural development, micro-finance, youth, fair trade, organic farming sectors).
- PARC leads a local campaign to boycott settlement products and Israeli products.
- PARC has signed a memorandum of understanding with three Italian institutions involved in the development of the micro-finance sector in Palestine to assist in the establishment of a rural cooperative bank in Palestine.

**7.2: Partnerships with governmental and semi-governmental institutions**

- Ministry of Agriculture: PARC coordinates continuously with the Ministry of Agriculture to implement the strategy of the agricultural sector and ensure there is no duplication. This coordination also ensures the quality of seedlings, nursery inspections and follow-up of the beneficiaries through project guidance.
- Ministry of National Economy: extensive coordination in all aspects of supporting national products and boycotting issues.
- Ministry of Labor: coordination with the Palestinian Ministry of Labor regarding cooperatives and collaborative work, including verifying the validity of the data provided by applicants for employment in temporary projects in the sector.
» Palestinian Water Authority: coordination on licenses, permits and joint ventures.

» Ministry of Social Affairs: coordinating with the Ministry of Social Affairs in all interventions with the aim of combating poverty and strengthening the social safety net.

» PARC is an active member in the national committees for sectoral planning.

PARC is an active member in the national strategy to deal with disasters.

» PARC is part of the national team for standards and specifications, and for the quality of agricultural produce.

» PARC is proud of its partnership with municipalities, local councils and village councils in its various activities.

» The National Committee for Summer Camps.

7.3.1: Companies founded by agricultural relief programs

AL-REEF for Investment & Agricultural Marketing for 2013

The Al Reef Company occupies a special place in PARC strategy as it aims to improve the profitability of young producers in production strategy for products such as olives, almonds and dates. These constitute the bulk of the services of the Al Reef Company, in addition to rural manufactured products. Al Reef has provided services to productive sectors in the Palestinian countryside by providing opportunities for the marketing these products in domestic markets and fair trade. In 2013 the company dealt with (13) societies for olive oil, which includes within its membership more than (1000) farmers; four associations for almonds including 150 farmers; four associations for wheat production of couscous with more than 150 farmers; and provided packaging facilities for many small-scale producers. The administration looks to broaden the base of ownership in the company by attracting many of the cooperative societies to participate in the company’s future policy decisions.

Marketing (163) tons of different varieties of products, with olive oil in first place (87 tons), then couscous (52 tons), dates (14 tons), almonds (9 tons), and thyme (one ton).

The value of transactions in internal and external markets totaled (5.9) million NIS and the value of the net profits made by the company in 2013 totaled approximately (110,000) NIS.

REEF Finance in 2013

Rural Finance is one of the pillars of the current strategy of the organization. The administration of the company intends to extend the services offered by the Reef Company to strengthen the company’s capital by inclusion of a larger number of shareholders involved in productive sectors, led by production cooperatives.

The Reef Company continued funding various sectors in more than (300)
rural locations. The company awarded (1,306) loans during 2013. The total funding granted from the company’s inception up to the end of the year was US$24.70 million.

» There were (2,511) active loans at the end of 2013 distributed among economic sectors and various services, focusing on the survival of the agricultural sector, which accounted for (54.50%) of the total portfolio. Improvements to rural housing ranked second with (23.50%), the commercial sector came third with (17.30%), and the remainder was distributed among other sectors.

» The value of loans granted in 2013 was (US$5,819,432) compared with (US$5,202,795) in 2012. The existing portfolio was (US$8.60) million at the end of December 2013 compared with about (US$6.89) million in 2012.

» New strategies need to be drawn up for Al-Reef’s lending philosophy, programs and system of governing values.

7.3.2: Partner institutions in PARC programs

» Union of Cooperative Societies for Savings and Advancement.
» Rural Women Development Society.
» Union of Palestinian Farmers.
» Agricultural Arab Engineers’ Society.
» Youth Development Association.

7.3.2.1: Union of Cooperative Societies for Savings and Advancement:

» In 2013 PARC signed a memorandum of understanding and cooperation, provided the financial resources and logistics necessary for it to perform its role, including the independence of its offices and staff, which will contribute to enhance its performance on the medium and long term.

7.3.2.2: Rural Women Development Society:

» Based on the important role played by the society in the lives of women’s groups, PARC provided a package of services and logistical support to enable the society to assist women; the society had an acute shortage of funding during 2013.

7.4: Relationship with universities and academic institutions

» Azhar University in Gaza: Coordination with Al-Azhar University takes place directly and permanently because it is the only university in the Gaza Strip to have a College of Agriculture and Environment. PARC provides field training for students of the Faculty of Agriculture, while benefiting from their laboratories to analyze the results of samples for the purchase of different materials.

» Islamic University: Coordination with the Islamic University for the examination of supplied materials such as irrigation networks and organic fertilizers in their laboratories. They are invited to attend workshops and events conducted out PARC.

» Birzeit University: PARC cooperates with Birzeit University in the areas of water and developmental research for the palm sector in the Jordan Valley.

» Al-Quds Open University: PARC is linked with the university by a partnership agreement for the development of the
undergraduate program in rural development. PARC covers the technical and applied aspects for this program. PARC has contributed to various committees to organize a developmental conference held by Al-Quds Open University in Jericho.

» Khadoorie University: PARC is linked to Khadoorie University with a special research partnership to build innovative models in the field of irrigation and other developmental aspects.

» Al-Quds University: PARC participates in the Al-Quds University Master’s program in Sustainable Rural Development, which is one of the most important pillars of capacity building of Palestinian institutions. Work is also continuing for the launch of Palestinian house expertise to provide greater administrative and technical support for small entrepreneurs.

» Independence University: PARC is associated with Independence University through a partnership agreement to develop the capacity of the university in agriculture and enhancing the role of the two institutions in the development of the Jordan Valley, particularly in the area of renewable energy.

» Bethlehem University: PARC is a member in the International Cooperation and Development provided by the university through its partnership with international universities and institutes in Italy and Ireland.

» An-Najah University: PARC is linked with An-Najah University through water programs.

7.5: Private sector

PARC believes that partnership with the private sector is vital to strengthen the presence of small-scale producers in the investment agenda for the private sector and to maximize the economic returns of the agricultural sector, the sustainability of interventions and development models implemented by PARC for the service and developmental sectors. Accordingly, PARC is an active member in:

» Federation of Food Industries.
» Shippers’ Council.
» Palestinian Businessmen’s Association.
» World Trade Center.
» Chamber of commerce and agriculture in the Jordan Valley.
Success Stories

Recovery of irrigated agriculture and promote link of residents with their land in Hebron

Farmer Abdul Rahman Rajoub, who supports eleven people, from Deir Samit village south of Hebron, plants more than twenty varieties of vegetables, watered from the “spring of Alsemia” near the Apartheid Wall. Water is moved by a water pipeline (125) meters in length; this was extended by PARC and a (225) cubic meter water tank was renovated. The farmer did not anticipate a good return from these vegetables planted on 16 dunums of land as crops had failed in the past due to reliance on rain-fed irrigation, plus lack of agricultural expertise, poor rainfall, difficulty accumulating groundwater, and lack of effective water exploitation. Agricultural production in the area has risen by (30%) and following renovation of the water spring, production jumped by (70%) according to local data indicators. The tired-looking farmer said, “The renovation of the spring contributed to revenues rising to (55) thousand NIS during the cabbage and cauliflower season for a period of 90 days from the beginning of September last year and was very positive for approximately (200) people living in the area.” Water from the spring, which lies on land owned by the Ryan family, is distributed fairly through water shares.

The farmer added: “Renovation of the spring helped us to not have to buy water from reservoirs. It is difficult to build a new well as Israeli occupation prevents drilling any well without official permission”. He said that PARC is the first organization to rehabilitate lands surrounding the “spring of Alsemia” and he called for other institutions to follow as it supports the region with water tanks and other agricultural supplies.

Jerusalem women succeed in changing unhealthy eating habits by children and improve income of families

Amid the noise of children and having cleaned her house, Mariam Sub Laban (60 years old) sat on the sofa to take a rest in her simple home overlooking the alleys of Sur Baher to think about how to increase the income of her six-member family. She also wanted to improve the quality of the snacks eaten by the children while playing instead of fried “chips” and candies, which she knows are not healthy.

Over time this scene was repeated until she had an idea to bake pastries and market them during meetings of the Association of Savings and Credit in Jerusalem. Her idea was permitted to come to fruition by the PARC project to “protect the rights and promote the resilience of marginalized communities in East Jerusalem”. Mariam stated, “How I wished in the past for such an opportunity. Now it is a dream that has come true”.

She explained, “In the beginning I got five other women with equipment to make pastries, baked goods and desserts, including a Turbo oven, automatic mixer, dough machines, scales, a blender, an electric juicer and a packing machine. Thanks to the program on food processing skills conducted by PARC, we moved to production and marketing.”
After PARC provided production equipment to the Society, Mariam and her colleagues began to bake goods and sell them to schoolchildren in Sur Baher. “The result was a surprise for us as the young children liked our products”. Then the marketing followed to expand the business by supplying products to school canteens in adjacent areas. Mariam said proudly: “We have achieved success by competing with unhealthy products “loved” by the boys before the home baked goods”.

With the growth and expansion of the project, the ambitions of the saving and Credit have increased to marketing these products beyond Jerusalem.

Mariam and her colleagues start work in the early morning to prepare pastries, Eastern and Western-style cakes, and Jerusalem cakes stuffed with dates. They also provide a delivery service to homes and institutions and prepare wedding tables and other events in many areas within Jerusalem.

Farmers see positive improvements in crop productivity and income after using modern grape cultivation method

With the approach of summer, farmers of Mesilya village, located to the southeast of Jenin in the Palestinian occupied West Bank, watch eagerly the approach of the harvest season for the grape crop, both to enjoy the taste of this beloved fruit and to boost the income of these farmers, (70%) of whom depend for their livelihood on growing grapes and olives.

The secret wish of these farmers is to find out the results of their reliance on a modern agricultural method promoted by PARC farmers. Traditional methods had taken the joy from the hearts of farmers such as Youssef Abdel Halim Yusuf who has (15) dunums of grapes. Yusuf said, “We grew grapes in simple ways based on extending the grapes on the land, but there was a lot of damage every season and sometimes most of the crop was destroyed due to fungal diseases and insects. Along with our families, we became very tired during harvesting as the grapes hung down to the ground. We became aware of the factors that caused damage to the fruit but were unable to treat certain diseases.

Yusuf and his colleagues made strenuous efforts to find solutions, but without result until, “We saw the proposal of PARC about changing the style and method of farming and we replaced with bowery grapes primarily extended along two dunums and take advantage of this method to increase production and enhance the chances of effective resistance to diseases”.

The contribution and supervision of PARC since 2009 has been effective in providing equipment, seedlings, medicines and organic fertilizers with a contribution estimated at (20,000) shekels, while the farmer contributed personally to the other dunum under the supervision of agricultural skilled engineers.

Farmer, Abu Firas, 69 years old, who supports a family of five people, explains how PARC increased sales: “After five years of hard work and permanent follow-up by PARC, one dunum produces nowadays five tons of different types of grapes such as Beiruti, Zaini, Salti and domestic grapes, surpassing what was produced in the past for about (700) kilograms per dunum”.

Farmers see positive improvements in crop productivity and income after using modern grape cultivation method
Together with five farmers, Abu Firas takes care of his farm, which he expanded at his own expense to plant four dunums using hung grapes (Almarash). The revenue has reached about (87,500) NIS for one dunum, in addition to sales of vine leaves estimated at (12,500) NIS.

Abu Firas said that: “About (11) other farmers in Sanur village use (180) dunums of the same hanging grapes rather than the traditional way”.

Mesilya village is one of the most important grape producing areas in Jenin due to geographical and climatic factors and grapes constitute (40%) of farmers’ income, according to official data.
## 8 Appendices

### 8-1-A list of current projects achieved by PARC in 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project name</th>
<th>Funder</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Currency</th>
<th>Date of initiation</th>
<th>Date of ending</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Management of water resources in agriculture to improve food security in Palestine and Jordan</td>
<td>FPSC</td>
<td>2,327,933.00</td>
<td>EURO</td>
<td>16/6/2011</td>
<td>15/6/2014</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Model of complementary water management</td>
<td>ADA</td>
<td>235,023.00</td>
<td>EURO</td>
<td>1/7/2010</td>
<td>30/6/2013</td>
<td>Finished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Villages of Bet Dajan, and Anza produce more food through use of safe water</td>
<td>European Union</td>
<td>2,998,387.00</td>
<td>EURO</td>
<td>1/1/2011</td>
<td>31/12/2013</td>
<td>Finished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developing the institutional network by supporting cooperatives</td>
<td>CERAI</td>
<td>264,691.00</td>
<td>EURO</td>
<td>1/3/2011</td>
<td>28/2/2013</td>
<td>Finished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal husbandry plays an important role in developing the economic situation in Hebron</td>
<td>Institutions development center</td>
<td>416,732.00</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>1/9/2011</td>
<td>28/2/2013</td>
<td>Finished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhance resilience of residents in Palestine</td>
<td>C.A</td>
<td>93,700.00</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>1/6/2011</td>
<td>31/12/2013</td>
<td>Finished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop palm tree sector in Jericho and Jordan Valley</td>
<td>French cooperation</td>
<td>400,000.00</td>
<td>NIS</td>
<td>1/11/2011</td>
<td>30/4/2013</td>
<td>Finished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improve future of civil society by enhancing partnership in public life</td>
<td>Spanish cooperation</td>
<td>305,399.00</td>
<td>EURO</td>
<td>1/11/2011</td>
<td>31/12/2014</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project name</td>
<td>Funder</td>
<td>Budget</td>
<td>Currency</td>
<td>Date of initiation</td>
<td>Date of ending</td>
<td>Status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guarantee a better future for small farmers and rural woman in olive sector</td>
<td>EU</td>
<td>824,091.00</td>
<td>EURO</td>
<td>1/1/2012</td>
<td>31/12/2014</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grape sector</td>
<td>EED</td>
<td>530,000</td>
<td>EURO</td>
<td>1/1/2012</td>
<td>31/12/2014</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduce poverty in Palestinian countryside by improving bio-diversification and organic farming</td>
<td>Overseas</td>
<td>270,707</td>
<td>EURO</td>
<td>4/1/2012</td>
<td>31/12/2014</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developing Zawata village land-Nablus</td>
<td>IFAD</td>
<td>120,061</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>5/1/2012</td>
<td>28/2/2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>More water for citizens in Alzababda</td>
<td>Wallonia - Brussel International</td>
<td>95,963</td>
<td>EURO</td>
<td>6/1/2012</td>
<td>31/5/2013</td>
<td>Finished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protecting rights and improving life for marginalized sectors in Jerusalem</td>
<td>EC</td>
<td>581,018</td>
<td>EURO</td>
<td>6/1/2012</td>
<td>31/5/2015</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food assistance to protecting lives in Palestinian territories</td>
<td>Care International</td>
<td>149,220</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>9/1/2012</td>
<td>31/5/2013</td>
<td>Finished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promoting right to food and standards of living by developing olive production in Nablus area.</td>
<td>CERAI</td>
<td>241,576</td>
<td>EURO</td>
<td>3/1/2012</td>
<td>28/2/2014</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving living conditions (water and sewage system) in Beit Askaria village</td>
<td>UNDP</td>
<td>71,580</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>9/1/2012</td>
<td>31/8/2013</td>
<td>Finished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project name</td>
<td>Funder</td>
<td>Budget</td>
<td>Currency</td>
<td>Date of initiation</td>
<td>Date of ending</td>
<td>Status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changing leadership towards development and peace in Palestinian agricultural sector</td>
<td>Luxembourg</td>
<td>2,212,056</td>
<td>EURO</td>
<td>12/1/2012</td>
<td>31/12/2016</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving food security and standards of living in Jensafoot village</td>
<td>ACPP</td>
<td>15,582.50</td>
<td>EURO</td>
<td>11/1/2012</td>
<td>30/4/2013</td>
<td>Finished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safe use of processed and grey water and improving the quality of agricultural production in Gaza</td>
<td>ICARDA</td>
<td>90,000.00</td>
<td>EURO</td>
<td>1/11/2012</td>
<td>30/9/2013</td>
<td>Finished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palestine is green gold from producers to consumers</td>
<td>EC</td>
<td>2,496,495</td>
<td>EURO</td>
<td>1/1/2013</td>
<td>30/6/2015</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting farmers is a flexible way to access banned areas</td>
<td>CCFD</td>
<td>18,000</td>
<td>EURO</td>
<td>1/1/2013</td>
<td>31/5/2013</td>
<td>Finished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IMIS project</td>
<td>USDA</td>
<td>25,000</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>1/1/2013</td>
<td>30/9/2013</td>
<td>Finished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grassroots Urban farming-Gaza 2013</td>
<td>Grassroots International</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>1/1/2013</td>
<td>31/12/2013</td>
<td>Finished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planting seedlings - Arab group to protect nature APN</td>
<td>Arab Group for Protection of Nature (APN)</td>
<td>67,336</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>1/1/2013</td>
<td>30/5/2013</td>
<td>Finished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project name</td>
<td>Funder</td>
<td>Budget</td>
<td>Currency</td>
<td>Date of initiation</td>
<td>Date of ending</td>
<td>Status</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expanding frame of access to local markets C.AID</td>
<td>C.A</td>
<td>$94,066</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>1/1/2013</td>
<td>31/12/2013</td>
<td>Finished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic empowerment for deprived families-Gaza and West Bank</td>
<td>UNDP - Aqsa Fund / Islamic Development Bank</td>
<td>$1,062,420</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>5/1/2013</td>
<td>30/6/2014</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic assistance to disadvantaged families - Jerusalem</td>
<td>UNDP - SIDA</td>
<td>$783,531.00</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>6/1/2013</td>
<td>31/1/2014</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project to plant seedlings-Arab Fund for Economic and social Development</td>
<td>Arab Fund</td>
<td>$760,800</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>4/1/2013</td>
<td>30/6/2014</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Urgent response to Gaza Strip for farmers</td>
<td>Diakonia</td>
<td>$195,000</td>
<td>EURO</td>
<td>5/1/2013</td>
<td>31/8/2013</td>
<td>Finished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promoting anti-drought measures by good management of water in Gaza Strip</td>
<td>Diakonia</td>
<td>$945,297</td>
<td>EURO</td>
<td>10/1/2013</td>
<td>30/9/2016</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reinforce food security through safe access to water-Arab Fund</td>
<td>The Arab Fund</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>11/1/2013</td>
<td>30/4/2014</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project to develop Kufr Tholth land – Evad</td>
<td>IFAD/ MOA</td>
<td>$185,283</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>9/1/2013</td>
<td>31/12/2014</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project to develop Aqraba land-Evad</td>
<td>IFAD/ MOA</td>
<td>$190,740</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>9/1/2013</td>
<td>31/12/2014</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rawasi project – Care</td>
<td>CARE International</td>
<td>$3,415,492</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>11/1/2013</td>
<td>31/10/2015</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project name</td>
<td>Funder</td>
<td>Budget</td>
<td>Currency</td>
<td>Date of initiation</td>
<td>Date of ending</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intervention to ensure water access – enable rural technologies in rural areas – Gaza</td>
<td>Overseas</td>
<td>18,410</td>
<td>EURO</td>
<td>12/1/2013</td>
<td>30/6/2014</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supporting agricultural sector by building capacities of agricultural engineers – new graduates in Gaza</td>
<td>33 Palestine</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>EURO</td>
<td>1/8/2013</td>
<td>31/10/2013</td>
<td>Finished</td>
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<tr>
<td>Food baskets to poor families in Gaza - OPEC Fund</td>
<td>CCP</td>
<td>482,325</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>21/3/2013</td>
<td>20/3/2014</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>OPEC</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>1/1/2013</td>
<td>31/12/2014</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The participation of women to achieve development – EC-ENPI</td>
<td>EC-ENPI</td>
<td>831,290</td>
<td>EURO</td>
<td>20/11/2012</td>
<td>20/11/2015</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>