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## **Enhancing Member-Based Organizations Role in the Social Economy**

## Implemented by ESDC

The Palestinian government announced the country under emergency starting from the beginning of March as per the current situation of Corona (covid-19) outbreak. Then it announced the full lockdown of the country in 22<sup>nd</sup> of March. ESDC staff worked from offices during the emergency time and from homes in the lockdown time. The ESDC staff struggled to conduct the below activities:

- Conducting survey of families/ farmers/ workers whom were affected by the Corona lockdown which resulted in losing jobs and sources of income in different Palestinian areas. This information will be used to support these people as much as possible.
- Dissemination of set of sanitizers to 30 MBOs from ESDC members and other right holders, in the aim of increasing safety and enhancing the production environment of the MBOs specially in the current situation of Corona Outbreak.



• Designing and printing 25 guiding foams in the aim to disseminate information about cleanness and sanitizing. The project staff started to disseminate them to MBOs.





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- During the lockdown, the ESDC staff facilitating a trade deal between Al Ibdaa Cooperative (Deir Ballout) and Al Anbtawi company to produce 500 Kg of couscous, and another trade deal with Al Shirish Company to produce another 500 Kg. it is worth to mention that the cooperative faced the challenge of not being able to get wheat required to produce the amount of couscous because of the lockdown. The project staff were able to find a supplier whom was able to provide 2000 Kg of wheat with competitive price (2 ILS per Kg), given that the cooperative used to buy it with cost of 3 ILS per Kg. The two deals created working days for 7 women members from the cooperative, and this is really helpful during the lockdown period where the economic situation is deteriorate and sources of income cut down.
- To help Al Ibdaa Cooperative to produce the required couscous amount, the dryer (its about a greenhouse with shelves inside) of the coop was rehabilitated. It need further additions (fans) that will be done soonest.



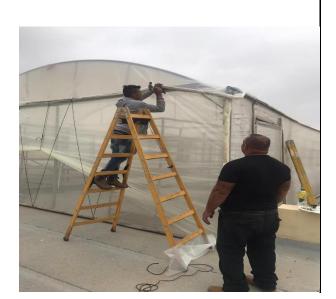
## المركز الفلسطيني للتنمية الاقتصادية والاجتماعية Economic & Social Development

Center of Palestine



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• The Jenin women self help group had the opportunity to produce two shipments of processed food (pickles, makdous, chili, olive oil ...), one for Qatar and the other for Sweden. Unfortunately, the required licenses were expired during the lockdown period. These documents are issued from the Ministry of Economy, the Ministry of Health and Paltrade. The project staff provided high effort in communicating the mentioned parties and succeeded finally in renewing the licenses for the women. Also the project staff connected the women to a food processing specialist whom supported the group from distance about the required specifications in the products and provided information regarding quality. Also the project supported with designing and printing the label with Swedish language. The women succeeded finally in exporting the two shipments for Qatar and Sweden. This for sure created working days and income for the women of the group. This shipment will be trial one with hope to have continuous market in Sweden.



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- Linking Al Noemeh Cooperative (ESDC general assembly member) to Jousour Company, to sell 100 KG of honey.
- ESDC is part of a National campaign to support creation of home gardens. ESDC disseminated creation of 2500 home garden through delivering 250,000 seedlings to families and cooperative members. This initiative will enhance the food security for people through enabling them to access to food through the produced vegetables which is pesticides free. Beside; this will contribute to Increase the green area of Palestine and enhance the environment.







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• Distributing 250 food basket to poor families. The food basket contained amount of products from the cooperatives and women products.







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