

Under the European Union's ENPARD (European Neighborhood Programme for Agriculture and Rural Development) Initiative in Egypt



EUROPEAN UNION – JOINT RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (EU-JRDP)

Capitalisation 1: The Added Value of Gender Aspects Within EU-JRDP

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Italian Development
Cooperation
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and International Cooperation

Today I feel that
my ideas are
worth pursuing

EU-JRDP is promoting the creation of start-ups among women in Minya and Fayoum, based on inputs directly received from the beneficiaries involved.



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Acronyms and Abbreviations

ACF	Action Contre la Faim
ACs	Agricultural Cooperatives
ACSAD	Arab Center for the Studies of Arid zones and Drylands
ADBS	Association of Development of Barki Sheep
AEA	Agriculture Extension Agents
AGS	Agristudio Consultancy firm
AICS	Italian Agency for Development Cooperation
APRI	Animal Production Research Institute
ARC	Agricultural research Centre
CBOs	Community-Based Organizations
CEDARE	Centre for Environment and Development for the Arab Region and Europe
CEOSS	Coptic Evangelical Organization for Social Services
DRC	Desert Research Centre
EAFRD	European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development
ECs	Elected Committees
ECH	Expertise Consultancy House
EGP	Egyptian Pound
ELIAS	Environmental Impact Assessment Study
ENPARD	European Neighbourhood Programme for Agriculture & Rural Development
ENPI	European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument
EU	European Union
EUD	European Union Delegation, Egypt
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
FFS	Field Farmers Schools
GAPs	Good Agricultural Practices
GAPES	Fayoum Growth and Positive Economic Synergies
GB	Grant Beneficiaries
GET	Gender and Entrepreneurship Together
GI	Geographical Indication
ICARDA	The International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas
IGA	Income Generating Activities
IPP	Integrated Production and Protection practices
JRDP	Joint Rural Development Programme
M	Million

M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MALR	Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation
MFAIC	Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation
MoIC	Ministry of International Cooperation
MoLD	Ministry of Local Development
MWRI	Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation
NCW	National Council of Women
NGO	Non-Government Organisation
PMU	Programme Management Unit
PRA	Participatory Rural Appraisal
PRRM	Promoting Rural Resilience in Minya
RWADA	Rural Women for Agribusiness Development Association
SAMSIMIFA	Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization System Improvement in Minya and Fa-youm
SEDNWCE	Social Economic Development of North West Coast of Egypt
SFA	Small Farmers' Association
SFOs	Small Farmer Organizations
SISAW	Sustainable Investment in Solid and Agricultural Waste in Fayoum and Minya
TCs	Territorial Committees
TRRF	Towards Rural Resilience in Fayoum
WFA	Women Farmers' Association

<i>Tonnes</i>	<i>Metric tons</i>
<i>t</i>	<i>Tonnes</i>

Executive summary

The European Union – Joint Rural Development Programme (EU-JRDP) is an “area-based” initiative taking place in three governorates, namely Matrouh, Minya and Fayoum and implemented by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation and Development, through the Italian Embassy in Egypt with the technical assistance of the Italian Agency for Cooperation (AICS). The said action is funded by the European Union (€ 21.9 M) under the European Neighbourhood Programme for Agriculture and Rural Development (ENPARD) and co-funded in parallel by the AICS (€ 11.0 M) through: i) the “Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization System Improvement in Minya and Fayoum Governorates” (SAMSIMIFA) and ii) the “Social Economic Development of North West Coast of Egypt (SEDNWCE) in Matrouh. The main Egyptian Authorities are the MALR (Lead Ministry), the MWRI and MoLD. The Ministry of International Cooperation is the National Coordinator.

In Matrouh, Minya and Fayoum governorates, EU-JRDP, during the period 2016-2020, provided grants for actions implemented by APRI (1), FAO (2), CEOSS (2), CEDARE (2), ICARDA (1), ACF/ACSAD (1) and ECH (1) that mainstreamed gender aspects in connection with i) water sanitation for the cisterns rehabilitated for domestic use, ii) the production of dairy products, iii) solid waste management, iv) GAPs in agriculture, v) pottery and community kitchen, vi) GAPs in horticulture, etc. It is estimated that a total of about 3,700 women and 70 women groups directly benefitted from EU-JRDP interventions.

EU-JRDP in fact, through his grantees has always paid attention to the role of women, with some activities being more focused towards them.

In Matrouh for instance, 70 women’ groups benefitted from home gardening (FAO) and 76 women benefitted of awareness campaigns in GIs (CEDARE). Bedouin women are responsible for processing the additional goats’ milk obtained by APRI and FAO. FAO promoted activities in relation with poultry/goats’ development to the benefit of women groups. The incomes of women and the nutritional status of their family increased thank to the introduction of homestead gardens.

In Minya and Fayoum, FAO established a Women Farmers’ Association (WFA) producing seedlings and horticultural crops. CEDARE created 13 start-ups for the collection and processing of agricultural and non-agricultural residues, which provide an income to 13 women. 1,654 part time jobs for women were created for the collection and sorting of agricultural and household wastes. ECH promoted a community kitchen that is providing income to rural women in Tunis village.

To capitalise the “*added value of gender aspects within EU-JRDP*”, the following two axes of interventions were identified from all concerned actions financed by EU-JRDP and implemented by EU-JRDP’s grantees (APRI, FAO, CEOSS, CEDARE, ICARDA, ACF/ACSAD and ECH):

- ✓ Axis 1: improving the demand for gender mainstreamed labour (strengthening business environment, access to inputs, services and markets).
- ✓ Axis 2: improving the supply for gender mainstreamed labour (strengthening the supply of economics’ opportunities to women).

In the first axis (strengthening the demand side for women labour), the capitalisation will concern all interventions financed by EU-JRDP and influencing positively the demand-side for improving the gender-oriented demand. These interventions refer for instance to the provision of ad-hoc trainings tailor made for gender, the strengthening the business environment facilitating the demand for women, or facilitating the access to inputs, services, and markets for women, drafting ad-hoc legislations and policies facilitating women labour...

In the second axis (improving the supply for gender mainstreamed labour), the capitalisation will concern all interventions promoting economic opportunities to the benefit of women such as for instance the promotion of income opportunities, the creation of start-ups, the support of business opportunities...

To capitalise the “*added value of gender aspects within EU-JRDP*”, the following two axes of interventions were identified from all concerned actions financed by EU-JRDP and implemented by EU-JRDP’s grantees (APRI, FAO, CEOSS, CEDARE, ICARDA, ACF/ACSAD and ECH):

- ✓ Axis 1: improving the demand for gender mainstreamed labour (strengthening business environment, access to inputs, services and markets).
- ✓ Axis 2: improving the supply for gender mainstreamed labour (strengthening the supply of economics’ opportunities to women).

The results of the study/conclusions are listed here below:

- ✓ *First axis: improving the demand for gender mainstreamed labour (strengthening business environment, access to inputs, services and markets).*

In Minya and Fayoum, most women received information about EU-JRDP activities through community associations (44% of the sample), advertisement printed at the village’s religious institutions (26%), neighbours and friends (8%). In Matrouh the situation is different (women in Matrouh have limited authority to move outside houses): women received the information through the visit of project/governmental staff.

The main reason for women to participate in project activities was related with economic factor (e.g., to increase their family income or to promote small business which will increase family income).

Almost the totality of the trainees interviewed declared that the main benefit of the trainings they received was related with the learning process (learn new topics and add new information).

Only 29 interviewees (out of 50) received additional training outside EU-JRDP and all of them based in Minya and Fayoum (none from Matrouh). The large majority of those who were trained was through NGOs.

To the question “which is the difference between previous and current project you benefitted”, 27% of the 22 women that replied declared that they earned more money in the previous project while 18% said that they earned more money in the current project. Meanwhile, 16% of women preferred the support received from EU-JRDP because was better technically and financially.

To the question “who takes decision on the use of money in your family, 79% of women declared that they decide together with the husband while the remaining 21% said that they take decision alone.

Only 41% of the women (all in Minya and Fayoum) that received the training started new business after.

The provision of ad-hoc financial services tailor-made for women is the main factor influencing the demand for gender. Ad-hoc financial services are in fact the most important support that can positively affect the demand for gender labour.

- ✓ *Second axis: improving the supply for gender mainstreamed labour (strengthening the supply of economics’ opportunities to women).*

Birds/small ruminants (Minya and Fayoum) or dairy products/small ruminants (Matrouh) as well as eggs’ production are the most successful small business activities promoted by EU-JRDP. Those activities are generating high incomes in the short period. Sorting and packing vegetables/seedlings’ production and the community kitchen (Fayoum) are also successful income generating opportunities. The milk processing activity in Matrouh on the contrary is mainly perceived by the promoters for family use and not for generating income.

The main constraints women are facing to start new business are related with the unavailability of ad-hoc financial services (main factor), followed by educational barrier (women with technical diploma are more willing to do small business) and lack of information.

Most of the interviewed women are satisfied from the support they received in terms of non-refundable materials and inputs. Women are also satisfied with the clean environment in the villages and in the houses and the increased family income because of processing solid wastes.

Almost half of the interviewed people believes that the activities promoted by EU-JRDP are increasing family incomes and said incomes are mainly used to cover houses' expenses. In Minya and Fayoum in fact, most women who got extra income used it for buying food, medicines and paying for education of children.

More than 80 % of the customers appreciate the products obtained by women (e.g., home birds, eggs, cheese, packed vegetables, meals).

More than 70% of the women sold their products by themselves.

The main recommendations per each axis of intervention are listed here below:

- ✓ *First axis: improving the demand for gender mainstreamed labour (strengthening business environment, access to inputs, services and markets).*

To prepare future project proposals containing the following interventions tailor made to support the demand for gender: i) provision of ad-hoc trainings tailor made for gender, ii) strengthening the business environment facilitating the demand for women, iii) facilitating the access to inputs, services and markets for women, iv) drafting ad-hoc legislations and policies facilitating women labour, v) integrating health and education aspects tailor-made to women, vi) improving the governance of gender aspects, vii) removing structural barriers and gender norms that govern ownership of assets, viii) promoting effective access of women to productive resources and entrepreneurship, ix) reinforcing managerial and advocacy capacity and other skills tailor made for women, x) promoting businesses and other economic opportunities for women, etc.

To include in project proposals ad-hoc activities i) building women's self-confidence, ii) developing their negotiating and network-building skills, iii) empowering women to take action to address their needs.

To embed health and gender aspects as well as the environmental, nutrition for children and mother health awareness concepts in basic training packages on GAPs,

To integrate education aspects into trainings to promote change, gender equality, personal wellbeing and create a better environment for women under traditional pressures.

To reinforce entrepreneurial training aiming at enhancing commercial opportunities, self-esteem, knowledge, and skills to act on them.

To provide ad-hoc trainings tailor made for gender facilitating the access to inputs, services and markets.

To promote gender equality and create a better environment for girls under traditional pressures

To promote ad-hoc legislations and policies facilitating women labour at early stage of project design.

To increase women representation in the management committees and women participation in the farmers' groups and their representation in the elected committees.

To facilitate deeper policy dialogue and inclusion of gender aspects into national policy processes.

To promote networking with strong local community institutions and national council for women to have governmental and non-governmental accreditation

To continue to provide support to the established RWADA as well as to the other women's groups in small animals and birds' production, community kitchen groups... supported by EU-JRDP.

To expand advertisement in different ways and locations to ensure reaching women who have no access to association to ensure equal opportunity and that services reaches disaggregated women.

- ✓ *Second axis: improving the supply for gender mainstreamed labour (strengthening the supply of economics' opportunities to women).*

To provide ad-hoc financial services tailor-made for women and to increase women demand for financial services.

To promote GIs with strong involvement of women in processing, post harvesting operations, handmade crafts...

To empower women through ad-hoc value chains development for selected agricultural and handmade GIs products.

To scale out the poultry and bird development, household small animal production, backyard horticultural production, community kitchens... to the benefit of women groups.

To increase involvement of women in projects promoting the use of wastes to be reused for agricultural production and the generation of additional income.

Background information

The European Union – Joint Rural Development Programme (EU-JRDP) is an “area-based” initiative taking place in three governorates, namely Matrouh, Minya and Fayoum and implemented by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation and Development, through the Italian Embassy in Egypt with the technical assistance of the Italian Agency for Cooperation (AICS). The said action is funded by the European Union (€ 21.9 M) under the European Neighbourhood Programme for Agriculture and Rural Development (ENPARD) and co-funded in parallel by the AICS (€ 11.0 M) through: i) the “Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization System Improvement in Minya and Fayoum Governorates” (SAMSIMIFA) and ii) the “Social Economic Development of North West Coast of Egypt (SEDNWCE) in Matrouh. The main Egyptian Authorities are the MALR (Lead Ministry), the MWRI and MoLD. The Ministry of International Cooperation is the National Coordinator.

In Matrouh, Minya and Fayoum Governorates, EU-JRDP, during the period 2016-2020, provided grants for actions implemented by APRI (1), FAO (2), CEOSS (2), CEDARE (2), ICARDA (1), ACF/ACSAD (1) and ECH (1) that mainstreamed gender aspects in connection with i) water sanitation for the cisterns rehabilitated for domestic use, ii) the production of dairy products, iii) solid waste management, iv) GAPs in agriculture, v) pottery and community kitchen, vi) GAPs in horticulture, etc.

It is estimated that a total of about 3,700 women and 70 women groups directly benefitted from EU-JRDP interventions. The details concerning the number of women that benefitted in each Governorate and per each grantee as well as the kind of intervention provided is given in the following table.

Grantee	Kind of intervention	Number of women /Governorate			Total
		Fayoum	Minya	Matrouh	
FAO	Horticultural seedlings	375	N/A	N/A	375
FAO	Home gardening	N/A	N/A	70 groups	70 groups
CEOSS	Sorting and packing vegetables	N/A	242	NA	242
CEDARE	Awareness meeting GIs	N/A	N/A	76	76
CEOSS	Small ruminants and domestic birds	N/A	350	N/A	350
CEOSS	Applying the good agricultural practices	N/A	240	N/A	240
CEDARE	Waste sorting/selling waste collectors	860	800	N/A	1,660
CEOSS	Start-ups (collection and processing of wastes)	8	5	N/A	13
CEOSS	Producing organic fertilizers from wastes	236	N/A	N/A	236
ECH	Pottery Community kitchen	75	N/A	N/A	75
ECH	New Islamic designs of pottery	25	N/A	N/A	25
APRI	Production of dairy products	N/A	N/A	118	118
FAO	Production of dairy products	N/A	N/A	125	125
FAO	Goat fattening	N/A	N/A	100	100
FAO	Chicken (egg production)	N/A	N/A	50	50
TOTAL		1,579	1,637	469 + 70 groups	3,685 + 70 groups

EU-JRDP in fact, through his grantees has always paid attention to the role of women, with some activities being more focused towards them.

In Matrouh for instance, 70 women' groups benefitted from home gardening (FAO) and 76 women benefitted of awareness campaigns in GIs (CEDARE). Bedouin women are responsible for processing the additional goats' milk obtained by APRI and FAO. FAO promoted activities in relation with poultry/goats' development to the benefit of women groups. The incomes of women and the nutritional status of their family increased thank to the introduction of homestead gardens. The backyard production mainly focusing on vegetables are in fact diversifying the local diet and reducing nutritional deficiencies including in children.

In Minya and Fayoum, FAO established a Women Farmers' Association (WFA) producing seedlings and horticultural crops. CEDARE created 13 start-ups for the collection and processing of agricultural and non-agricultural residues, which provide an income to 13 women. 1,654 part time jobs for women were created for the collection and sorting of agricultural and household wastes. ECH promoted a community kitchen that is providing income to rural women in Tunis village.

Scope and objectives of the study

The main purpose of the study is to capitalise the gender interventions financed by EU-JRDP and implemented by "Grantees" in the Governorates of Matrouh, Minya and Fayoum.

The Operational Capitalization Study is aiming at:

- ✓ Selecting best practices that proved to improve sustainability.
- ✓ Providing solutions for implementing similar projects in the future.
- ✓ Capitalizing experiences and knowledge for implementation of similar projects in the future.
- ✓ Addressing a list of lessons learned (positive and negative).
- ✓ Recommending actions to be undertaken in the future which will serve to improve the sustainability.

This Operational Capitalisation represents therefore a formalised way to document, analyse and archive, best practices, lessons learned and recommendations and to make use of them when drafting similar projects.

The final goal of this operational capitalisation study on "gender" is therefore to improve "changes in women live (economic growth, governance, health and education).

This Operational Capitalisation study shall be provided to competent governmental entities as well as to interested development partners.

Axes of intervention

To capitalise the “*added value of gender aspects within EU-JRDP*”, the following two axes of interventions were identified from all concerned actions financed by EU-JRDP and implemented by EU-JRDP’s grantees (APRI, FAO, CEOSS, CEDARE, ICARDA, ACF/ACSAD and ECH):

- ✓ Axis 1: improving the demand for gender mainstreamed labour (strengthening business environment, access to inputs, services and markets).
- ✓ Axis 2: improving the supply for gender mainstreamed labour (strengthening the supply of economics’ opportunities to women).

First axis - improving the demand for gender mainstreamed labour (strengthening business environment, access to inputs, services and markets)

Definitions

- ✓ Improving the demand for gender mainstreamed labour: strengthening the demand side for women labour (cf. interventions influencing positively the demand-side) through for instance : i) provision of ad-hoc trainings tailor made for gender, ii) strengthening the business environment facilitating the demand for women, iii) facilitating the access to inputs, services and markets for women, iv) drafting ad-hoc legislations and policies facilitating women labour, v) integrating health and education aspects tailor-made to women in development projects, vi) improving the governance of gender aspects, vii) removing structural barriers and gender norms that govern ownership of assets, viii) promoting effective access of women to productive resources and entrepreneurship, ix) reinforcing managerial and advocacy capacity and other skills tailor made for women, x) promoting businesses and other economic opportunities for women, etc.
- ✓ Governance and gender: building women’s self-confidence, developing their negotiating and network-building skills, empowering women to take action to address their needs.
- ✓ Health and gender aspects: integrating health and gender aspects into projects at early stage facilitating women' access to health for their empowerment.
- ✓ Education and gender aspects: integrating education and gender aspects into projects at early stage promoting social change, gender equality, personal wellbeing and create a better environment for women under traditional pressures.
- ✓ Entrepreneurship training: entrepreneurial education and training provided to individuals with the ability to recognize commercial opportunities, self-esteem, knowledge, and skills to act on them. It includes instruction in opportunity recognition.
- ✓ Scale out and scale up: scale out means “scaling horizontally” the results that proved to be successful to cover wider geographical areas for greater outreach at micro-level (e.g., gradual rollout of activities in similar areas). Scale up means “scaling vertically” the successful concepts to cover broader impact through improved institutionalization, legislation, policies, development plans, improving the business environment.

Implemented works

In connection with the first axis (*improving the demand for gender mainstreamed labour*):

EU-JRDP:

- ✓ Trained and created awareness among women and women’s groups about GIs concepts.

- ✓ Introduced in the programme's logical framework indicators tailor made to gender issues (e.g., women participation in managerial positions, job creation in IGA, number of women trained, etc.).

APRI (Matrouh): Created, organized and trained 15 women groups in milk processing.

CEDARE (Matrouh): Trained 76 women in GIs concepts.

FAO (Fayoum): Established the "Rural Women for Agribusiness Development Association" (RWADA).

CEOSS (Minya): Increased women participation in the farmers' groups and their representation in the elected committees.

CEOSS (Fayoum): Created, organised and trained 5 women groups (125 rural women) in small animals' production.

Second axis - improving the supply for gender mainstreamed labour (strengthening the supply of economics' opportunities for women)

Definitions

- ✓ EU-JRDP interventions improving the supply for gender mainstreamed labour: promoting economic opportunities to the benefit of women. This axis relates with interventions improving the supply side for women labour such as for instance: i) the promotion of income opportunities, ii) the creation of start-ups, iii) the support of business opportunities...
- ✓ Economic opportunities for women: strengthening entrepreneurship and providing business development concept to help women to launch new businesses – and create new jobs.
- ✓ IGA for women: Income generating activity implemented to generate revenues used to ensure the financial sustainability of the concerned women's group or individual women.
- ✓ Start-up for women: young enterprise or business promoted by one or more women to develop a unique product or service and bring it to market.
- ✓ Scale out and scale up: scale out means "scaling horizontally" the results that proved to be successful to cover wider geographical areas for greater outreach at micro-level (e.g., gradual rollout of activities in similar areas). Scale up means "scaling vertically" the successful concepts to cover broader impact through improved institutionalization, legislation, policies, development plans, improving the business environment.

Implemented works

In connection with the second axis (*improving the supply for gender mainstreamed labour*):

APRI (Matrouh): equipped 15 women groups for producing dairy products at household level under standard hygiene condition.

FAO (Matrouh):

- ✓ Distributed 250 heads of Barki goats and 50 bucks along with 50 tonnes of concentrate to 100 women to start new business opportunities in animal fattening.
- ✓ Distributed 1,000 heads of egg laying chicken breeds along with 15 tonnes of chicken feed concentrate products to 50 women.
- ✓ Trained and equipped 125 women in dairy processing.
- ✓ Set up 70 home gardens for 70 women.

FAO (Fayoum): Supported technically and financially the women association RWADA for producing seedling and horticultural products.

CEOSS (Minya): Helped 590 women to have their own small project and strengthened their capacities to promote the economic level of their families (e.g., good agricultural practices, production of small ruminants and domestic birds, sorting and packing vegetables).

CEOSS (Fayoum): Supported technically and financially five women's groups to optimizing the reuse of wastes (development of pens).

CEDARE (Minya and Fayoum): Formed start-ups for the collection and processing of agricultural and non-agricultural residues.

ECH: Established a community kitchen (preparation of traditional local food for tourists) and trained women in new Islamic designs in pottery production.

Methodology of the Study and Data Analyses

The Capitalisation was carried out as follows:

- ✓ Analysis of annual reports (EU-JRDP, APRI, FAO, CEOSS, CEDARE, ICARDA, ACF/ACSAD and ECH).
- ✓ Analysis of evaluation's reports (FAO, APRI, CEOSS, CEDARE, ICARDA and ECH).
- ✓ Field visits made by EU-JRDP M&E consultant¹ and EU-JRDP's staff.
- ✓ EU-JRDP mid-term review.
- ✓ Ad-hoc studies carried out by EU-JRDP' consultant in January 2021². The consultant conducted:
 - Fifty one-on-one interviews with the women in the three targeted governorates. The questionnaire contained 33 questions dealing with i) the opportunities and obstacles for women's participation to benefit from project interventions; ii) the women access and control over resources and benefits; iii) health, education, social barriers, and income generating opportunities.
 - Eight focus groups discussions with 40 women in the three governorates to better understand the details of the changes after the project interventions.
- ✓ Other EU-JRDP surveys (AGS questionnaire analysis) carried out in 2020 (July)³.

¹ Lorena Martinez, EU-JRDP short-term's consultant in M&E (February 2017- October 2018).

² Gender impact assessment study; Mai Abdel Moniem, January 2021.

³ AGS developed a methodological approach for data collection based on the use of open-access tools and software such as: i) field forms/questionnaires: specific field forms and questionnaires have been developed, based on the identified indicators; five thematic field forms have been produced for the Governorate of Matrouh and three for Minya and 3 for Fayoum; ii) Geopaparazzi: this user-friendly, highly customisable app is the software where the field forms are uploaded. All answers are automatically saved and georeferenced, reducing the chances of mistakes; iii) QGIS: one of the most widely used GIS open-source software, QGIS allows to produce highly customised maps from a variety of datasets. In Matrouh, in total 480 respondents have been interviewed out of which 88 are directly related with this axis of intervention. 362 and 420 respondents have been selected respectively for the Governorates of Minya and Fayoum out of which 93 for Minya and 114 for Fayoum are directly related with this axis of intervention.

Results of the study/conclusions: driving forces for each axis of intervention

First axis - improving the demand for gender mainstreamed labour (strengthening business environment, access to inputs, services and markets)

Results

Results from the EU-JRDP's gender consultant's questionnaires:

How did you receive the information to join EU-JRDP activities? (average of 50 replies)

Governorate	Based on my desire/help of project staff	Because I am a member of an association	Through neighbours and friends	Others (e.g., advertisement)	Total
Fayoum	8	10	4	0	22
Minya	0	12	0	13	25
Matrouh	3	0	0	0	3
Total	11	22	4	13	50
%	22	44	8	26	100

What was the main reason for you to attend project activities? (average of 50 replies)

Governorate	My wish	Useful for family	To start small business	Total
Fayoum	11	11	0	22
Minya	8	5	12	25
Matrouh	0	3	0	3
Total	17	21	12	50
%	34	42	24	100

What was the main benefit of the training you received? (only 46 -out of 50- replied to the question).

Governorate	Learn new topics	Increase income	More or new information	Total
Fayoum	16	1	2	19
Minya	14	0	11	25
Matrouh	2	0	0	2
Total	32	1	13	46
%	70	2	28	100

Nota bene: while in Minya and Fayoum all women (except for one that had family reasons) attended the training sessions in training venues selected by the project, in Matrouh the women received the trainings at home.

Did you benefit from additional trainings outside EU-JRDP? (only 29-out of 50- replied to the question). If yes from which type of organizations?

Governorate	Agriculture association	Other NGOs	Total
Fayoum	1	3	4
Minya	0	25	25
Matrouh	0	0	0
Total	1	28	29
%	3	97	100

What is the difference between previous and current project you benefitted? (only 22-out of 29)

EU-JRDP versus other projects	Fayoum	Minya	Total	%
More income in the first project	6	0	6	27
No differences	2	2	4	18
More income in the current project	0	4	4	18
Better technical/financial support from EU-JRDP	0	3	3	16
Better working relation after the training	1	0	1	4
Complementary with existing projects	0	1	1	4
Limited income in both projects	0	1	1	4
Total	10	12	22	
%	45	55		100

Who take decision on the use of money in your family? (only 24-out of 29-replied to the question)

Governorate	Husband and wife	Wife	Total
Fayoum	9	2	11
Minya	10	3	13
Matrouh	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total	19	5	24

What are the main factors influencing the demand for jobs opportunities for women in your area? (49-out of 50- replied to the question)

Governorate	Training /education	Getting commercial license	Technical support	Marketing training	Micro credits	Provision of materials	Total
Fayoum	3	0	1	3	13	1	21
Mina	2	4	4	2	10	3	25
Matrouh	1	0	0	0	2	0	3
Total	6	4	5	5	25	4	49
%	12	8	10	10	51	8	100

What need to be changed to facilitate the demand for gender labour? (47-out of 50- replied to the question)

Governorate	Awareness for men	Marketing training	Financial support	Educational support	Total
Fayoum	1	6	14	0	21
Minya	0	4	20	1	25
Matrouh	0	0	0	1	1
Total	1	10	34	2	47
%	2	22	72	4	100

Conclusions

In Minya and Fayoum, most women received information about EU-JRDP activities through community associations (44% of the sample), advertisement printed at the village's religious institutions (26%), neighbours and friends (8%). In Matrouh the situation is different (women in Matrouh have limited authority to move outside houses): women received the information through the visit of project/governmental staff.

The main reason for women to participate in project activities was related with economic factor (e.g., to increase their family income or to promote small business which will increase family income).

Almost the totality of the trainees interviewed declared that the main benefit of the trainings they received was related with the learning process (learn new topics and add new information).

Only 29 interviewees (out of 50) received additional training outside EU-JRDP and all of them based in Minya and Fayoum (none from Matrouh). The large majority of those who were trained was through NGOs.

To the question "which is the difference between previous and current project you benefitted", 27% of the 22 women that replied declared that they earned more money in the previous project while 18% said that they earned more money in the current project. Meanwhile, 16% of women preferred the support received from EU-JRDP because was better technically and financially.

To the question "who takes decision on the use of money in your family, 79% of women declared that they decide together with the husband while the remaining 21% said that they take decision alone.

Only 41% of the women (all in Minya and Fayoum) that received the training started new business after.

The provision of ad-hoc financial services tailor-made for women is the main factor influencing the demand for gender. Ad-hoc financial services are in fact the most important support that can positively affect the demand for gender labour.

Second axis: improving the supply for gender mainstreamed labour (strengthening the supply of economics' opportunities to women).

Results

Results from the EU-JRDP's gender consultant questionnaires:

Did you have previous experiences in developing small business? (average of 50 interviews)

About 40 % of the interviewed women (most of them in Minya) had previous experience in developing small business.

What are the most successful IGAs that you recommend? (average of 50 interviews)

- ✓ Sorting and packing vegetables, community kitchen and domestic birds are the most successful small business because they generate high incomes.
- ✓ In Minya and Fayoum, women do not consider sorting and selling waste as a small business because the income is very weak.
- ✓ In Fayoum women are working in the greenhouses as workers (they do not own the venture) but they are satisfied with the salary they perceive.
- ✓ The milk processing activity in Matrouh is mainly perceived for family use and not as an income generating activity.

Did you receive small loans to start your small business? (50 interviews)

Governorate	No	Yes	Total
Fayoum	21	1	22
Minya	22	3	25
Matrouh	3	0	3
Total	46	4	50
%	92	8	100

Did you receive any non-refundable materials and equipment from the project? (50 interviews)

Governorate	No	Yes	Total
Fayoum	15	7	22
Minya	14	11	25
Matrouh	2	1	3
Total	31	19	50
%	62	38	100

What is the best support provided by the project useful for you? (22-out of 50- replied to the question)

Governorate	Financial and technical support	Regular follow ups	Financial support	Non-refundable materials/inputs	Total
Fayoum	3	1	2	2	8
Minya	6	6	1	0	13
Matrouh	0	0	0	1	1
Total	9	7	3	3	22
%	40	32	14	14	100

Which activities are more relevant to women in your community? (50 interviews)

- ✓ 48 % of the interviewed women indicated that the most relevant activities for women is raising small ruminants and domestic birds for business. In fact, this activity provided additional good incomes for the family; there is no needs of extra efforts; the products are easy to sell. Some women mentioned that these activities also represent a source of financial security.
- ✓ 22 % prefers to produce dairy products.
- ✓ 9% prefers to produce eggs.
- ✓ 21% did not reply.

What are the main problems you faced to start a small business? (50 interviews)

Governorate	Financial support	Marketing aspects	Technical support	Other reasons	Total
Fayoum	14	2	2	4	22
Minya	20	4	1	0	25
Matrouh	2	0	1	0	3
Total	36	6	4	3	50
%	72	12	8	8	100

What are your customer's opinions about your product? (17 replies out of 50)

Governorate	Do not know	Needs correction	Good	Excellent	Total
Fayoum	0	0	1	5	6
Minya	1	1	0	9	11
Total	1	1	1	14	17
%	6	6	6	82	100

Are you part of a network to exchange experiences and information? (48 replies out of 50)

Governorate	No	Yes	Total
Fayoum	19	2	21
Minya	21	4	25
Matrouh	2	0	2
Total	42	6	48
%	88	12	100

What are the initiatives that better contributed to

improve your income? (50 interviews)

Governorate	Chicken	Goats	Beehives	Shop	Calves	Literacy	Others	Total
Fayoum	16	1	1	0	0	1	2	21
Minya	23	0	0	1	1	0	1	26
Matrouh	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
Total	41	2	1	1	1	1	3	50
%	82	4	2	2	2	2	6	100

Do you want to learn additional crafts? If Yes which one? (43 replies out of 50).

Crafts	Fayoum	Minya	Matrouh	Total	%
Domestic birds and small ruminants	11	2	1	14	33
Fattening calves	2	2	1	5	12
Sewing	0	2	1	3	7
Netting and sewing	0	3	0	3	7
Dairy product and small ruminants	2	1	0	3	7
Handicraft	1	1	0	2	5
Cooking	0	1	1	2	5
Making cheese and butter	1	1	0	2	5
Making gum	1	1	0	2	5
Hair dressing	0	1	0	1	2
Sorting and packing vegetables	1	0	0	1	2
Sorting and selling wastes	1	0	0	1	2
Beehives	1	0	0	1	2
Making bed covers	0	1	0	1	2
Making food and sweets	0	1	0	1	2
Fabric chopper	0	1	0	1	2
Total	21	18	4	43	
%	49	41	10		100

Which are the main constraints you faced at launching your small business? (50 interviews)

- ✓ Financial barrier (main factor).
- ✓ Educational barrier (women with technical diploma are more willing to do small business).
- ✓ Lack of information.

During the interviews, women mentioned that they have different skills gained in the technical schools (hand crafts, sewing and netting) and they can easily start small businesses but they need access to micro-finance services.

Who is responsible for selling your products? (22 replies out of 50)

Governorate	Myself	Worker	Others	Total
Fayoum	10	1	0	11
Minya	6	0	5	11
Matrouh	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total	16	1	5	22

Are you satisfied with the support you received from the project (50 interviews)

Governorate	No	Yes	Total
Fayoum	1	21	22
Minya	0	25	25
Matrouh	1	2	3
Total	2	48	50
%	4	96	100

In case you are satisfied can you give the main reason? (48 interviews)

Governorate	Houses/villages are clean	Family income increased	My Income increased	More food for children	Others	Total
Fayoum	14	3	4	0	0	21
Minya	10	13	0	0	2	25
Matrouh	0	0	0	2	0	2
Total	24	16	4	2	2	48
%	50	34	8	4	4	100

What is the most relevant activity to women in your community: first choice? (50 interviews)

Governorate	Home gardening	Drawing Photos	Community kitchen	Selling fodder	Sorting and packing vegetables	Birds & small ruminants	Total
Fayoum	0	1	1	1	1	18	22
Minya	0	0	0	0	3	22	25
Matrouh	1	0	0	0	0	2	3
Total	1	1	1	1	4	42	50
%	2	2	2	2	8	84	100

What is the most relevant activity to women in your community: second choice?

Governorate	Sorting/ packing vegetables	Literacy classes	Birds & small ruminants	Eggs production	Dairy product/small ruminants	Total
Fayoum	0	1	1	3	7	12
Minya	1	0	3	6	15	25
Matrouh	0	0	1	0	0	1
Total	1	1	5	9	22	38
%	3	3	13	23	58	100

Conclusions

Birds/small ruminants (Minya and Fayoum) or dairy products/small ruminants (Matrouh) as well as eggs' production are the most successful small business activities promoted by EU-JRDP. Those activities are generating high incomes in the short period. Sorting and packing vegetables/seedlings' production and the community kitchen (Fayoum) are also successful income generating opportunities. The milk processing activity in Matrouh on the contrary is mainly perceived by the promoters for family use and not for generating income.

The main constraints women are facing to start new business are related with the unavailability of ad-hoc financial services (main factor), followed by educational barrier (women with technical diploma are more willing to do small business) and lack of information.

Most of the interviewed women are satisfied from the support they received in terms of non-refundable materials and inputs. Women are also satisfied with the clean environment in the villages and in the houses and the increased family income because of processing solid wastes.

Almost half of the interviewed people believes that the activities promoted by EU-JRDP are increasing family incomes and said incomes are mainly used to cover houses' expenses. In Minya and Fayoum in fact, most women who got extra income used it for buying food, medicines and paying for education of children.

More than 80 % of the customers appreciate the products obtained by women (e.g., home birds, eggs, cheese, packed vegetables, meals).

More than 70% of the women sold their products by themselves.

The main driving forces per each intervention axis

The main driving forces for each axis of intervention (cf. also table 1 in the following page), are summarised here below:

- ✓ *First axis: Improving the demand for gender mainstreamed labour (strengthening business environment, access to inputs, services and markets)*

Health, environmental, nutrition for children and mother health awareness concepts were developed during the training sessions and these concepts were well integrated with the basic training package on GAPs (cf. FAO, CEDARE, CEOSS).

The concept of gender equality in training was introduced (cf. FAO).

Both women and young girls in community schools were targeted (cf. FAO).

Well integrated gender awareness campaigns were carried-out (cf. FAO, ACF/ACSAD).

Gender and Entrepreneurship Together (GET) - Ahead for Women in Enterprise trainings were carried out in support of starting small business (cf. CEOSS).

- ✓ *Second axis: improving the supply for gender mainstreamed labour (strengthening the supply of economics' opportunities to women).*

The promotion of IGAs (e.g., chicken, goats, home gardening, community kitchen) was an incentive for families to keep girls in schools.

Positive effect on family health and nutritional aspects was documented (Cf. FAO and ACF/ACSAD).

Cleaner homes and villages had a positive impact on the environment.

Women have the ownership of their small business.

Table 1: Driving forces per each intervention axis

Grantees	Axis 1: improving the demand for gender mainstreamed labour (strengthening business environment, access to inputs, services and markets)	Axis 2- improving the supply for gender mainstreamed labour (strengthening the supply of economics' opportunities to women)
FAO (Fayoum) Horticultural seedlings:	<p>Health, environmental awareness concepts well integrated with the basic training package on GAP.</p> <p>The concept of gender equality in training was introduced.</p> <p>Plan for women to own the greenhouses (or at least to share ownership) was prepared.</p> <p>Ad-hoc trainings tailor made for women were carried out (e.g., management of the greenhouses and seedlings production).</p> <p>National Council of Women (NCW) to regular awareness sessions in the villages was set up.</p>	<p>Increase family income because provided working opportunity in the greenhouses and in seedlings production.</p>
CEDARE (Fayoum) Sorting of wastes and selling them to waste collectors	<p>Health, environmental awareness concepts well integrated with the basic training package on GAP.</p> <p>NCW's regular awareness sessions in the villages was set up.</p> <p>For sustainability of sorting wastes initiatives, coordinating mechanisms with the NCW were established. This will lead to repeat the main messages in different areas of Fayoum.</p>	<p>The economic opportunities provided to women are influencing the local environment and changing the daily life of the family as the children are helping the mothers in sorting wastes and keeping the houses and the villages cleans.</p>
CEDARE (Fayoum) Start-ups for the collection and processing of agricultural and non-agricultural residues	<p>Health, environmental awareness concepts well integrated with the basic training package on GAP.</p> <p>Entrepreneurship trainings to encourage women to start small business using their skills were provided.</p>	<p>Machine (cracker) was given for free.</p> <p>Women have the ownership of her small business and have ideas to improve it in the future.</p>
CEOSS (Fayoum): Producing organic fertilizers from agricultural, household and animal wastes	<p>Health, environmental awareness concepts well integrated with the basic training package on GAP.</p> <p>Refresh courses on literacy classes for women and young girls carried out.</p> <p>Entrepreneurship trainings to encourage women to start small business using their skills were provided.</p>	<p>Cleaner homes and villages and positive impact on the environment.</p> <p>Increased productivity of agriculture lands as result of GAP promoted.</p>
CEOSS (Minya): Sorting and packing vegetables	<p>Governance training to support identifying source of information and take actions needed to develop small business carried out.</p> <p>Additional trainings small business development and home budgeting.</p> <p>Women take decisions freely, negotiate and take action in relation to small business and at home budgeting.</p>	<p>Women launched new successful businesses initiatives increasing incomes</p>

Grantees	Axis 1: improving the demand for gender mainstreamed labour (strengthening business environment, access to inputs, services and markets)	Axis 2- improving the supply for gender mainstreamed labour (strengthening the supply of economics' opportunities to women)
CEOSS (Minya): Small ruminants and domestic birds	<p>Trainings on feasibility and entrepreneurship were carried out.</p> <p>Support provided for selecting adapted projects tailor-made to women.</p> <p>Both young girls and unmarried women were targeted.</p>	<p>Women developed the small business quickly.</p> <p>The selected IGAs provided very good source of food for the family.</p>
CEOSS (Minya): Applying the good agricultural practices	<p>Gender and Entrepreneurship Together (GET) - Ahead for Women in Enterprise trainings were provided in support of starting small business.</p> <p>New information for women were shared with their husbands.</p>	<p>The proposed GAPs had a positive impact on the environment.</p>
CEDARE (Minya): Sorting of wastes and selling them to waste collectors	<p>Health, environmental awareness concepts well integrated with the basic training package on GAP were carried out.</p> <p>National council of women to regular awareness sessions in the villages was set up.</p> <p>For sustainability and scale out the idea of sorting wastes, coordinating mechanisms with the NCW were established. This led to repeat the main messages in different areas of Minya.</p>	<p>The economic opportunities provided to women are influencing the local environment and changing the daily life of the family as the children are helping the mothers in sorting wastes and keeping the houses and the villages cleans.</p>
CEDARE (Minya): Start-ups for the collection and processing of agricultural and non-agricultural residues.	<p>Health, environmental awareness concepts well integrated with the basic training package on GAP were carried out.</p> <p>Entrepreneurship training to encourage women to start small business using their skills were provided.</p>	<p>Machine (cracker) was given for free.</p> <p>Women have the ownership of her small business and have ideas to improve it in the future.</p>
FAO (Matrouh): Home gardening	<p>Health, environmental, nutrition for children and mother health awareness concepts well integrated with the basic training package on GAP were carried out.</p> <p>The concept of gender equality in training was introduced.</p> <p>Both women and young girls in community schools were targeted.</p> <p>Well integrated gender awareness campaigns were carried-out.</p> <p>The issuing process of identification cards for young girls was completed.</p>	<p>The promotion of IGAs (e.g., chicken, goats/cheese, home gardening) was an incentive for families to keep girls in schools.</p> <p>Positive effect on family health and nutritional aspects.</p>

Grantees	Axis 1: improving the demand for gender mainstreamed labour (strengthening business environment, access to inputs, services and markets)	Axis 2- improving the supply for gender mainstreamed labour (strengthening the supply of economics' opportunities to women)
APRI (Matrouh): Production of dairy products.	Social change, gender equality, personal wellbeing was promoted. Women received the training at home.	Positive effect on family health.
FAO (Matrouh): Production of dairy products/goats fattening/chicken	Health, environmental, nutrition for children and mother health awareness concepts well integrated with the basic training package on GAP were carried out. The concept of gender equality in training was introduced. Well integrated with APRI gender awareness campaigns were carried-out.	The promotion of IGAs (e.g., chicken, goats/cheese, home gardening) was an incentive for families to keep girls in schools. Positive effect on family health and nutritional aspects.
ACF/ACSAD: rehabilitation of cisterns for home consumption	Social change, personal wellbeing and hygiene concept promoted.	N/A
ECH (Fayoum): Community kitchen (preparation of traditional local food for tourists)	The capacity of women community was reinforced. Women in the board committee. Plan for women to own their own business (or at least share ownership) was prepared. Women trained on business modules. Marketing trainings and online marketing for women completed. Health training for food preparation completed.	Regular income in addition to generous tips from customers that might exceed the regular salary. Women work in a very good way as a team, they distribute responsibilities and share load of work.

Lessons learnt (positives and negatives) per each driving force

Capitalization of lessons learned (positives and negatives) are important to amend legislations and regulatory framework and improve sustainability at policy, regulatory, legislative, and environmental levels.

First axis: Improving the demand for gender mainstreamed labour (strengthening business environment, access to inputs, services and markets)

Positive lessons learnt (positive issues coming up):

- ✓ The women participation in the farmers' groups and their representation in the elected committees proved to be instrumental to increase the demand for gender mainstreamed labour and to reinforce the role of women within their communities.
- ✓ Actions for which health, environmental, nutrition for children and mother health awareness concepts are well integrated with the basic training package on GAPs are more adapted to women. This will facilitate deeper policy dialogue and the inclusion of gender aspects into national policy processes.

Negative lessons learnt (what did not go as expected):

- ✓ If the actions are not better embedded into national policy processes and there is little discussion with influential policy dialogue partner, the demand for gender mainstreamed labour is not reinforced.

Second axis: improving the supply for gender mainstreamed labour (strengthening the supply of economics' opportunities to women).

Positive lessons learnt (positive issues coming up):

- ✓ The participatory approach, in which strong partnerships with local institutions are established right from the start, is the most successful approach to promote IGAs tailor made to women. Under this approach, local technical partners (research institutes and/or government units), with the technical support from grantees, will be able to analyse the best IGAs adapted for women based on women's needs, governance issues, market analysis and their impacts on income generation.

Negative lessons learnt (what did not go as expected):

- ✓ If the criteria for selecting IGAs are limited to income increase and on the number of women employed, the concepts of who is owing the business are overlooked.

Recommendations for scaling up

General recommendations:

- ✓ The support provided by EU-JRDP's grantees was mainly focused on improving the supply side for gender mainstreamed labour. For the future, said support shall concern both axes since they are integrated.
- ✓ If funds are not enough for developing both axes together, it is recommended to prioritize axis one (improving the demand side for gender mainstreamed labour).

First axis: improving the demand for gender mainstreamed labour (strengthening business environment, access to inputs, services and markets)

Specific recommendations:

- ✓ To prepare future project proposals containing the following interventions tailor made to support the demand for gender: i) provision of ad-hoc trainings tailor made for gender, ii) strengthening the business environment facilitating the demand for women, iii) facilitating the access to inputs, services and markets for women, iv) drafting ad-hoc legislations and policies facilitating women labour, v) integrating health and education aspects tailor-made to women, vi) improving the governance of gender aspects, vii) removing structural barriers and gender norms that govern ownership of assets, viii) promoting effective access of women to productive resources and entrepreneurship, ix) reinforcing managerial and advocacy capacity and other skills tailor made for women, x) promoting businesses and other economic opportunities for women, etc.
- ✓ To include in project proposals ad-hoc activities i) building women's self-confidence, ii) developing their negotiating and network-building skills, iii) empowering women to take action to address their needs.
- ✓ To embed health and gender aspects as well as the environmental, nutrition for children and mother health awareness concepts in basic training packages on GAPs,
- ✓ To integrate education aspects into trainings to promote change, gender equality, personal wellbeing and create a better environment for women under traditional pressures.
- ✓ To reinforce entrepreneurial training aiming at enhancing commercial opportunities, self-esteem, knowledge, and skills to act on them.
- ✓ To provide ad-hoc trainings tailor made for gender facilitating the access to inputs, services and markets.
- ✓ To promote gender equality and create a better environment for girls under traditional pressures
- ✓ To promote ad-hoc legislations and policies facilitating women labour at early stage of project design.
- ✓ To increase women representation in the management committees and women participation in the farmers' groups and their representation in the elected committees.
- ✓ To facilitate deeper policy dialogue and inclusion of gender aspects into national policy processes.
- ✓ To promote networking with strong local community institutions and national council for women to have governmental and non-governmental accreditation

- ✓ To continue to provide support to the established RWADA as well as to the other women's groups in small animals and birds' production, community kitchen groups... supported by EU-JRDP.
- ✓ To expand advertisement in different ways and locations to ensure reaching women who have no access to association to ensure equal opportunity and that services reaches disaggregated women.

Second axis- improving the supply for gender mainstreamed labour (strengthening the supply of economics' opportunities to women).

Specific recommendations:

- ✓ To provide ad-hoc financial services tailor-made for women and to increase women demand for financial services.
- ✓ To promote GIs with strong involvement of women in processing, post harvesting operations, handmade crafts...
- ✓ To empower women through ad-hoc value chains development for selected agricultural and handmade GIs products.
- ✓ To scale out the poultry and bird development, household small animal production, backyard horticultural production, community kitchens... to the benefit of women groups.
- ✓ To increase involvement of women in projects promoting the use of wastes to be reused for agricultural production and the generation of additional income.

