Transforming the Food System by Empowering Algerian Smallholder Farmers

H'lib Dzair project





DANONE COSYSTEM

Algeria's milk market



85%

of Algerian dairy producers are smallholder farmers

They're central to an autonomous and resilient food system

yet...

Algerian smallholder farmers face challenges

- Limited local production of animal feed
- Difficulty staying up-to-date with best practices
- Low livestock productivity and low milk quality, resulting in difficulties accessing markets
- Inadequate collection infrastructure



leading to...



~40%

of Algerian milk consumption not covered by local production

The Algerian Government is now prioritizing domestic dairy production to reduce reliance on milk powder imports and improve its food security

That's why a coalition of public and private partners joined forces to empower smallholder farmers in Algeria

And the H'lib Dzair project was born

How it works at farm level



Algerian smallholder farmers

join the project and receive comprehensive support through 3 pillars at farm level



Training

- Monthly trainings to enhance livestock productivity and milk quality covering: sanitation, cow welfare, nutrition, feed autonomy and reproduction
- Vets and technician are also trained to effectively support farmers



Mentoring

- Technicians perform monthly farm visits to emphasize best practices learned in trainings, but specifically applied to the context of each farm to boost productivity and improve milk quality
- Support for testing and deploying circular initiatives with environment benefits: manure management through bio-digesters and feed byproducts



Finance

- Conduct trials on how to reduce feed costs: enhanced feed autonomy, local byproducts
- Credit advances on government subsidies secured by projects
- Exploring new income streams for farmers (e.g., by selling manure)

Enabling +1400 Algerian dairy farmers

Better farming practices resulting in increased production Business skills resulting in financial resilience of farms Improved herd management resulting in carbon intensity reduction

Key pillars to support smallholder farmers activities at distribution level

H'lib Dzair develops the Algerian small dairy sector by working with actors across the entire farm ecosystem



20 Milk Collection Centers Aggregates milk from farmers in the region

Upgraded refrigeration trucks

- Collectors pick up milk from hundreds of participating farms
- Helps to improve milk quality and decrease losses



Milk Transformation Processes milk and pays all actors in the value chain





Securing farmers' revenues and access to higher markets

Higher incomes **improve farmers' livelihoods** and positively impact their families Money is also reinvested into farms to further **enhance growth**

Benefits for the whole ecosystem



decrease in feed production costs for the farmers who took part in the "Feed the Cow" pilot program increase in income of subsistence producers that joined the program at the start

Economic



"Since I was little, I've always been close to animals. Before, my husband and I used to have two lambs and two cows. Then we decided to try livestock farming: we started with two cows, we saved money and now we have seven beautiful cows. We joined the project, and many new ideas were presented to us! We have a lot of hope for the future despite the difficult local context. We hope to see our farm grow bigger and bigger, with all the means to increase milk quality and quantity."

- Ghanima, Algerian Dairy Farmer

Partners & roles



DANONE DJURDJURA

Supports activities, implementation and development Sources the milk Provides projects funding

GIZ

Project implementation Technical support Provided project funding

DANONE ECOSYSTEM

Brings co-creation spirit Provides expertise & guidance Brings systemic and sustainable approach Provides funding support

Farmers

Local experts



INSTITUT DE L'ELEVAGE ITELV

Provide insights and support with expertise and studies

Sources:

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