



WHEAT VALUE CHAIN ASSESSMENT North West - Syria June 2020

Shafak & MH Europe Organizations







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1 Humanitarian Needs Overview

The Syrians have witnessed almost nine years of crisis, during which millions of them faced displacement – in many cases, multiple times – losing livelihood and productive assets along the way, while facing rising prices with the collapse of the currency. The impact of past and ongoing insecurity drives humanitarian needs, gravely affecting the population's food security and livelihood.

Overall, according to latest HNO 2020 report, 11.06 million people are in need of some form of humanitarian assistance in 2020. This includes 4.65 million people estimated to be in acute need.¹ As the crisis enters its tenth year, 6.1 million people remain internally displaced.² 5.6 million people have fled their homes, the vast majority to neighboring countries, with limited prospects for return due to ongoing hostilities in some locations, concerns regarding safety, and the lack of adequate housing, basic services and employment opportunities.

The current economic crisis is expected to continue in 2020 – negatively affecting households' purchasing power, the availability of key items, and access to livelihood opportunities – and stands to impact the humanitarian context, needs and response to the needs.

Unless imports of wheat significantly increase, food insecurity could also rise further. With food insecurity already increasing from 6.5 million people in 2019 to 7.9 million people in 2020, and current agricultural production unable to keep up with domestic requirements – only 2.2 million tons of wheat were produced in 2019 compared to the needed 3.4 million– it is clear that a multi-pronged strategy is required to manage this deficit. This entails both short and medium-term measures, from imports and continued humanitarian assistance to increasing primary production, including the restoration and conservation of the Syrian wheat varieties. However, even factoring in all possible measures, such as potential government imports (1 million tons), commercial imports (200,000 tons) and food assistance (135,000 tones)³, a deficit

- ² UN Population Task Force, July 2019.
- ³FAO/WFP, Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission Report- CFSAM, Cereal Balance Sheet for Syria Arab Republic, September 2019.

¹ Please see sections 1.4 and Annex for methodology on inter-sector people in need calculation.





of around 445,000 tons of wheat would persist. This deficit has coincided with a reduction in state subsidies for fuel, oil derivatives and other essential items such as sugar, rice and wheat flour, which has left families with little choice but to find alternative means to pay for these items themselves.⁴

2 Methodology and Approach

As an impact of the prolonged crisis and the large displacement took place in North Syria, in addition to the outbreak of global pandemic COVID-19. Shafak aims to have a better understanding of the current situation of agriculture sector relying on other secondary data from HNO and iMMAP with Care International. Shafak has carried out a rapid needs assessment in Jebel Saman, Ariha, Harim, Idleb and Jisr-Ash-Shugur districts in Aleppo and Idleb governorates focusing on the needs of different groups in the community (men, women, boys and girls) in addition to other vulnerable groups, such as PWDs. The assessment questionnaire was developed by Shafak ad MHEUROPE technical teams in coordination with MEAL team. It is structured on KIIs level, where this assessment covered 17 locations (sub-districts). In each community, one session was conducted with 5-6 participants from different backgrounds as experienced farmers, engineers, and local council heads. Six of Shafak field staff (4 males and 2 females) made up the enumeration team collecting the required data. Enumerators have good experience with technical background, were trained on the questionnaire before data collection.

Field data collection was completed in the last week of May 2020. Then the data was downloaded in Shafak office in Gaziantep (Turkey) for data interpretation, initial analysis, technical analysis and drafting the initial report. Then the report was reviewed by Shafak program team.

⁴ Syria's GDP in 2019 is estimated at US\$ 20 billion, 2/3 lower than in 2011. Overall, state subsidies have reduced from an estimated 10 per cent to an estimated 5 per cent of Syria's GDP.





3 Abstract

- The assessment considers the needs of the vulnerable groups. 46% of the affected population are IDPs, 19% returnees, 10% female-headed households and 6% PWDs.
- Agriculture is the main source of income for more than 90% of the population, either as the primary source (45%) or secondary source of income (38%).
- More than half of the population are engaged in agricultural-related activities.
- 145,617 hectares were cultivated; the average owned land size per family is 2.2 hectares.
- 136,700 households in the mentioned locations are farmers, which constitutes almost 50% of the total population.
- The vulnerable groups in the community (female-headed household, boys and girls, elderly people, and PWDs) meet their needs mainly through assistance from relatives, community assistance, and working as labor or in shops. Moreover, 53% of those groups are relying on borrowing, which indicates people are adopting negative coping strategies. At the same time, those groups are working in land and utilize agriculture activities in case needed support is received, such as the following; Seeds, sowing, cultivatig, fertilizing, irrigation, weeding, Pesticides spraying, pruning, harvesting, processing, transport to market and marketing the products
- After the crisis, agriculture was affected negatively, where so many challenges and constrains have aggravated such as, increasing fuel and other agricultural input's prices, non-functionality or lack of access to the markets
- The crisis affected agriculture and cultivated lands, and there are many reasons behind this, such as:
 - \circ $\;$ The spread of urbanization and camps;
 - High prices of materials;
 - lack of agricultural inputs;
 - no subsidizing from the government;
 - the lack/shortage of electricity;
 - The unfeasible and non-functional market





- Olive trees and winter crops (wheat, barley, etc.) are the main crops in the area in addition to cash crops (cumin, black seeds, and coriander) and vegetables.
- In addition to the most cultivated crops that were grown before the crisis (wheat, barley, chickpea, potato etc.), there are other types which started being cultivated such as, black seeds, cumin, and others.
- Crops irrigations depends either on rainfall or irrigation system. The annual precipitation is almost good, and 76% of farmers rely on a shallow artesian wells or deep wells, 24% on rivers and springs.
- Some locations such as Sarmin, Salqin, and Taftanaz depend on rain-fed and the other locations depend partially on the available irrigation system in addition to rainfall for crops cultivation and irrigation.
- The main problems that are facing water availability and crops irrigation are: fuel high prices, lack of wells, low water levels, subverting water networks, dams stopped working, electricity loss and the high cost of extending irrigation systems.
- With regards to agriculture inputs, they are available (yet hardly accessible) in the market such as seeds and fertilizers. Tractors, pesticide sprayers, sowing machines, irrigation networks, harvest machines.
- Climate stations are the needed tools to be used in agriculture sector, They are available but in low number and accuracy.
- Extension services mainly depend on the experience of the expert farmers and community leaders in addition to 18% provided by NGOs. Thus, farmers are still in need of such a training about soil preparation, harvesting, pruning, sowing, pesticides application, cultivation, irrigation, fertilization and pest control.
- COVID-19 affected badly agriculture by increasing the price of the inputs and materials, increasing the transportation costs and closing the border from importing.
- 89% of farmers depend on the local market to sell their goods, 5% export it to Turkey or to the Regime controlled area.
- High costs of agricultural services (plowing, harvesting), the high price of agricultural inputs in general (fertilizers, pesticides, tools, etc.), a high percentage of unemployment, increased demand of labor in light of COVID-19, prevalence of pests due to lack of control, and decreased productivity of trees compared to previous time are the main challenges and constraints that farmers are facing.





- Agriculture infrastructure was affected, and needs of rehabilitation of roads, irrigation networks, and wells, as well as improving the market capacity and rehabilitation services to mills, dams, and nurseries are increasing.
- At the end, agriculture is in need to:
 - improve access to machinery and tools for farmers;
 - and improve the agricultural production in the area by providing good quality of seeds and other agriculture inputs such as fertilizer, cash support to farmers, increase farmer's capacity and enlarge the extension services.

4 Locations

The assessment was conducted on a sub district level as in the below picture shows:









5 Assessment Findings

5.1 Affected population demographics:

The assessment focused on the population demographics to identify the needs of the vulnerable groups as female-headed household and PWDs. The below chart shows the total number of population in the targeted locations with the percentage of vulnerable groups highlighted.

Governorate	District	Sub-district	Total	% of RETURNEES	% of IDPS	% of female headed households	% of families with PWD members
Aleppo	Jebel Saman	Atareb	97,784	31%	36%	4%	5%
Aleppo	Jebel Saman	Daret Azza	49,591	18%	4 <mark>0%</mark>	12%	5%
Idleb	Ariha	Ariha	66,238	47%	24%	4%	5%
Idleb	Ariha	Mhambal	40,394	18%	36%	13%	10%
Idleb	Harim	Armanaz	74,599	0%	53 <mark>%</mark>	7%	1%
Idleb	Harim	Dana	1,075,395	0%	85%	2%	3%
Idleb	Harim	Harim	70,975	0%	66%	15%	12%
Idleb	Harim	Kafr Takharim	38,012	0%	50 <mark>%</mark>	18%	6%
Idleb	Harim	Qourqeena	101,566	0%	62%	10%	10%
Idleb	Harim	Salqin	277,914	0%	74%	1%	1%
Idleb	Idleb	Bennsh	36,241	3%	48%	11%	3%
Idleb	Idleb	Idleb	297,699	0%	51 <mark>%</mark>	11%	2%
Idleb	Idleb	Ma'arrat Tamasrin	260,140	0%	73%	10%	4%
Idleb	Idleb	Sarmin	11,278	91%	9%	16%	4%
Idleb	Idleb	Teftnaz	5,195	96%	4%	17%	10%
Idleb	Jisr-Ash-Shugur	Darkosh	94,435	0%	49 <mark>%</mark>	3%	1%
Idleb	Jisr-Ash-Shugur	Jisr-Ash-Shugur	92,508	11%	25%	15%	15%

5.2 Affected people main occupation:

• Agriculture is considered as the main occupation to the affected people in the targeted locations.







 High price of fuel and agricultural inputs with non-functional or unavailability of markets are the main farmer's challenges in general.



- Women, youth, elderlies and disabled peoples can work in sewing, homebased and others like; daily labor and shop keeping.
- The vulnerable groups in the (female-headed community households, boys and girls, elderly people and PWDs) meet their need mainly through assistance from relatives, community assistance and working as labor or in shops. Moreover, 53% of those groups are relying on borrowing, which indicates that people are adopting negative copying strategies.









Women-headed ho and/or disabled pe	useholc ople ab	ls, Yout le to m	h (boyset the	s and gi ir hous	rls), eld ehold r	lerly leeds
Village	Working	Loans	Borrowing	Assistance from relative	Community assistance	Relief organizations
Ariha						
Armanaz						
Atareb						
Bennsh						
Dana						
Daret Azza						
Darkosh						
Harim						
Idleb						
Jisr-Ash-Shugur						
Kafr Takharim						
Ma'arrat Tamasrin						
Mhambal						
Qourqeena						
Salqin						
Sarmin						
Taftanaz						•

5.3 Agriculture land-farmers:

- More than half of the population are engaged in agricultural related activities.
- 145,617 hectares are cultivated. The average land size per family is 2.2 hectares.
- 136,700 households in the mentioned locations are farmers, who constitute 50% of the total population.
- Agriculture is the primary saminest source of income for 45% of the population and is considered as the second source for 38%.

% of populations are still engaged in agriculture the estimated number of farmers in sub-district Qourqeena 80% 10,000 6,000 16,000 Armanaz 65% **10**,954 15,000 Daret Azza 65% 4,500 Kafr Takharim 65% 13,000 3,856 Atareb 60% 3,000 6,572 5,713 Bennsh 60% 3,000 60% 1,500 3,110 Dana Jisr-Ash-Shugur 60% 8,000 18,659 Mhambal 50% 9,000 8,825 Ariha 45% 3,000 2,363 Taftanaz 45% 3.707 3,000 Idleb 45% 1,400 24,726 43% 10,000 9,897 Ma'arrat Tamasrin 9,860 Sarmin 30% 1.800 Darkosh 25% 30,000 19,320 25% 5.465 Harim 8.000 Salqin 25% 1,000 2,090

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Village	The estimated percentage of households that used to have agriculture as their primary source of income (%)	The estimated percentage of households that used to have agriculture as their secondary source of income (%)
Bennsh	70%	10%
Idleb	70%	30%
Qourqeena	65%	75%
Atareb	60%	40%
Dana	60%	40%
Harim	60%	40%
Darkosh	55%	45%
Kafr Takharim	50%	50%
Daret Azza	40%	60%
Ariha	35%	30%
Armanaz	35%	65%
Jisr-Ash-Shugur	30%	40%
Mhambal	25%	20%
Ma'arrat Tamasrin	20%	15%
Salqin	10%	5%
Sarmin	0%	0%
Taftanaz	0%	0%

5.4 farmers Challenges:

- The crisis affected agriculture sector overall and lead to change in the percentage of people who used to depend on agriculture as primary source of income. The most prominent factors for this change are as following: Spread of urbanization and camps
- High prices of materials
- Lack of good agricultural inputs

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Village	Spread of urbanization and camps	High prices of materials	Lack of inputs	Weak production	Less drainage market for production	It became a primary source of income
Ariha	8	8	8	8	8	8
Armanaz	8	0	0	8	8	8
Atareb	8	8	8		0	8
Bennsh	0	8	8	8	8	8
Dana	0	8	0	8	0	8
Daret Azza	8	8	8	8	8	8
Darkosh	8	0	8	8	8	8
Harim	8	0	8	8	8	8
Idleb	8	0	8	8	8	8
Jisr-Ash-Shugur	8	8	8	8	8	8
Kafr Takharim	8	0	8	8	8	8
Ma'arrat Tamasrin	0	8	8	8	8	8
Mhambal	8		8	8	8	8
Qourqeena	8	8	8	8	8	8
Salqin	8	8	8	8	8	0
Sarmin	8	8	8	8	8	8
Taftanaz	8	8	8	8	8	8

5.5 Main Cultivated Crops:

- Olive trees and winter crops (wheat, barley, etc.) are the main crops in the area in addition to cash crops (cumin, black seeds, and coriander) and vegetables.
- Agriculture after the crisis has been affected by the high cost of fuel agricultural inputs, and absence of subsidizing from the government. Also, the lack/shortage of electricity and unavailability or lack of access to markets.
- Moreover, some crops are being grown now _and was not beofre the crisis, or at lower level_ like anise, black seeds, cumin, and other crops types highlighted in the chart below:

	e otin 2011, B. O				Ttypes of crop	s are still being	
Village	Winter crops (Wheat, Barley, Chickpea and lentil)	Cash crops (Cumin, black seeds and coriander	Vegetable (Summer or winter vegetable)	Trees (Olive, cherry)	gro Vegetable (Summer or	own	
Ariha					winter vegetable)	71%	
Armanaz	•	•					
Atareb							
Bennsh					Cash crops (Cumin, black		
Dana					seeds and coriander	76%	
Daret Azza							
Darkosh							
Harim					Winter crops (Wheat,		
Idleb					Barley, Chickpea and	88%	
Jisr-Ash-Shugur					lentil)		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Kafr Takharim							
Ma'arrat Tamasrin							
Mhambal					Trees (Olive cherry)	100%	
Qourqeena					frees (Onve, cherry)	100%	
Salqin							k No: 4/1
Sarmin							
Taftanaz		•		•			•••••









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5.6 Irrigation system:

- Widows and female-headed households and IDPs farmers are the most vulnerable groups who are eligible to receive the humanitarian assistance.
- 82% reported that the annual precipitation is good, 12% medium and 6% high.



Medium rain rate Good rain rate High rain rate



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the current situation for th	ne wint	er cro	os in te	erms of	f geogr	aphic	and te	mpora	l distril	oution	of rair	ifall co	mpariı	ng with	the la	st seas	ion
Date	Ariha	Armanaz	Atareb	Bennsh	Dana	Daret Azza	Darkosh	Harim	Idleb	Jisr-Ash-Shugur	Kafr Takharim	Ma'arrat Tamasrin	Mhambal	Qourqeena	Salqin	Sarmin	Taftanaz
Oct-20	\bullet	•				•	•	\bullet	•	0			\bullet		\bullet	\bullet	\bullet
Nov-20		•				•		\bullet							\bullet	\bullet	\bullet
Dec-20						\bullet		\bullet								\bullet	
Jan-20		0			\bullet	\bullet		\bullet	\bullet							\bullet	
Feb-20		•					•	0	•	0		\bullet	\bullet		٠	\bullet	\bullet
Mar-20	٠					0		0	0	0		\bullet			٠	•	\bullet
Apr-20	•	0	•				0	0		•		\bullet	٢		٠	\bullet	\bullet
	Exce	llent			Good		М	edium			Low	٢					



■ % of lands are irrigated ■ % of rain-fed

4

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				t	he mos	t constr	ains tha	at farme	rs face i	n tern	ns of irriga	ition						
Village	Reduct water le we	ion of evel in ell	High pum part fix	cost of p spare ts and ation	U	navailat and of f	pility uel	high c	ost of fi	uel	No Electric	City o	Damaged f drip irri usag	tanks gation e	Damag pipes a netwo	ge in and ork	High co irrigat netwo	st of ion orks
Ariha	•			8		8			8		8		8		8)	8	
Armanaz	6	3		I									8		8)	0	
Atareb	8	3		8		8									Ø			
Bennsh	8	3		⊘		8							8		8)		
Dana	8	3		⊘		8									Ø)		
Daret Azza	•			8		8							8		Ø)	8	
Darkosh	8	3		I		8					8		8		8)		
Harim	Ø	3		8		8							8		Ø)	8	
Idleb	8	3		8		8							8		0)		
Jisr-Ash-Shugur	6	3		I							Ø		8		8)	0	
Kafr Takharim	6	3		I									8		8)	0	
Ma'arrat Tamasrir	Q			8							Ø		8		8)	Ø	
Mhambal	•					8							8		8		Ø	
Qourqeena	C			8		8					8		8		Ø)	Ø	
Salqin	•												8		8		Ø	
Sarmin	6)		I		8			⊘		Ø		8		8)	Ø	
Taftanaz	•			⊘		8					Ø		8		8			
	7			10		5			16		14		2		6		14	
	Village	Ariha	Armana z	Atareb	Bennsh	Dana	Daret Azza	Darkosh	Harim	Idleb	Jisr-Ash- Shugur	Kafr Takhar m	Ma'arrat 'i Tamasri	Mhamb al	Qourqee na	Salqin	Sarmin	Taftanaz
irrigation methods do	Surface		0	8	8	⊗		8					8	8		8		
namers use in tins area	Sprinkle	⊗	8				8					8			8	8		8
	Drip	8						8	8	8					8		0	8

The most constrains that farmers face in terms of irrigation



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- Crops irrigation depends mainly either on rainfall or irrigation systems. The annual rate of rainfall is almost good, and 76% rely on a shallow artesian well or deep wells, 24% rivers and springs.
- Some locations as Sarmin, Salqin, and Taftanaz depend on rainfed and the other depend partially on the available irrigated system in addition to rain.
- The main problems that facing watering are: high fuel prices, lack of wells, low water levels, subverting water networks, dams stopped working, electricity loss and the high cost of extending irrigation systems.

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5.7 People involved in farming:

who is doing the list (of the diff	erent a	c tivities i	nvolved	l in farm	ning					
Group	Sourcing seeds	Sowing	Planting seedlings	Fertilizing	Watering	Weeding/spray ing	Pruning	Harvesting	Processing	Transport to market	Selling
Men	100%	<mark>4</mark> 0%	25%	<mark>60</mark> %	<mark>60</mark> %	20%	90%	<mark>4</mark> 5%	<mark>60</mark> %	95%	90%
Women	0%	<mark>3</mark> 0%	<mark>3</mark> 5%	5%	10%	<mark>3</mark> 5%	0%	25%	<mark>3</mark> 0%	0%	5%
Girls	0%	15%	20%	5%	5%	20%	0%	10%	5%	0%	0%
Boys	0%	15%	20%	<mark>3</mark> 0%	25%	25%	10%	20%	5%	5%	5%



5.8 Winter Cultivation:

• Wheat and barley are the main winter crops in the assessed locations. The below charts reflect the date of planting and harvesting in each location:









Planting date of winter crops (# of month) Wheat Barley Chickpea Lentil Maize Cumin Black seeds Coriander

Harvesting date of winter crops (# of month)

Сгор	Ariha	Armanaz	Atareb	Bennsh	Dana	Daret Azza	Darkosh	Harim	Idleb	Jisr-Ash-Shugur	Kafr Takharim	Ma'arrat Tamasrin	Mhambal	Qourqeena	Salqin	Sarmin	Taftanaz
Wheat	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Barley	6	6	5	6	5	5	5	5	5	6	6	5	5	5	5	5	5
Chickpea	6	7	6	6	6	5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	
Lentil	5	5	5	6	6		5	5	5	6	5	5	5	5	5		
Maize							6	6	6				6				
Cumin			6	5	6	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	
Black seeds	6		6	5	6		5	6	6	6	5	5	5	6	5	6	
Coriander	6			5			7	6	6	6		5			5		





5.9 Agriculture inputs:

- Generally speaking, seeds are available and accessible in the assessed locations.
- Farmers either get access to seeds by storing them from the previous season or from the market, where they are available, but with very high prices.
- The same for fertilizer which is hard to access and with high prices.

The availability and accessil	bility of seeds and How o	lo you get seeds each se	
Village	availability	accessibility	get seeds
Ariha	Hardly available	accessibility	previous harvest
Armanaz	Hardly available		market or trader
Atareb	availability		previous harvest
Bennsh	availability	accessibility	market or trader
Dana	availability	accessibility	previous harvest
Daret Azza	availability		market or trader
Darkosh	availability		market or trader
Harim	availability		market or trader
Idleb	availability		market or trader
Jisr-Ash-Shugur	availability	accessibility	market or trader
Kafr Takharim	Hardly available	accessibility	previous harvest
Ma'arrat Tamasrin	availability	accessibility	market or trader
Mhambal	availability	accessibility	market or trader
Qourqeena	Hardly available	Hardly accessible	market or trader
Salqin	Hardly available		market or trader
Sarmin	availability	accessibility	market or trader
Taftanaz	availability	accessibility	market or trader

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			Do farme	ers use chem	ical fertilizer	s (Number o	f month)				
Village	Status	availa bility	accessibility	Date application of U rea 45% fertilizer 46% on Wheat	Date application of NPK 15:15:15 fertilizer 15:15:15 on Wheat	Date application of DAP fertilizer on Wheat	Date application of Phosphorus fertilizer on Wheat	Date application of U rea 45% fertilizer 46% on Barley	Date application of NPK 15:15:15 fertilizer 15:15:15 on Barley	Date application of DAP fertilizer on Barley	Date application of Phosphorus fertilizer on Barley
Ariha		Hardly	Hardly	1	1		12				
Armanaz		Hardly	Accessibility	1	1	1	12	1			11
Atareb		Hardly	Hardly	12	3	3	12	12	3	3	12
Bennsh		Availability	Accessibility	2	10	10	10	2	10	10	10
Dana		Hardly	Hardly	12	3	3	12	12	3	3	3
Daret Azza		Hardly	Hardly	2							
Darkosh		Availability	Hardly	2	11	11	11	2	11	11	11
Harim	0	Availability	Hardly	2	10	10	10	2	11	11	11
Idleb		Availability	Hardly	2	10	10	10	2	11	11	11
Jisr-Ash-Shugur	0	Availability	Accessibility	11		11	11				
Kafr Takharim		Hardly	Accessibility	2	1	1	12	2			12
Ma'arrat Tamasrin		Availability	Accessibility	3			11	3			12
Mhambal		Availability	Accessibility	3			11	3			
Qourqeena	0	Hardly	Hardly	2							
Salqin		Hardly	Accessibility	3			11	3			
Sarmin		Availability	Accessibility	11	11		11	11	11		11
Taftanaz	0	Availability	Accessibility	11	11		11	11	11		11



• With regards to agriculture inputs, they are available (but with high prices) in the market such as seeds and fertilizers. Tractors, pesticide sprayer, sowing machines, irrigated networks, harvest machines, and weather stations are the needed tools to be used in cultivating land. They are available but hard to access to most of them with lack of weather stations.





5.10 Extension Services;

 Extension services mainly depend on the experience of the expert farmers and community leaders in addition to 18% provided by NGOs. Hence, farmers are still in need of such a training about soil preparation, harvesting, pruning, sowing, pesticides, cultivation, irrigation, and pest control fertilization.





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5.11 COVID-19 affection on agriculture

	Did CC bu	OVID-19 crisis affect the agricultural Isiness of local farmers and How	After CO	OVID crisis, has farmers situation worsened?
Village	Status	How	Status	How
Ariha	8			Economic recession
Armanaz		cultivation input prices increased	8	
Atareb	8		8	
Bennsh	8		8	
Dana	8		8	
Daret Azza	8		8	
Darkosh		cultivation input prices increased	8	
Harim		cultivation input prices increased		High prices and Transportation was cut off
Idleb		cultivation input prices increased		High prices
Jisr-Ash-Shugur	8		8	
Kafr Takharim		cultivation input prices increased		High prices
Ma'arrat Tamasrin	8		8	
Mhambal	8		8	
Qourqeena	8			Closure of the crossings
Salqin	8		8	
Sarmin	8		8	
Taftanaz	8		8	

		How COVID 19 I bussiness	nas affected on of farmers	How COVII Agricult	D 19 has affected on local cural products markets	Agricu marke	Itural products ets disruption?	Did price change	s of agricultural inputs after COVID-19 crisis
	Village	# of farmers had business before	# of farmers has lost their business after	Status	How	Status	How	Status	How
	Ariha	3,000	0	0	Difficulty in securing production requirements and	0	Stop exporting	0	Closure of the crossings
	Armanaz	16,0 00	1,000	0	Cultivation input prices increased, and the export of	0	Low import	0	Agricultural input prices increased
	Atareb	3,000	0	8		8		0	High dollar prices
	Bennsh	3,000	0	Ø	By closing some market outlets		Road interruption		Domestic commodity prices fell
	Dana	1,500	0	0	High dollar prices against the Syrian pound and the closure	0	Market disruption	0	High dollar prices
	Daret Azza	25,000	0	0	Lack of export		Road interruption		Domestic commodity
	Darkosh	30,000	3,000	0	The severance of transportation links has made		Lack of product discharge	0	Agricultural input
	Harim	8,000	400	0	Transportation was cut off	0	Lack of product		Agricultural input
	Idleb	1,400	200	0	Cut off roads	0	Stop exporting		Agricultural input
	Jisr-Ash-Shugur	8,000	0	0		8		8	prices mercased
	Kafr Takharim	15,3 00	1,400	0	ss disposal of cultivation produc	0	Road interruption	0	Agricultural input prices increased
	la'arrat Tamasri	10,000	0	8		8		8	
	Mhambal	9,000	0	8		8		8	
	Qourqeena	10,000	0	0	Import and export stops		Stop exporting		Domestic commodity
	Salqin	1,000	0	8		8		8	prices fell
· · ·	Sarmin	1,800	0	0		8		8	
ww	Taftanaz	3,000	0	8		8		8	

















5.12 Agriculture good-production











	Are supp	ly lines interr	upted often	and why?	Do farme oth	rs sell growir er governora	ng food in ntes?	Is it easy to a in the area	ccess money a and how
Village	Status	Closure of the crossings	the security situation	Corona protection conditions	Status	Closure of the crossings	Difficulty crossing of the crossings	Status	Exchang center
Ariha		8		8	8	8	8	8	8
Armanaz			8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Atareb	0	0	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Bennsh	8	8	8	8	8	8	8		
Dana		Ø	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Daret Azza			8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Darkosh		0	8	8	8	8	8	0	0
Harim	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	0	0
Idleb	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	0	0
Jisr-Ash-Shugur		0	8	8		Ø	8	0	0
Kafr Takharim		0	8	8	8		8	0	0
Ma'arrat Tamasrin		8	Ø	8	0	Ø	8	0	0
Mhambal		8		8		Ø	8	0	0
Qourqeena		8			8	8	8	8	8
Salqin	8	8	8	8		8	Ø		0
Sarmin		Ø	8	8	8	8	8	0	0
Taftanaz		0	8	8	8	8	8	0	0

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5.13 Agricultural infrastructure













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6 Conclusion and Recommendations

- Agriculture is considered as the main occupation for most of the affected population in the area and most of the people, including the vulnerable, are relying on agriculture activities in their lives. Hence, increasing their access to farming and support farmers will increase their income.
- Farmers need so many types of support to overcome the difficulties and increase access to cultivated land and production, such as support in fuel and good quality of agricultural inputs (seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, tools and machines) I addition for cash for harvest ad other services.
- Agriculture sector I the targeted area is in need to be improved, and the main infrastructure such as roads, mills, markets etc. need to be rehabilitated.
- Wheat plays an important role in the rural development of Northwest Syria, ad considered as the top strategic crop i the area.
- As observed, women have an active role in the production and processing phases of the agriculture value chains; however, it is recommended to give opportunities for women in the gender-sensitive specific interventions.
- Such an intervention to support the value chain of wheat will increase the local farmers' production to be part of a whole agriculture value chain support plan, including postharvest, market access support, to avoid surplus supply induced

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farmer unprofitability, which can discourage the wheat farming in the supported areas.

- It is recommended to support the establishment of an e-agriculture extension service delivery platform to create information sharing channels (market support through a mobile application for traders and farmers to share information on production and market price information). With such a mobile platform, even the home-based women farmers with a culture of less freedom of movement to the market can also market their farm produce through online marketing in the comfort of their homes to fetch higher price markets.
- It is recommended to support the broader market system-based approach for food security and livelihood restoration programming so as to support the wider value chain actors; for instance, the support for the wheat value chain should be extended to embrace the Wheat-Flour to Bread value chain Millers and Bakeries support given that bread is the staple food in Syria.

End of the report

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