

OUR EXPERTISE

SUPPORT FOR AGRICULTURE



solidarités
international

The overall objective of SOLIDARITÉS INTERNATIONALE's **Food Security & Livelihoods (FSL)** interventions is to ensure sustainable food and economic security for vulnerable populations. Food security and livelihoods are intrinsically linked to **agriculture**, particularly for the poorest populations, since it is the **main source of income for 80% of the world's poor** (World Bank). The agricultural sector is therefore **one of the major levers in the fight against food insecurity and poverty**. Family farming produces the vast majority of the world's food and, paradoxically, **small-scale producers** are the hardest hit by hunger. They are regularly affected not only by climatic shocks, but also by **conflicts** and **economic shocks** resulting in loss of access to means of production and markets.

In its agricultural support activities, SOLIDARITÉS INTERNATIONALE's strategy is based on 3 complementary objectives:

- 1. Understanding local agricultural issues and needs**
- 2. Ensuring agricultural recovery after a crisis**
- 3. Increasing the resilience of small producers and farming systems to shocks**

OBJECTIF 1

UNDERSTANDING AGRICULTURAL ISSUES AND NEEDS

To provide the most effective and specific assistance possible, it is necessary to **understand the local agricultural systems** in the regions of intervention, and define their **constraints** and **potential**. To this end, SOLIDARITÉS INTERNATIONALE's agricultural support activities are preceded by a **diagnosis phase of agricultural production systems** and the **overall context of the targeted area**, in order to define the socio-cultural, economic, climatic and security issues. During this study phase, SOLIDARITÉS INTERNATIONALE teams base their work on **field surveys** of the **various players in the agricultural sector**: farmers' organizations, farmers' groups, agricultural input traders, local authorities, public services, etc. SOLIDARITÉS INTERNATIONALE seeks to place **beneficiaries at the heart of the design of its interventions** by precisely identifying their needs, and to position itself as closely as possible to their experience by drawing on **farmers' knowledge** and **local practices**.

1 | City of Palma, Mozambique

Analysis of agricultural production systems

Ahead of a project to strengthen the livelihoods of returnees in the town of Palma, an analysis of agricultural production systems was carried out. The aim of this analysis was to decide the best support strategy for farmers, and thus identify the main needs in terms of training and capacity-building, as well as tools and seeds, while respecting standards linked to environmental protection and sustainable development. Through primary data collection and secondary data collection, the survey focused on understanding local agricultural value chains, environmental and health issues in the area, the legal framework of the local agricultural sector and the dynamics within different groups of farmers, as well as their needs, capacities and vulnerabilities.



2 | Gouvernorate of Raqqa, Syria

Targeting beneficiaries

The project aimed to enhance food and nutritional security among conflict-affected and economically vulnerable communities by implementing a rigorous beneficiary selection process. This process was grounded in contextual and agricultural analysis, assessing needs, capacities, and access to markets and services. A participatory approach was employed, involving communities in defining and validating targeting criteria. Selection considered both socio-economic vulnerabilities and technical factors (such as access to land, cultivation capacity, and irrigation access). Additionally, the project integrated a gender-sensitive lens to tailor support appropriately and recognize women's vital role in agriculture.



OBJECTIVE 2

ENSURING

AGRICULTURAL

RECOVERY

AFTER A CRISIS

In a context of humanitarian crisis, SOLIDARITÉS INTERNATIONALE ensures the **economic recovery of agricultural activities** that have been impacted by **shocks** (political, economic, climatic). The aim is to **restore** and **renew** the **assets of agricultural production** that have been damaged, destroyed or weakened, so that people can regain their **productive capacity, autonomy** and **independence**. To achieve this, SOLIDARITÉS INTERNATIONALE **distributes various types of agricultural inputs, repairs agricultural infrastructures** and **rehabilitates degraded land**. As well as supporting them with means of production, SOLIDARITÉS INTERNATIONALE also provides **technical training to farmers** to raise their awareness on the most **sustainable agricultural practices suited to their context**.

3 | Markounda, Central African Republic

Support for agroecological market gardening

As part of the implementation of a project to assist conflict-affected and returnee households in the sub-prefectures of Paoua and Markounda in CAR, SOLIDARITÉS INTERNATIONALE has supported 450 vulnerable households in market garden production, with the aim of food and economic diversification. This support took the form of setting up production sites, distributing market garden seeds and farming tools, and providing training in market garden production techniques. To equip beneficiaries with the knowledge and technical skills needed to combat insect pests of vegetables, biopesticide manufacturing kits were distributed, and training was provided on the advantages of using biopesticides, identifying insect pests in vegetables, and preparing biopesticides based on tobacco



4 | Burkina Faso

Distribution of agricultural inputs and tools

Due to climatic hazards, the degradation of natural resources, and above all the security crisis limiting access to and causing abandonment of agricultural areas, Burkina Faso is facing a decline agricultural production in areas once known as agricultural granaries. Continued mobility due to the security situation has led greater dependence of households on markets and food assistance due to the loss of their means of production. SOLIDARITÉS INTERNATIONALE has provided agricultural input support to vulnerable households to enable them to produce vegetable and food crops. Seeds and farming equipment were distributed to boost crop production while promoting self-consumption, food diversification, income generation and market supply.



OBJECTIVE 3

INCREASING THE RESILIENCE OF FARMING SYSTEMS TO SHOCKS

Small-scale agriculture is the foundation of **food security and sovereignty** in every country. It makes a significant contribution to job creation, to **reducing poverty and inequality**, and to **empowering marginalized groups** around the world. In its agricultural support activities, SOLIDARITÉS INTERNATIONALE seeks to increase the **resilience of small-scale producers** to ensure the **sustainability of their farms**, and to **diversify their livelihoods** to increase their resistance to shocks. This translates into **technical and material support** for various players in the local value chains (seed companies, agricultural organizations, producer groups, etc.). **Taking account of environmental and climatic issues** is, in this sense, a fundamental approach. SOLIDARITÉS INTERNATIONALE's training courses for farmers promote **agro-ecological practices** to ensure that agriculture is productive, consistent with ecological challenges, and a source of stable, resilient livelihoods.

5 | Lara State, Venezuela

Agroecological allotment gardens

Against a backdrop of economic and political crisis, SOLIDARITÉS INTERNATIONALE has supported the establishment of home vegetable gardens to improve the diet of 103 households living in the peri-urban area of Barquisimeto. The aim of the project is to enable them to produce a diversified diet themselves, while reducing the proportion of their expenses allocated to vegetables. Beneficiaries had access to training sessions on various topics from seeds production to harvesting techniques, all applying agroecology principles. Awareness-raising sessions on good nutritional practices complemented this activity to reinforce changes in household eating habits. Support was also provided to two schools, enabling the installation of school gardens to raise children's awareness of importance of eating vegetables and supplementing canteen food rations.



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6 | Zgharta, Liban

Diversification of agricultural activities

Against the backdrop of Lebanon's multidimensional crisis, the SOLIDARITÉS INTERNATIONALE project aims to reduce poverty by strengthening the resilience of local stakeholders to economic and environmental crises in various rural areas of Lebanon. In addition to addressing the seasonal food insecurity of vulnerable households by providing food aid and nutritional education, the project aims to build the capacity of vulnerable small-scale farmers in the dairy, honey and olive value chains through more sustainable farming systems. To achieve this, 100 farmers have been trained to enhance their knowledge and skills adopting agroecological practices specifically designed to improve the quality, sustainability and profitability of their production, and to introduce them to agroforestry practices.

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