



Agricultural Assistance to IDPs

Project Locations:	Sabirabad (Galagayin), Bilasuvar (Jabrail), Fizuli (Alkhanli)
Donor:	ExxonMobil
Beneficiaries:	208 Families (<i>members of Karabakh Regional Farmers' Association</i>)
Period of Implementation:	October 2003 - July 2004

Project Goal:

To build the capacity of the Karabakh Regional Farmers' Association and improve cultivation techniques in the communities of Galagayin 1, Jabrail 4 and Alkhanli Village in order to increase incomes from agricultural production.

Objectives:

1. To strengthen the Karabakh Regional Farmers' Association through the provision of training and necessary equipment.
2. To introduce effective cultivation techniques and producer group strategies to IDP and local farmers through the establishment of "wheat seed test plots" in each community.

Activities:

- Provide essential agricultural equipment to the Karabakh Regional Farmers' Association for the shared use of members.
- Provide Business Development Services (BDS) training to Association management.
- Provide training to Association leadership and members on farm business management, animal husbandry, and cultivation of cereals, oil seeds, vegetables and forage and root crops.
- Work with Karabakh Regional Farmers' Association and local Community Farmers' Associations to create example producer groups with 13 hectare "test plots" of winter wheat in each of the 3 target communities.
- Provide Associations and producer groups with technical assistance as needed.

Accomplishments to Date:

- 45 members of the Karabakh Regional Farmers' Association trained on the establishment and management of an Agriculture Resource Center.
- 47 members of the Karabakh Regional Farmers' Association trained on the management of a farm enterprise.
- 50 members of the Karabakh Regional Farmers' Association trained on "diseases and pests of grain-crops and actions for pest control"
- 52 members of the Karabakh Regional Farmers' Association provided with BDS training.
- First and second irrigation have been completed for test plot in Galagayin; first irrigation completed and second irrigation on-going in Jabrail; preparations for first irrigation being done in Alkhanli.
- Nitrogen and phosphorus have been applied on all three test plots.
- Herbicide has been spread in all three test plots.

Anticipated Outputs:

- Estimated 150% increase in wheat yield per hectare against local norms.
- Estimated 200% increase in farmer income.
- Improved knowledge of local farmers about cultivation techniques.
- Increased overall capacity of the Karabakh Regional Association.