



Project Title

Promotion of the cultivation of medicinal plants in the unused land

Project Type

Agricultural strategic sector development

Project Location

Villages of Koplik, Qendër, Gruemirë, Shkrel,

Total Pre-Estimated Budget

30,000 Euro

Project Background and Analysis

Economic analysis of the operational area has identified about 3,728 hectares of agricultural land that are not used for any types of agricultural activities. Two forms of the agricultural sector development are as follows: 1- increase of productivity and profitability of the traditionally planted land; and 2- cultivation of the currently unused land with varieties demanded on the market and at a satisfactory return rate.

Following the study of market trends in the recent years and based on the professional opinion of agricultural experts in the area, it is reported that medicinal plants are widely known cultures in the area, in terms of which there is a tradition of cultivation and a specific market

The hesitation of farmers to extend cultivation to new lands is linked with initial expenses required for that process (seeds, labor cost), and lack of security of a new product in the market.

In order to ensure sustainable agricultural development (use of the currently unplanted land), there is a need for assistance in the primary phase of that process. The assistance addresses two main issues of the farmers: provision of planting seeds and building a sense of security that the cultivated product will be purchased by large collectors.

Specific Objectives of the Project

The following are the project objectives:

- Financing seeds of medicinal plants for farmers, growing the quantity of cultivated land, using a new land;
- Security of purchase contracts for the additional quantity produced by the local collectors of medicinal plants.

PROJECT 1



functional area programme
fap

Expected Results and Project Indicators

The following are the expected results:

- Sustainable increase of the agricultural land;
- Enhanced sustainability of agricultural sector;
- Increase of farmer's family income;
- Higher employment rate in the agriculture for families that increase the amount of cultivated land;
- Enhanced expertise and tradition for the cultivation of ethero-oil plants.

Project Activities

1. Study of lands that are currently unused and identification of proper lands for the cultivation of ether-oil plants;
2. Promotion of the program of local/area farmers;
3. Call for applications and estimation of the demand of each farmer for seeds;
4. Provision of seeds or saplings at the right time for cultivation;
5. Monitoring of use;
6. Formulation of the initial contract with the collectors;
7. Monitoring results for the first year;
8. Adaption of objectives and promotion of positive experiences, with a view of increasing the number of applicants in the second year.

Project Maturity

The supporting program for cultivation of medicinal plants in unused lands and market safety for the product in the initial phase is based on the positive experience for cultivation and trade of ether-oil plants and the positive market trend for those plants during the last four years. Area residents are conversant with the cultivation of those plants. This program is compliant with the subsidy central government strategy for agriculture, which last year, through AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY, invested in the increase of storage capacities of ether-oil plants in the area of Malësi e Madhe. The project implementation does not require additional knowledge by the farmers. There is a need for a financial opportunity to afford costs and cheap labor force in the farmers' households.

Other projects supporting the basic processing industry of ether-oil plants are directly projects promoting the increase of production and area cultivated with those plants.

Financial Resources and Implementation Partners

Agricultural and Rural Development Agency
USAID
EU
JAICA

Project Cost

The approximate cost for the funding of seeds and program promotion for a three-year period is estimated at around 30,000 Euro.