# **Evaluation Report**

# Support to Agriculture Based Livelihood in Turkey Final Evaluation

Submitted to:

**Islamic Relief Turkey** 

29 April 2022

Submitted by

TANGO International, Inc.





## Acknowledgements

The evaluation team (ET) gives sincere thanks to all the internal and external stakeholders of Islamic Relief Turkey for their support and input into this evaluation. This includes programme and field staff. The team would like to particularly acknowledge programme rightsholders, community members and local leaders for their time and insight towards this evaluation.

### Disclaimer

The opinions expressed are those of the evaluation team, and do not necessarily reflect those of the Islamic Relief. Responsibility for the opinions expressed in this report rests solely with the authors. Publication of this document does not imply endorsement by Islamic Relief of the opinions expressed.

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## **Executive Summary**

This report presents the main findings, conclusions and recommendations of the final evaluation of the **Support to Agriculture Based Livelihood in Turkey** implemented by Islamic Relief Turkey (IRT). This evaluation was commissioned by Islamic Relief Worldwide (IRW) and was conducted by Technical Assistance to Non-Governmental Organizations International (TANGO International) and Trust Consultancy and Development in 2022.

#### Aims, objective and audience of the evaluation

The overall **aim** is to assess overall performance of the project, with reference to the outcomes and outputs, and produce lessons for future programmes. The evaluation uses criteria set by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's Development Assistance Committee (OECD DAC) to examine the **relevance, coherence, efficiency, effectiveness, impact, and sustainability** of programme outputs and outcomes. Thirty-one sub-questions across the six criteria were assessed. The evaluation specifically examined how well the project and its staff are aligned with the Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS). The evaluation covers project activities which occurred in the community of Yayladağı in Hatay Province of Southern Turkey. Project activities centre around the three livelihood value chains: strawberries, tomatoes, and apiculture (beekeeping), in addition to vocational training in support of the three livelihoods.

The primary audience of this evaluation are IRT and IRW. Recommendations learned from the evaluation will support more effective design and implementation of IRT's current and future projects, specifically as it moves into the livelihood sector. Findings will also benefit the development of similar programmes conducted by IRW.

#### **Evaluation methodology**

The evaluation applied a **mixed-methods approach**, involving the following activities: in-depth and structured documentary review of IRT programme and results, remote key informant interviews, in-field interviews and focus group discussions. The evaluation consulted the perspectives of IRT senior and project staff, IRW regional staff, programme rightsholders (beneficiaries), local community leaders, livelihood sector actors and local government. The evaluation employed a combination of analytical techniques: qualitative analysis, thematic analysis and contribution analysis.

The full evaluative process took four months between January 2022 and April 2022. It was carried out in three phases: an inception and initial document review phase, a data collection and fieldwork phase and an analysis and reporting phase. The inception phase finetuned the evaluation scope via an evaluability assessment to assess the extent to which evaluation questions could be answered given data availability and the sample of participants. During the data collection phase, a field-tour was conducted in Yayladağı to engage with project staff, rightsholders and the wider community. Across the inception and data collection phases, a total of **nine remote interviews, sixteen in-field interviews and nine focus group discussions** were conducted, with a total of **seventy individual participants**.

#### **Evaluation conclusions**

**Relevance.** The project was overall appropriate to the needs of the community and provided livelihood support to vulnerable groups, particularly women and woman-headed households in Yayladağı. The project maximised on the existing capacities of rightsholders and incorporated local cultural considerations into the design and implementation.

**Coherence.** This is IRT's first step into livelihood activities with the aim of achieving self-reliance. This is aligned with national-level priorities under regional frameworks for the Syria crisis response, namely the UNHCR/UNDP Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP). However, the project did not sufficiently draw upon existing internal technical capacity available from wider IR networks.

**Efficiency.** The project demonstrated efficiency by staying within the overall allocation of the budget and maximising windfall resulting from currency fluctuations for the Turkish Iira. The value of yields from both agricultural and apicultural value chains was high enough to provide considerable income gains in some rightsholders' households, with relatively low cost of material inputs. The project was adequately staffed although retaining extra technical capacity would have resulted in easier staff workloads.

**Effectiveness.** The project met all targets however its outcomes indicated that rightsholders' were dependent on IRT support to produce effective results. The project's targeting strategy relied on an implicit assessment of vulnerability and capacity criteria by programme staff, rather than a structured and robust approach based on thresholds. In addition, the project did not feature an explicit exit strategy although there is indication that IRT will continue engaging with rightsholders in a monitoring capacity following the completion of the project.

**Impact.** The short-term rise in household income of rightsholders is the primary impact of this project. The transformational/long-lasting impact remains inconclusive. The shift from dependency to self-reliance within IRT's general approach and priorities points towards a meaningful impact of this project on IRT at the organisational level.

**Sustainability.** The project did not sufficiently demonstrate outcomes are sustainable for many rightsholders. However, this – and all the conclusions above – must be balanced against the fact that this is IRT's first livelihood focused project. Lessons emerging from the project point towards a process of learning that is being internalised and put towards the next iteration of IRT livelihood project(s).

**CHS conclusion.** The CHS was operationalised by project staff in an implicit manner. The staff demonstrated a principled-based approach; staff intuitively handled rightsholders and activities in a respectful manner and sufficient evidence to all nine commitments was found. This resulted in the project being aligned with the CHS however concerted effort to make this more intentional and structured is required.

#### **Recommendations emerging from the evaluation**

The following presents the overview of recommendations emerging from this evaluation. **Operational recommendations** relate directly to the outcomes of this project and are intended to be undertaken in the immediate/short-term. **Strategic recommendations** are broader takeaway lessons for IRT/W to take forward at the organisational level, i.e., in the design of future programmes.

#### **Operational recommendations**

- 1. Initiate a continuity planning process prior to formal project closure to maximise use of remaining resources for continuation/transition purposes. For this project, this would involve the following minimum steps:
  - a. Organise a sustainability assessment for rightsholders who are still participating in activities initiated by the projects.
  - b. Develop a continuation plan for this project with a costed workplan for continuation and exit support to rightsholders.
  - c. Continue employing existing or prior project staff, including options to bridge periods between project-specific contracts, to maintain and reinforce institutional capacity.
  - d. Ensure the continuity plan connects to existing or upcoming projects or partner initiatives.
  - e. Clarify asset ownership and a rightsholders right to sell assets.
- **2.** Address the deficit in marketing and sales capacity building and sustainable market linkages for current rightsholders who choose to continue with project-supported value chains.

#### Strategic recommendations

- **1.** Be an active participant in peer networks, such as the Livelihood Working Group organised under the 3RP Country Chapter.
- **2.** Proactively seek out technical and implementation partnerships (at operational and headquarters levels), especially for new areas of implementation or domains where IRT are seeking scale.
- **3.** Explore and follow through on options for local partnerships with community-based organisations, private sector organisations, host communities and local government entities.
- **4.** Ensure appropriate technical oversight of key programme areas by building engagement channels from headquarters technical experts to priority country operations
- **5.** For every project design, undertake appropriate situational analyses to set up relevant, effective and sustainable results pathways.
- **6.** Ensure projects are appropriately staffed through hiring in the right level of expertise or training up current personnel.

## 1. Introduction

#### **1.1 Evaluation Features**

#### Purpose of the evaluation

- This is an external end-line performance evaluation of Islamic Relief Turkey's (IRT) Support to Agriculture Based Livelihoods in Turkey project (henceforth referred to as 'the project'). The evaluation was commissioned by Islamic Relief Worldwide (IRW) to: "Assess overall performance of the project, with reference to the outcomes and outputs, as well as draw lessons for future programmes."<sup>1</sup>
- 2. Technical Assistance to Non-Governmental Organizations International (TANGO), an independent research and evaluation company, was hired to carry out the evaluation. This evaluation seeks to assess the performance of the project from (2019-2022) and develop fit-for-purpose and actionable recommendations for future programming.
- 3. **Stakeholders and users**. The main users of this evaluation are IR Turkey, and IRW. Lessons learned from the evaluation will support more effective design and implementation of IR Turkey's current and future projects. Findings will also benefit the development of similar livelihood projects conducted by Islamic Relief Worldwide. The evaluation is expected to provide support to IRT in its role in the Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP).

#### **Evaluation scope and objectives**

4. The evaluation covers project activities which occurred in the town of Yayladağı in Hatay Province of Southern Turkey during the Phase I implementation (February 2019 to July 2021) and Phase II extension period (August 2021 to March 2022). Project activities center around the three livelihood value chains: strawberries, tomatoes, and apiculture (beekeeping), in addition to vocational training in support of the three livelihoods.

#### **Evaluation questions and sub-areas**

- 5. The evaluation uses criteria set by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's Development Assistance Committee (OECD DAC) to examine the relevance, coherence, efficiency, effectiveness, impact, and sustainability of programme outputs and outcomes. Programme activities are assessed under the programme's three value chains (tomatoes, strawberries, and beekeeping) and vocational training for Phase I and Phase II.<sup>2</sup>
- 6. IRW is a certified Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) organization; thus, CHS related questions were also incorporated into the evaluation to provide insight into IRT's commitment to CHS principles. As appropriate, the CHS questions were evaluated under the main OECD criteria given their similarities. <u>Appendix 6: Evaluation Matrix</u> details which CHS questions are relevant to the OECD questions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Islamic Relief Turkey. (2021). Tender document of a consultancy for the final evaluation for the support to agriculture-based livelihoods.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Phase II did not implement activities for tomato rightsholders.

 Table 1. Evaluation criteria and questions.

#	Evaluation Research Question
	1. Relevance
1.1	Was the design of the intervention relevant to the wider context?
1.2	Is the intervention in line with the needs and highest priorities of the most vulnerable groups (men and
	women, boys and girls)?
1.3	Is the intervention design and objectives aligned with the needs of the livelihood sector and cluster
	strategy?
1.4	Did the design and implementation of the intervention consider and build on available local capacities?
1.5	Was the design and implementation of interventions age, gender, protection and disability sensitive?
	2. Coherence
2.1	To what extent were context factors (political stability/instability, population movements, etc.) considered
	in the design and delivery of the intervention?
2.2	To what extent was IRW's intervention coherent with policies and programmes of other stakeholders and
	service provider operating within the same context?
2.3	To what extent was the intervention design and delivery in line with humanitarian principles?
2.4	What have been the synergies between the intervention and other IRW interventions?
	3. Efficiency
3.1	What were the alternative options and was the intervention and key components of the project cost-
	efficient considering alternative options?
3.2	Was the intervention and key components of the project implemented efficiently compared to
	alternatives?
3.3	Did the targeting of the intervention result in an equitable allocation of resources?
3.4	Was the intervention implemented in a timely way?
	4. Effectiveness
4.1	Were relevant technical and quality standards for livelihood interventions in a humanitarian context
4.2	followed and met?
4.2	Were (are) the outputs and outcomes achieved?
4.3 4.4	What major factors influenced the achievement or non-achievement of the outcomes? Were there any unintended (positive or negative) outcomes arising from the intervention for participants
4.4	and non-participants?
4.5	Is the achievement of outcomes leading to/likely to lead to achievement of the project's overall objective?
4.6	What major factors influenced, supported or hindered this?
4.7	Were results delivered equitably for men, and women, boys and girls, person with disability and from
4.7	different age groups?
	5. Impact
5.1	What were/are the anticipated long lasting or transformational effects of the intervention on participants'
	lives (intended and unintended)?
5.2	Is a specific part of the intervention likely to achieve greater impact than another?
5.3	What are the likely age, disability or gender-specific impacts?
5.4	Did the intervention influence the gender context?
5.5	Are there any positive or negative long-lasting intended or unintended impacts at the household,
	community and wider system level?
5.6	Have or should any components of the project be replicated or scaled-up by others?
5.7	Did/will the intervention contribute to long-term intended results?
	6. Sustainability
6.1	To what extent does the intervention implementation consider sustainability?
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

- **6.2** To what extent will the interventions be sustainable and will provide ongoing benefit to individuals, households and communities?
- 6.3 How long will these benefits realistically continue for without additional support?
- **6.4** Is there any consideration of the effects of projected climate change on the continuation of activities in the future?

#### **Evaluation activities**

- 7. Evaluation team. The Evaluation Team (ET) comprised two TANGO senior evaluators with extensive experience in strategic, operational and development evaluations, and one TANGO researcher who provided additional support. TANGO collaborated with local partner, Trust Consultancy, to lead in-person qualitative data collection with the support of IRT. All team members had appropriate technical expertise and subject knowledge relevant to the main thematic areas of the evaluation. TANGO maintained responsibility for quality control and distance support.
- 8. Methodology and timeline. The evaluation spanned a 4-month period in early 2022 and included an inception phase, data collection phase, and analysis and report drafting phase (please see <u>Appendix 5:</u> <u>Evaluation Timeline</u>). The ET held documentation review and verification meetings with senior IRT/W staff beginning January 2022. The evaluation inception report was finalised in February 2022, presenting an initial analysis, detailed methodology, and a workplan which outlined the strategy for the evaluation.
- 9. The ET conducted data collection activities in March and continued to receive supplemental documentation and communicate with IRT staff for post hoc clarification. This evaluation utilised a mixed-method approach, which included a variety of primary and secondary sources. This included a desk review, 9 remote KIIs with IRT and IRW staff, 16 in-field KIIs, and 9 focus group discussions.<sup>3</sup> The last interview was conducted on the 31 March 2021. Findings were triangulated across different sources and methods to validate findings and avoid bias in evaluative judgment. Refer to <u>Appendix 2: Evaluation Methodology</u> for the detailed methodology, including the data collection methods and analysis plan.
- 10. The first report draft was submitted on 01 April 2022. Following feedback, the ET revised and submitted the final report document on 29 April 2022. Two presentations were conducted in April 2022 one for IRT/W and another for IRT/W donors and stakeholders.

#### Limitations of the Evaluation

11. The evaluation acknowledges certain limitation factors that may have affected the process and results of the evaluation. These are presented in the table below:

Limitation	Impact	Mitigation measures
Data limitations	The amount of data limited a thorough review of some evaluation questions.	Primary data to fill in information that was not provided by shared secondary data Some interview participants were consulted multiple times to validate/follow-up on knowledge gaps.

**Table 2.** Limitations to the evaluation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See Appendix 4 for a breakdown of participants in the data collection phase.

Timing delays	Due to clashes in scheduling, some remote interviews had to be conducting alongside data analysis.	The ET conducted multiple interviews with key staff to validate findings as they were being developed and provide senior staff to give insight on key ideas.
Scope of the evaluation	The scope of the evaluation was wide and resources for a full detailed inquiry into all areas is limited.	The ET conducted an evaluability assessment to tailor the proposed scope of the evaluation.
Limited budget and timeframe	While not direct constraints, limited budget and time framed the evaluation design with necessary trade-offs in depth of data collection and analysis. This evaluation should be characterized as a 'light' evaluation based on resources allocated vis-à-vis evaluation scope.	The ET focused on all evaluation criteria and endeavoured to answer all questions to the extent as possible. However, some questions were prioritised and had deeper levels of analysis with others being a light- touch approach.

# 2. Subject of the Evaluation

#### 2.1 Islamic Relief Turkey

- 12. IRT emerged in 2015 out of the Islamic Relief Syria Mission to serve as an implementation office to assist refugees fleeing to Turkey.<sup>4</sup> Across its institution, partnerships have been built with several donors and agencies including the United Nations World Food Programme, German Foreign Ministry, Disaster Emergency Committee, the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (through the Fund for Emergency Development), and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in Syria and Turkey.<sup>5</sup>
- 13. Goals and mission. IRW has implemented multi-sector response interventions through non-food item provision, health and shelter sector projects, and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) facilities in Turkey. The IR Syria Mission and IRT similarly provide emergency aid to disaster survivors and delivers supplies to help refugee families. IR Syria and Turkey's visions are in line with that of the broader IRW which inspired by Islamic faith and values, envisions "a caring world where communities are empowered, social obligations are fulfilled, and people respond as one to the suffering of others." <sup>6</sup>
- 14. IRT is aligned to Turkey's Eleventh National Plan. Specifically, section 2.3.8 Social Services, Social Support and Poverty Alleviation and 2.4.6 Rural Development, section 662. These sections of the plan are used as foundations for the IRT project.<sup>7</sup> Turkey is also part of 3RP and provides contributions to the livelihood and food security sector through its working groups.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Islamic Relief US. (2022). Turkey- Islamic Relief USA. Accessed: https://irusa.org/middle-east/turkey/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Islamic Relief Turkey. (2018). Project Proposal: Support to agriculture based livelihoods.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Islamic Relief Turkey. (2018). Project Proposal: Support to agriculture based livelihoods.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Strategies were provided by IR staff in a document list.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Islamic Relief Turkey. (2018). Project Proposal: Support to agriculture based livelihoods.

15. **Areas of operation.** IRT has its main offices in Istanbul, with operational offices in Gaziantep and Hatay. Field offices are located in the governorates of Idleb, Allepo, and Raqqa.

#### 2.2 Support to Agriculture-based Livelihoods project

- 16. The overall aim of the Support to Agriculture-based Livelihoods project is to: "contribute to improving livelihood opportunities of conflict affected people at household- and community-level in Turkey." To achieve this, IRT focused on improving the food and livelihood security of conflict-affected Syrian refugee and host community families in and around Yayladaği district in the Hatay Province of Southern Turkey.<sup>9</sup> Programme implementation occurred in two phases: Phase I took place from February 2019 to July 2021 and Phase II (a seven-month project extension) from August 2021 to March 2022.
- 17. The livelihoods project outcomes were realised through the following two outputs:

**Output 1.1:** 450 families receive quality inputs enabling them to generate income through crop production (tomatoes and strawberries) and apiculture livelihood value chains.<sup>10</sup>

**Output 1.2:** 450 rightsholders<sup>11</sup> benefitting from vocational training and upskilling,<sup>12</sup> with programmes being delivered in a gender sensitive manner.<sup>13</sup>

- 18. In Phase I, IRT reached 2,117 individuals (1,041 females and 1,076 males) in 450 households through livelihood interventions focussing on strawberry, tomato and beekeeping value chains (Output 1.1). 450 rightsholders were also offered training on fertilisation and pest treatment approaches (Output 1.2). Of all targeted households, 365 were male-headed, 85 were female-headed, and 14 were headed by persons with disabilities.
- 19. Phase II was the result of a no-cost extension due to currency fluctuations for the Turkish Lira. Currency inflation resulted in more availability in the budget to add additional rightsholders to the project. Phase II engaged 32 new beneficiaries comprising 10 beekeeping and 22 strawberry rightsholders and discontinued monetary support to tomato rightsholders.<sup>14</sup> However, tomato rightsholders still received technical support throughout Phase II.
- 20. The activities implemented in Phase I and Phase II were identical. Refer to <u>Appendix 1: Reconstructed</u> <u>Theory of Change</u> for an illustration of the project activities and output linkages. Table 3 below presents the overall project timeline.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> The term host refers to individuals/communities who were settled in Turkey prior to and without displacement from the Syria crisis.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Islamic Relief Turkey. (2022). Participant breakdown by phases.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> A rightsholder is a term IRT uses to denote an individual or household representative in the program, also known as a beneficiary.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Islamic Relief Turkey. (2022). Participant breakdown by phases.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Islamic Relief Turkey. (2021) Programme Schedule Change Request Form v5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Islamic Relief Turkey. (2022). Participant breakdown by phases.

Imp. Period		Phase IPhase II(Feb 2019 - July 2021)(August 2021-March 2022)												)															
Reporting period	Project design	02/2	od 1 2019- 2020		02	<b>Peri</b> /2020-	o <b>d 2</b> 07/202	20			07	<b>Peri</b> 2/2020	<b>od 3</b> -01/202				01	<b>Peri</b> /2021-	od 4 07/202	1			Extension Period						
No	2018	2010	1						20	20	Кеу	Project	t Miles	tones						20	24						1	2022	
Year Month	2018	2019	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	<b>)20</b> Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	<b>20</b> Jun		Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	<b>2022</b> Feb	
Land lease																													
Preparation of land for cultivation																													
Bee distribution																													
Planting first batch of seedlings																													
Harvest of first batch																													
Sale of the first batch																									Toma	toes			
Beginning of 2nd cultivation																									Straw	berrie			
Harvest of 2nd batch																									Beeke	eeping	3		
Sale of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> batch																													
Third cultivation																													
Harvest of third batch																													
Sale of Third batch																													
													riod pr																
Period 1	Legal issu and crops				rt date	; Exter	nsion of	proje	ct fror	n 24-3	0 mont	hs; Qu	estion	naire d	evelop	ed and	d dissei	minate	d to sel	ect ar	eas of	interv	ention	; Verifi	cation	of sites	s, 450 j	particip	pants,
Period 2	Committe				eted; G	Greenh	ouse in	stallat	ion fo	r 180 f	amilies	; All la	nd agre	ement	ts sign	ed													
Period 3	Drought i	require	es bene	eficiari	es to bi	ring in	water t	anks; (	Green	house	installa	ition co	omplet	ed for :	300 fa	milies;	End of	first h	arvest.										
Period 4	End of se	<u> </u>				-							-			,													
Extension Period	32 new ri																												

### **Table 3.** Project timeline. (Source: $1^{st}$ , $2^{nd}$ , $3^{rd}$ and $4^{th}$ interim reports).

- Project funding. This was a USD \$2 million project funded by Islamic Relief USA (IRUSA) and is the first of IR's long-term work with Syrian refugees in Turkey.<sup>15</sup> See Section 3.2 <u>Budget analysis</u> for more detailed information about funding.
- 22. Project governance. Project organisation is presented in below.

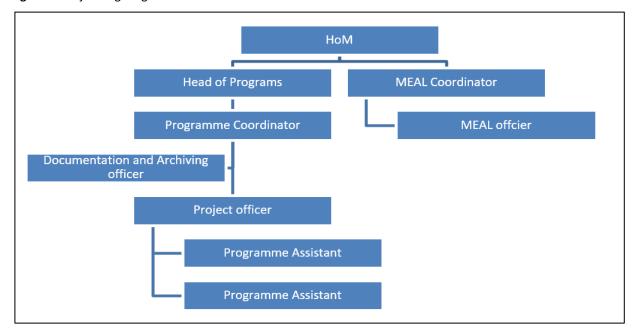


Figure 1. Project organogram. <sup>16</sup>

- 23. **Targeting Strategy.** Interviews with project staff indicated this project employed a two-staged targeting approach to selecting rightsholders. IRT first approached local government and NGO stakeholders active in Hatay to develop a long-list of potential households in Yayladağı based on a broad vulnerability criteria. Project documents and interviews indicate this vulnerability criteria included:<sup>17</sup>
  - Household (Family) Size (dis-aggregated by age and gender)
  - Dependency ratio
  - Head of household gender (female, male)
  - Head of household vulnerability (child, elderly, disable)
  - Household status (hosting a displaced family, resident or IDP)
- Household with legal and valid ID
- Access and ownership of productive assets
- Household with experience of agriculture & apiculture.
- Sources of income (agriculture wage labour, non-farm wage labour, no income or other)
- 24. Project staff then selected potential rightsholders/households based on the above criteria and in addition to their experience, interest and commitment to the project. Project documentation highlights that a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Islamic Relief Turkey. (2019). First Interim Report – Support to Agriculture based Livelihoods in Turkey.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Islamic Relief Turkey. (2018). Project Proposal: Support to agriculture based livelihoods

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Islamic Relief Turkey. (2018). Project Proposal: Support to agriculture based livelihoods

door-to-door verification process that was undertaken by IRT staff to confirm household vulnerabilities and eligibility before confirming the final selection.<sup>18</sup>

- 25. **Transition Strategy.** This project does not have an exit strategy however interviews with project staff indicate there is an implicit transition strategy in place. Project staff have highlighted in discussions that while agricultural and apicultural input ceased when the project ended, IRT is still in contact with rightsholders. Interviews suggest that IRT has internally committed to check-ins with rightsholders at 6-month intervals to monitor progress and check on the engagement with the project's livelihood value chains.<sup>19</sup> According to senior staff, IRT is in the process of developing further livelihood-based projects within and around the Hatay province. This will give project staff the opportunity to continue maintaining contact with rightsholders moving forward.
- 26. Project documents and interviews indicate that IRT will maintain ownership of all land contents (such as greenhouses, irrigation systems) and have long leases in place with rightsholders for a period of 3 years, starting from the start of the project. Interviews with project staff have indicated that rightsholders have pledged not to change land features or rent the land contents.

# 3. Programme Performance and Budget Analysis

27. This section reviews IRT's progress against targets between Phase I and Phase II and a breakdown of the project budget.

#### **3.1** Outputs of this project

28. Two outputs and five output indicators inform IRT livelihoods project performance. Data used to measure project performance is collected through internal monitoring processes. Output 1.1 involved seventeen project activities, and Output 2.2 involved three activities (Table 4).

Output	Val	Value chains							
Output	t Activities	Т.	S.	В.					
Output									
1.11	Coordination with the local authorities, Food security, and Agriculture working group to finalise the area of intervention.								
1.1.2	Community mobilisation and formation of committees (male and female).								
1.1.3	Identify and select beneficiary household for agriculture support (crop production and beekeeping).								
1.1.4	Identify the available land for rent to conduct crop cultivation and beekeeping.								
1.1.5	Conduct focus group discussions with the landowners and local authorities to define the per month rental of the land.								
1.1.6	Sign a lease agreement between the owner of the land, Islamic Relief and project beneficiary.								
1.1.7	Sign MOU with the local authority to ensure all parties to lease agreement abide by it.								
1.1.8	Payment of monthly rent to the owner on behalf of the selected beneficiary.								

**Table 4.** Output 1.1 and 1.2 activities and respective value chains involved.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Islamic Relief Turkey. (2018). Project Proposal: Support to agriculture based livelihoods

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Interviews indicated that this will not involve any additional input or monetary support, as the project funds have concluded.

1.1.9	Tailor agricultural kits (plants, tool, fertiliser, pesticide) based on household assessments by		
1.1.0	ensuring that male and female opinions and ideas captured and reflected in design.		
1.1.10	Define the Bill of Quantity (BOQ) for agriculture kit items (plants, tool and fertiliser) with		
	support from an agriculture expert.		
1.1.11	Procure agriculture kit items (plants, tools and fertiliser) in consultation with an agriculture		
	expert.		
1.1.12	Distribution of agricultural inputs, such as plants, fertilizer and equipment. Ensure		
	distribution process considers protection concerns for women and female-headed		
	households.		
1.1.13	Provide drip irrigation and water for irrigation.		
1.1.14	Hire services for ploughing and harvest if needed.		
1.1.15	Procure and distribute bees, boxes and bee medicines/other items to the targeted		
	households.		
1.1.16	Provide ongoing support for best agriculture and beekeeping practices to maximize yield.		
1.1.17	Support the families to develop linkage with the market to sell excessive production.		
Output	1.2 activities		
1.2.1	Hire the services of technical expert to conduct the trainings.		
1.2.2	Conduct agriculture and bee keeping related vocational training programme for host and		
	refugee population.		
1.2.3	Provide on farm support to the farmers to adopt to the best practices.		

Note: T stands for tomato, S stands for strawberry, and B stands for beekeeping.

#### Output 1.1

- 29. The goal of Output 1.1 was: 450 families received inputs enabling them to generate income through crop production and apiculture livelihoods. In Phase I, Output 1.1 targeted 100 families in the strawberry value chain, 300 families in the tomato value chain, and 50 families in the beekeeping value chain. In Phase II, Output 1.1 targeted 22 families in the strawberry value chain and 10 families in the beekeeping value chain. All targets were achieved for Phase I and II for Output 1.1. Interviews with project staff and rightsholders showed that quality of inputs was good and relevant. For example, local inputs such as fertilisers were utilised when appropriate and the agriculture rightsholders confirmed this was appropriate for their respective value chains.
- 30. Project documents did not indicate that income targets were set for households for each value chain. The ET relied instead on primary evidence to understand increases in rightsholders' income and the drivers behind it.

	,				
Output 1.1		Phase I		Phase II	
Output 1.1	Value Chain	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved
# Families received quality inputs enabling them	Strawberries	100	100	22	22
to generate income through crop production and apiculture livelihood.	Tomatoes	300	300	0	0
	Beekeeping	50	50	10	10

**Table 5.** Output 1.1 performance data disaggregated by value chain for Phase I and Phase II.

Note: Phase I: February 2019-August 2021; Phase II: August 2021-April 2022.

#### Phase I

- 31. Agriculture (strawberries, tomatoes). In Phase I, agriculture support consists of tomato and strawberry value chains, which are incorporated in activities 1.1.1 through 1.1.17 (see Table 4 above).<sup>20</sup> By the end of Phase I, the project provided 400 families with agricultural inputs which included donums of land, land rent, seedling, fertilisers, and pesticides.
- 32. Greenhouses were provided to tomato rightsholders. To improve agricultural production for strawberries, rightsholders were given the option to use greenhouses for strawberry production towards the end of Phase I. Documentation show that tomato and strawberry yields were harvested from the first season (end of 2020) and end of the second season (July 2021) by the end of Phase I.<sup>21</sup>
- 33. Drought in the third interim reporting period affected the agricultural harvest results. Internal documents and interviews indicated that many farmers shifted their attention to other livelihood generating activities outside the project during this time, fearing their farms would only be enough to provide for their households.<sup>22</sup>
- 34. Between the agricultural value chains, strawberries resulted in greater monetary value across both seasons. The total monetary value of strawberries for all project households across both seasons totaled USD \$410,547. The total monetary value of tomatoes for all households across both seasons was USD \$358,598.
- 35. **Apiculture (beekeeping)**. In Phase I, 50 families were provided with 30 populated beehives, in addition to 25 empty beehives in order to foster an increase in apiaries. Further input support included basic medicines and tools needed to sustain beekeeping livelihoods, in addition to technical support from project staff when necessary. Beekeeping generated the largest monetary value for households across both seasons when compared to tomato and strawberry farming: USD \$512,193 across all households for both seasons.
- 36. Beekeeping rightsholders were selected based on having prior experience with apiculture. Interviews indicated that this, coupled with the good quality of inputs provided (i.e. hives), was one of the key drivers of success behind this particular value chain.
- 37. Table 6 below presents a summary of the production quantity and monetary values for both seasons:

Malua Chain	Production Quantity	for Both Seasons (kg)	Monetary Value for Both Seasons (US		
Value Chain	Total HHs	Average	Total HHs	Average	
Strawberry	347,970	3,480	\$410,547	\$4,105	
Tomato	1,075,542	3,585	\$358,598	\$1,195	
Honey and bees	31,941	639	\$512,193	\$10,244	

 Table 6. Output 1.1 production quantity and monetary value (USD) by value chain in 2020 and 2021 seasons.

**Source:** Input/output reporting prepared by the programme. (Exchange Rate: 1 TRY = 0.16666 USD, based on 2021 weighted exchange rate indicated in project documents.)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Islamic Relief Turkey. (2018). Project Proposal: Support to agriculture based livelihoods

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Islamic Relief Turkey. (2021). Fourth Interim Report – Support to Agriculture based Livelihoods in Turkey.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Islamic Relief Turkey. (2021). Third Interim Report – Support to Agriculture based Livelihoods in Turkey.

#### Phase II

- 38. Fluctuations in currency resulted in a windfall within the budget towards the end of Phase II. The project received a no-cost extension which was put towards including 32 additional rightsholders. Of these 32, 22 were strawberry and 10 were beekeeping. These rightsholders were provided the same agricultural and apicultural inputs as rightsholders in Phase I. Interviews indicated that Phase II strawberry farmers exclusively used greenhouses to grow their produce.
- 39. Phase II did not incorporate additional rightsholders for the tomato value chain. Interviews cited the reason was that strawberries and beekeeping had higher valued outputs.

#### Output 1.2

- 40. Output 1.2 focuses on providing individuals with vocational training and upskilling. Output 1.2. targeted the same families as those in Output 1.1. Documentation show that this component intended to build high-demand vocational skills to support beneficiaries to find employment and generate income.<sup>23</sup> Targets for Phase I was 450 families and Phase II was 32 families. The project achieved both these targets within the implementation period.
- 41. A review of training material indicated it was fit-for-purpose for agricultural upskilling around production. However, the training materials did not sufficiently extend beyond building agricultural skills into market access, marketing and sales activities. Additionally, Output 1.2 focused primarily on training and did not sufficiently include empowerment activities to independently grow or continue beyond project timelines (i.e. a capacity building approach).

		Phase I		Phase II	
Output 1.2	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	
# Individuals who benefited from vocational training and up skilling programmes delivered in a gender sensitive manner.	450	450	32	32	

Note: Phase I: February 2019-August 2021; Phase II: August 2021-April 2022.

#### Phase I & Phase II

- 42. Vocational training comprised of sessions held by technical project staff (field engineers) and offered to all rightsholders of the project. Project documents and interviews indicate these training sessions focused on strawberry cultivation, growing tomatoes and apiculture approaches. Trainings also informed rightsholders on land preparation for agriculture, irrigation systems use, sowing plants, crop diseases and remedies, weeding, fertilizing, pruning and harvesting.<sup>24</sup>
- 43. Interviews indicated that Output 1.2. focused primarily on technical approaches to growing and maintaining rightholders' value chains. No specific training was given to marketing, selling or distributing outputs to vendors. However, interviews indicated that these topics were discussed more generally in the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Islamic Relief Turkey. (2019). First Interim Report – Support to Agriculture based Livelihoods in Turkey.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Islamic Relief Turkey. (2021). Fourth Interim Report – Support to Agriculture based Livelihoods in Turkey.

training sessions; project staff suggested that rightsholders were informed of the general process on how to sell their outputs to buyers.

- 44. Project staff also highlighted in interviews that the project engineers utilised their personal networks to link rightsholders to buyers and vendors. Interviews indicated that buyers were alerted when agricultural and/or apiculture outputs were ready, and outputs were bought from the farm directly for a fixed price. Interviews indicated this process was explained to rightsholders in the vocational training sessions.
- 45. Training sessions were impacted by COVID-19 restrictions. The project staff had to conduct virtual training sessions when face-to-face sessions were not possible due to government mandates and safety precautions.<sup>25</sup> Interviews indicated training sessions intentionally considered gender and cultural factors; sessions involving women were conducted by a female field engineer so participants could feel comfortable attending and contributing.

#### **3.2** Budget analysis

46. The total budget for the IRW Turkey project was USD \$2M (see Table 8) and was funded by Islamic Relief USA.<sup>26</sup> The majority of project expenses went toward project items, amounting to USD \$1,435,298 or 71.0% of the total budget. Project items consist of the inputs and trainings required for Output 1.1 and Output 1.2. Personnel costs consisted of 21.5% of the budget with the remaining budget allocated to IRT support costs (4.0%), running costs (2.8%), and evaluation costs (0.6%).

Gr	oup expense	Sum of total expenditures	Percent of total expenditures
1	Project Items	\$1,435,298	71.0%
2	Personnel Cost	\$419,010	21.5%
3	IRW Support Cost	\$80,000	4.0%
4	Running Cost	\$53,499	2.8%
5	Evaluation Cost	\$12,193	0.6%
6	Grand Total	\$2,000,000	100.0%

Table 8. Total project budget expenditure in USD.

47. The budget for the IRT project underwent two revisions (see Table 9). Overall, total project costs remained at USD \$2,000,000 across all three budget versions. Running costs, beekeeping supplies, and tomato planting supplies costs increased from the original budget to the first budget revision. Comparatively, the project item total cost decreased from the original budget to the second budget revision, whereas personnel costs and running costs increased.

Table 9. Project budget revisions (USD) disaggregated by group expense.

		<b>Budget Versions</b>	
Group Expense	Original	1st Revised	2nd Revised
Project Item Total	\$1,476,872	\$1,475,210	\$1,435,298
1. Tomato planting supplies	\$0	\$699,266	\$649,706

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Islamic Relief Turkey. (2021). Fourth Interim Report – Support to Agriculture based Livelihoods in Turkey.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Islamic Relief Turkey. (2020). Financial Report: BVA Revised Budget Final.

2. Strawberry planting supplies	\$1,333,652	\$512,445	\$505,980
3. Beekeeping supplies	\$126,422	\$196,347	\$197,713
4. Training to Beneficiaries	\$11,320	\$682	\$188
5. Transportation and Logistics	\$4,664	\$0	\$0
6. Labour Charges/Temporary Staff	\$815	\$0	\$0
7. Land Rental	\$0	\$66,472	\$81,710
Personnel Cost	\$391,710	\$389,949	\$419,010
IRW Support Cost	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$80,000
Running Cost	\$51,418	\$54,840	\$53,499
Evaluation Cost	\$0	\$0	\$12,193
TOTAL	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000

- 48. The overall decrease in total costs for project items from the original budget to the second revision is attributed to changes made to strawberry planting supplies, training to beneficiaries, transportation and logistics, and labour charges/temporary staff (Table 9).
- 49. Funding for strawberry planting supplies decreased from USD \$1,333,652 in the original budget to \$505,980 in the second budget revision, a reduction of \$827,672. Decreased financial backing for strawberry planting across budgets coincides increased funding for tomato planting, increasing from USD \$0 in the original budget to \$649,706 in the second revised budget. Funding for beneficiary trainings decreased across each budget revision, shrinking from USD \$11,320 to \$188, whereas allotted funding for both transportation and logistics and labour charges/temporary staff were eliminated completely. Figure 2 presents these revisions of the project budget:

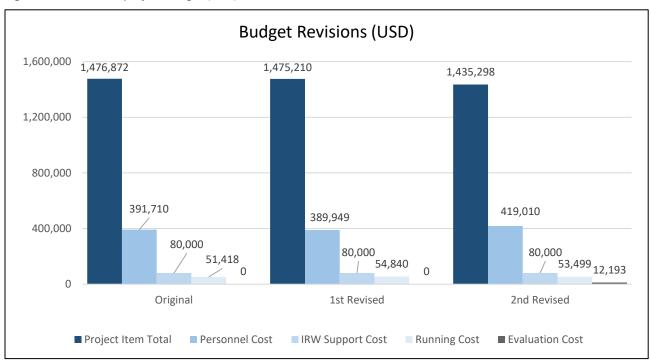


Figure 2. Revisions to project budget (USD).

# 4. Evaluation Findings

50. This section presents findings of the evaluation against to the OECD criteria.<sup>27</sup> The key finding is highlighted in a blue text box, under which evidence on that finding is presented. Finding statements that directly address the evaluation questions and sub-questions are indicated in a footnote.

#### EQ1. Relevance

**Finding 1**: The agriculture and apiculture value chains were relevant to the community and rightsholders' needs.

- 51. The value chains of tomatoes, strawberries and beekeeping was cited consistently as relevant to the region and appropriate to the needs of rightsholders' of this project.<sup>28</sup> This was expressed across discussions with both rightsholders and with project staff. Among agriculture rightsholders specifically, tomatoes and strawberries were indicated to grow well in the community. Interviews highlighted that the region is now known for its strawberries, particularly the exported variety known locally as 'robiakn'; rightsholders refer to this as "red gold".
- 52. Project staff indicated these value chains were based on several needs assessments prior to the project. Specifically, the project engaged with stakeholders from the food security and livelihood sectors of Turkey in addition to NGOs active in the region and the local government.<sup>29</sup> The choice of value chains were heavily influenced by previous projects implemented by other organisations in Southern Turkey. For example, Welthungerhilfe (WHH) had implemented livelihood activities in the region that focused on supporting mushroom and strawberry farming and IOM had implemented beekeeping activities across Turkey. Project staff indicated that the successes of these examples influenced the decision to select tomato, strawberry and beekeeping as the value chains for this project.

**Finding 2:** The project did build on existing capacities of some rightsholders, and local/contextual factors were incorporated into the design and approach.

- 53. The project built on the existing capacities of the participating rightsholders of this programme. For those receiving apiculture support, rightsholders were chosen based on prior experience with beekeeping. Interviews with rightsholders expressed this helped them immediately engage with beekeeping activities and technical training was not necessary for most rightsholders for apiculture (i.e. Output 1.2 activities). Both project staff and rightsholders indicated in discussions that building off existing capacity of people increased buy-in of the project among rightsholders, as many were eager to return to familiar work. <sup>30</sup>
- 54. Local and cultural factors were considered when providing agricultural support in the project. Interviews with project staff highlighted that in order to account for and respect local cultural factors, female rightsholders were offered to engage in the more sheltered greenhouse-based value chains (i.e.

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Refer to <u>Table 1.</u> Evaluation criteria and questions. for a full list of evaluation questions for the evaluation findings.
 <sup>28</sup> EQ 1.1.: Was the design of the intervention relevant to the wider context?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> EQ 1.3: Is the intervention design and objectives aligned with the needs of the livelihood sector and cluster strategy?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> EQ 1.4: Did the design and implementation of the intervention consider and build on available local capacities?

tomatoes), particularly those from more conservative households. Project staff indicated the rationale behind this was that women would be able to move more freely within greenhouses, as opposed to working outside in farms. The female rightsholders' confirmed in interviews that this option was received very well, and women largely preferred working in greenhouses. Project staff also encouraged greenhouse farmers to pick their greenhouse partners to work alongside with.<sup>31</sup> For agricultural value chain support, project staff selected land that was closer to female rightsholder households to make traveling to/from farms significantly easier. Women rightsholders in focus group discussions indicated that such considerations were viewed very positively by both the project participants and the wider community.<sup>32</sup>

55. Lessons learned from previous programmes in the region around local restrictions was reflected into the project design, particularly around value chain selection (see *Finding 1*). Interviews with project staff indicated another value chain was considered: mushroom farming, which grows very well in the region. However, project staff observed from previous WHH projects that 60% of mushroom produce has to be submitted to local government authorities, leaving 40% of yield to the farmers. Project staff indicated that rightsholders should be entitled to all/most of the yield produced in their farms so the decision to select tomatoes, strawberries and beekeeping was made over mushrooms.<sup>33</sup>

#### EQ2. Coherence

**Finding 3:** This project and IRT is aligned with the Turkey country chapter of the Regional Refugee Response Plan (3RP).

- 56. IRT is part of the Turkey country chapter of the UNHCR and UNDP led Regional Refugee Response Plan (3RP): a mechanism to coordinate humanitarian assistance for Syrian refugees while simultaneously addressing the resilience and development needs of impacted host communities and countries.<sup>34</sup> The 3RP is an integrated humanitarian and development platform comprised of one regional and five standalone country plans that address the needs of refugees, host communities, and host countries. Turkey is one of the countries that make up the five 3RP country chapters, with the remaining being Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt and Iraq. IRT is one of the country partners implementing programmes and interventions that align with the Turkey country chapter of the 3RP.
- 57. Livelihood support is important under the 3RP to promote the self-reliance of Syrian refugees and host community members.<sup>35</sup> Within the livelihood sector, the Turkey chapter of the 3RP outlines that implementing partners must focus on both the supply and demand sides of the labour market and support job creation.<sup>36</sup> The Turkey chapter has committed to supporting both Syrians under temporary protection and members of host communities, especially women and youth, through training, job placements and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> EQ 1.5: Was the design and implementation of interventions age, gender, protection and disability sensitive?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> EQ 1.5: Was the design and implementation of interventions age, gender, protection and disability sensitive?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> EQ 2.1: To what extent were context factors (political stability/instability, population movements, etc.) considered in the design and delivery of the intervention?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> 3RP. (2021). 3RP Regional Refugee & Resilience Plan. 3RP.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> UNHCR. (2017). Overview of the Humanitarian Response to the Syria Crisis. UNHCR.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> 3RP. (2020). 3RP Country Chapter: Turkey. 3RP.

the creation of new small business opportunities. There is clear intention to move away from cash assistance to more sustainable and resilient livelihoods.<sup>37</sup>

- 58. This project represents the first livelihood project implemented by IRT. Interviews from senior IRT staff indicate that previous IRT programmes to date focused more on cash and food assistance. This shift to more sustainable livelihood support is directly in line with the 3RP Turkey chapter's commitment to the regional plan and priorities. Further, this project also mirrors national initiatives that aim to create jobs rather than only provide direct assistance. An example of alignment with such initiatives is with the Government of Turkey Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN) Exit Strategy. According to the Exit Strategy, the Government of Turkey has a target to create 167,000 jobs for the most employable beneficiaries/rightsholders of cash transfer programmes, and an equivalent number for the host community. This target is cited to require support from 3RP and 3RP implementing partners in Turkey, among which is IRT. <sup>38 39</sup>
- 59. However, interviews show that 3RP was the only framework that guided the initial design of the project. Project staff indicated basic knowledge on the existence of other frameworks and strategic guidance for the livelihood sector in Turkey. For example, specific reference is made in interviews to the Livelihood Working Group convened by UN agencies and INGOs.<sup>40</sup> However, staff were not specific in what ways these working groups guided project design or if there was intention for joint learning partnerships with other livelihood actors in these groups.
- 60. In addition to these wider frameworks, there was little to no reference to internal IR livelihood strategies, approach and guidance documents. Interviews show that such documents and associated technical expertise does exist as a central IR function, however it is difficult to access at the country operations level.<sup>41</sup>

#### EQ3: Efficiency

**Finding 4:** The total value of outputs from the apiculture value chain significantly outweighed the cost of inputs, whereas the value of agriculture outputs fell short.

61. The apiculture value chain was significantly more efficient than the agricultural inputs. When examining the total activity expenditure of USD \$1.35 million, the total value of output yields as USD \$1.28 million.<sup>42</sup> Figure 3. below represents this across the three value chains of the programme.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> 3RP. (2020). 3RP Country Chapter: Turkey. 3RP.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> 3RP. (2020). 3RP Country Chapter: Turkey. 3RP.

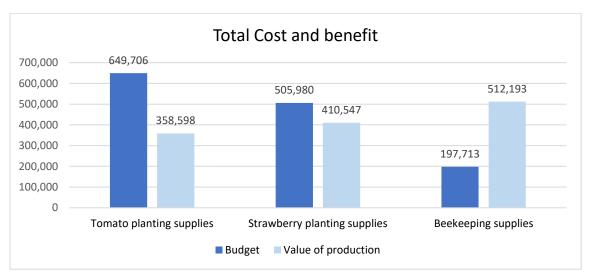
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> EQ 2.2: To what extent was IRW's intervention coherent with policies and programmes of other stakeholders and service provider operating within the same context?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> UNHCR. (n.d.). Livelihoods and Economic Inclusion. Accessed: https://www.unhcr.org/tr

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> EQ 2.4: What have been the synergies between the intervention and other IRW interventions?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> According to the most recent tracking data available at the time of writing.

Figure 3. Total project item cost and benefit (USD).



- 62. Project item cost per participant was lowest for tomato rightsholders at USD \$2,166, and highest for strawberry rightsholders at USD \$5,060. This contrasts with the average benefit in terms of value of production. This was USD \$1,195 for tomatoes and USD \$4,105 for strawberries. Beekeeping was significantly higher when examining both the total value of production and the average benefit per household, these being USD \$512,193 and USD \$10,244 respectively. The benefit cost ratio for tomatoes, strawberries and beekeeping were: 3.64, 5.78, 18.59 respectively.<sup>43</sup> This signifies that beekeeping had the highest return on investment.
- 63. The budget for project items was primarily distributed between three livelihood item supplies. Rightsholder trainings are also included in this category. The budget allocated to tomatoes was the largest with strawberry planting and beekeeping following respectively. According to project documents, tomato planting was the least costly in terms of each participating household. Strawberry planting was the costliest when considering the cost per participating household.<sup>44</sup>

Livelihood Project Items (USD)	Budget	% Total budget	Value of production	Household (hh)	Cost per hh	Benefit per hh
Tomato planting supplies	649,706	49.5%	410,547	300	2,166	4,105
Strawberry planting supplies	505,980	35.7%	358,598	100	5,060	1,195
Beekeeping supplies	197,713	13.8%	512,193	50	3,954	10,244
Training to beneficiaries	188	1.0%	n/a	450	0	n/a
Row total	1,353,587	100.0%	1,281,338	450	11,180	93,268

Table 10. Livelihood Project Items

Source: "020-002928 Production Per Household in the Two Seasons 2020-2021"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> Benefit-cost ratio (BCR) is calculated as: BCR = (PV of benefit expected from the project) / (PV of the cost of the project).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> IRT. (n.d.). 020-002928 Production Per Household in the Two Seasons 2020-2021

**Finding 5:** Agricultural rightsholders were not able to sustain livelihoods exclusively based on the support received from the project.

- 64. Interviews with rightsholders across both agriculture-based value chains emphasised strongly that the land allocated for their respective farms/greenhouses was not sufficient enough to maintain a sustained income for their households. Greenhouse rightsholders in particularly voiced strong concerns that 250m<sup>2</sup> for farming was not enough to provide enough income for a family. Interviews showed the amount of final land leased was a function of the number participants, project budget and negotiated lease amount with landowners. Focus group discussions with greenhouse farmers highlighted that many rightsholders turned to other income generating activities to meet daily needs. The consensus in these discussions was that at least 1000m<sup>2</sup> was necessary to make greenhouse farming a viable livelihood option. This sentiment was corroborated in interviews with project staff who acknowledged this feedback was received by rightsholders during the project.
- 65. Feedback from rightsholders on needing increased support for the other value chains was also expressed in the focus group discussions. Discussions with beekeepers indicated that while the 30 filled beehives and 25 empty beehives did provide substantial outputs, further support was required (e.g. cash input) to maintain and transport hives for selling.
- 66. Aside from mushrooms as a value chain (see *Finding 2*), the ET did not find substantive evidence of alternative value chains and activities that were considered for this project.<sup>45 46</sup>

Finding 6: More technical engineers were required to appropriately support all rightsholders.

- 67. The project relied on three agricultural and apicultural engineers (one male, two female) in Phase 1 to provide technical support to all rightsholders across the value chains. Interviews indicated this was reduced to 2 engineers (one male, one female) for Phase 2, as there were fewer rightsholders engaged for this phase.<sup>47</sup> Interviews with project staff highlighted that these engineers were purposefully selected from the community and therefore aware of local context and needs. Discussions with rightsholders indicated this was received well: these engineers were cited to have very good rapport with the rightsholders and supported them beyond what was expected for the entire duration of the programme. Interviews with programme staff indicated that while the workload of these engineers was managed, hiring further engineers to support the rightsholders would have been ideal. Suggestions in multiple discussions indicated a total of 3 to 4 engineers across the three value chains would have been the most appropriate to support the rightsholders.
- 68. While technically proficient, discussions suggested that project staff could have benefitted from further training/knowledge on other value chain components, specifically marketing. The ET found no evidence that project staff received training on further value chain analysis, market analysis, risk analysis or marketing strategies. Discussions with both rightsholders and project staff affirmed that support in this was largely technical in nature, over any other aspect. Rightsholders from all three value chains

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> EQ 3.1.: What were the alternative options and was the intervention and key components of the project cost-efficient considering alternative options?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> EQ 3.2.: Was the intervention and key components of the project implemented efficiently compared to alternatives?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> Interviews indicated a third engineer was involved in the project's inception but has since left the project.

emphasised that marketing strategies to better sell outputs would have been specifically useful, as this was the area in which they lacked the most knowledge.

69. The timeliness of interventions by these engineers was not cited as an issue by rightsholders or by project staff in discussions, aside from a minor delay in constructing greenhouses for tomato farmers.<sup>48</sup> See *Finding 10* below on COVID-19 impact on intervention timeliness.

**Finding 7:** Targeting of the most vulnerable was not appropriate for this type of livelihood intervention

- 70. According to project documentation and project staff, the targeting strategy was implemented in two stages. The first stage was geographic targeting through consultations with local stakeholders and government officials, that resulted in a long list of potential rightsholders based in Yayladağı. This was followed by purposive sampling that selected families based on list of required vulnerabilities.<sup>49</sup> The ET found no evidence that vulnerabilities were weighted, or a threshold was applied to determine a priority of vulnerabilities. At the same time, there is no evidence of a capacity assessment or understanding of minimum capacities required by participants in order for activities to be successful (i.e., to deliver intended benefits). Any targeting strategy needs to consider both needs and capacities and should document any trade-offs considered in final participant selection and target setting. Interviews with project staff indicated that households were selected based on perceptions of vulnerabilities by project staff. As indicated in <u>Support to Agriculture-based Livelihoods project</u>, IRT did implement a verification process to confirm household vulnerabilities.
- 71. Interviews with rightsholders and community leaders expressed concerns with the engagement of heavily vulnerable people in the project.<sup>50</sup> Rightsholders expressed in interviews that the most vulnerable people engaged this project (particularly widows and the elderly) often could not meet basic needs. Some rightsholders indicated that a few of the poorer households sold their inputs received by IRT (i.e. fertilisers, pesticides) and even the entire project to others in the community in order to pay for household necessity costs, such as rent and food. Rightsholder discussions highlighted that those in the tomato value chains did this most frequently, citing insufficient land/greenhouse allocation to sustain a business and livelihood (see *Finding 5*). Interviews indicated this issue was considered when selecting rightsholders for the second phase of the project.

#### **EQ4: Effectiveness**

#### Finding 8: The project overall saw effective results, particularly in the apiculture value chain.

72. According to both primary and secondary evidence, the project saw overall effective results. All targets for both Output 1.1 and 1.2 were achieved in Phase I and Phase II, within the duration of the project (see *Outputs of this project*). <sup>51</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> EQ 3.4: Was the intervention implemented in a timely way?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> See <u>2.2 Support to Agriculture-based Livelihoods project</u> for targeting strategy.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> EQ 3.3: Did the targeting of the intervention result in an equitable allocation of resources?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> EQ.4.2.: Were (are) the outputs and outcomes achieved?

- 73. Interviews with rightsholders indicated that household incomes rose as a result of this project. This was particularly the case for beekeepers, who collectively produced outputs valued at USD \$512,193 across all households for both seasons. The average for each beekeeping household was valued at USD \$10,244. The strawberry and tomato value chains also saw profits, albeit smaller in monetary value. Strawberry farming households saw USD \$410,547 across both seasons, with an average of \$4,105. The lowest was tomato: \$358,598 monetary value across all households, for both seasons with an average of \$1,195.<sup>52</sup>
- 74. The consensus in discussions with rightsholders confirmed the narrative presented in these figures. Beekeepers indicated the most satisfaction in their outcomes as a result of the project, followed by strawberry rightsholders. Discussions with project staff indicated that successes of the project stemmed largely from the appropriateness of these particular value chains to the region, given tomatoes and strawberries grow well in the region. For successes in among beekeepers, rightsholders and project staff suggested that maximising on the existing capacities was the key contributing factor to their successes. As indicated in *Finding 2*, the project selected rightsholders with previous experience in beekeeping for this particular value chain. This allowed rightsholders to quickly start up their hives with little immediate technical support. <sup>53 54</sup>
- 75. However, greenhouse farmers faced challenges in maintaining sufficient household income from farming activities. The issue of insufficient land was cited as the primary reason for this: the allocated 250m<sup>2</sup> for greenhouses was not enough to grow sustainable levels of produce. Indicated in *Finding 5* above, discussions with rightsholders and reflections from project staff highlight that at least 1000m<sup>2</sup> is required to maintain greenhouse farming as a sole source of livelihood for a household. Tomato farmers cited in discussions that they turned to other lines of work to make up for the deficit in income. <sup>55</sup> Interviews indicated there was no specific consideration during design or implementation on the integration of project activities into existing livelihood profiles of rightsholders, either as primary or secondary income sources. Interviews with rightsholders further highlighted unclear expectations around the contribution that activities would make their household incomes. The project was not able to resolve these issues, although effort was made to encourage rightsholders to grow additional crops on leased land (cabbages, lettuce and green beans) and maintain other activities where possible.
- 76. Discussions with local community leaders revealed that the project had some unintended positive consequences on the community, beyond the direct project rightsholders. Local leaders observed increased motivation in many community members after witnessing the successes of farming, particularly towards beekeeping and strawberry farming. Discussions with rightsholders confirmed that some saw increased interest in farming among between their peers. <sup>56</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup> Please refer to <u>*Table 5.*</u> Output 1.1 performance data disaggregated by value chain for Phase I and Phase II. in Section 3.1 for a full breakdown of these figures.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> EQ.4.3.: What major factors influenced the achievement or non-achievement of the outcomes?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> EQ 5.2: Is a specific part of the intervention likely to achieve greater impact than another?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup> EQ. 4.6.: What major factors influenced, supported or hindered this?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>56</sup> EQ 4.4.: Were there any unintended (positive or negative) outcomes arising from the intervention for participants and nonparticipants

#### EQ5: Impact

**Finding 9:** The project allowed women and female-headed households greater access to pathways to livelihood activities.

- 77. Despite the variance in success between the value chains, both project staff and rightsholders agreed with IRT's choice to specifically target vulnerable female groups in this project. For example, the project aimed to support females and female headed households, with specific attention to widows and people with disabilities.<sup>57</sup> Project staff indicated in interviews that more than 100 women were integrated into the workforce and the larger community, as a result of this project. Some rightsholders in focus group discussions corroborated this: many women involved in this project previously did not leave their homes. 58
- 78. Rightsholders explained in discussions that this project took deliberate steps to increase accessibility of livelihood pathways, for example to encourage women to work in greenhouses, where it is covered and they could move more freely (See <u>Finding 2</u> above). For strawberry farms and beekeeping value chains, some land was allocated as close to women and female-headed households as possible, which allowed better access to farms and facilitate easier accessibility of working outside, with minimal travel.<sup>59</sup> Discussions with community members and project staff indicated this had downstream effects on non-rightsholders; interviews highlighted that many women in the community reported feeling motivated and encouraged to engage in work outside the home. <sup>60 61</sup> There is insufficient evidence to determine if these observations have enough strength to constitute as transformational or long-lasting change within the community. <sup>62 63 64</sup>

**Finding 10:** Despite COVID-19 affecting operations, the project displayed adaptive management and continued through the pandemic.

79. Project activities continued throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. During Phase I, COVID-19 impacted procurement of project materials, delaying tomato planting and harvesting.<sup>65</sup> As indicated previously, exchange rate fluctuations caused price increases that reduced the amount of land rented for agricultural (tomato) activities at the beginning of the project.<sup>66</sup>

<sup>61</sup> EQ 5.4: Did the intervention influence the gender context?

- $^{\rm 63}$  EQ 5.5.: Are there any positive or negative long-lasting intended or unintended impacts at the
- household, community and wider system level?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>57</sup> Islamic Relief Turkey. (2018). Project Proposal: Support to agriculture based livelihoods.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>58</sup> EQ 1.2.: Is the intervention in line with the needs and highest priorities of the most vulnerable groups (men and women, boys and girls)?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>59</sup> EQ 4.7.: Were results delivered equitably for men, and women, boys and girls, person with disability and from different age groups?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>60</sup> EQ 5.3: What are the likely age, disability or gender-specific impacts?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>62</sup> EQ 5.1.: What were/are the anticipated long lasting or transformational effects of the intervention on participants' lives (intended and unintended)?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>64</sup> EQ 5.7.: Did/will the intervention contribute to long-term intended results?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>65</sup> Islamic Relief Turkey. (2021). Third Interim Report – Support to Agriculture based Livelihoods in Turkey.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>66</sup> Islamic Relief Turkey. (2021). Fourth Interim Report – Support to Agriculture based Livelihoods in Turkey.

80. Under Output 1.2, vocational training faced challenges training rightsholders in grouped sessions.<sup>67</sup> Similarly, a government-imposed stay-at-home mandate, sickness, and fear of going out impacted the ability for rightsholders to access face-to-face training. However, the project implemented a number of mechanisms to ensure rightsholders did receive a level of training.<sup>68</sup> For example, rightsholders that did attend trainings were asked to train others in their community. Further, message groups (i.e. WhatsApp) were established to link rightsholders together and promote knowledge sharing and cross-fertilisation. Interviews with project staff indicated that these message groups were also a way to conduct virtual assistance in the event where in-person visits were not possible (for reasons listed above). Further, project staff indicated that direct messages between rightsholders and IRT staff via the WhatsApp platform offered a reliable feedback/complaint mechanism (in addition to structured phone lines) that was utilised throughout the project.

#### **EQ6:** Sustainability

**Finding 11:** The lack of an exit strategy has resulted in concerns around the ability for rightsholders to sustain these livelihood activities.

- 81. While sustainability of livelihood activities was a key consideration for this project, this project did not feature an explicit exit strategy. For the entire implementation period, IRT provided agricultural and apicultural inputs to allow farmers to afford the cost of farming. This was well received, however discussions with rightsholders revealed concerns on the ability of farmers to afford such inputs once project support ends. Rightsholders expressed that the cost of fertilisers and pesticide increase every year and some farmers may not be able to afford such costs to scale/grow their farms in the future. This is particularly of concern for strawberry rightsholders, where the cost of inputs was cited as high. There is no evidence to suggest that IRT lowered the level of input support over the project cycle to allow farmers to better adjust and ease farmers into sustaining their livelihoods and promote self-reliance.<sup>69</sup> 70 71
- 82. According to senior IRT staff, the current transition strategy of the project involves IRT retaining major assets (i.e. greenhouses) with the intention to lease it to rightsholders long-term.<sup>72</sup> Senior staff explained that IRT have intentions to remain in the community for a longer period of time and are planning to conduct separate projects in nearby provinces. As a result, senior staff have indicated they will continue to be engaged with rightsholders of this project in some capacity.<sup>73</sup>
- 83. However, rightsholders expressed that not owning assets puts them in a position of insecurity. In focus group discussions, some rightsholders shared experiences of landowners increasing rent prices on their farmland and indicated this will continue in the future. Some rightsholders suggested that owning major

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>67</sup> Islamic Relief Turkey. (2021). Fourth Interim Report – Support to Agriculture based Livelihoods in Turkey.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>68</sup> Islamic Relief Turkey. (2021). Third Interim Report – Support to Agriculture based Livelihoods in Turkey.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>69</sup> EQ 6.2: To what extent will the interventions be sustainable and will provide ongoing benefit to individuals, households and communities?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>70</sup> EQ 6.1.: To what extent does the intervention implementation consider sustainability?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>71</sup> EQ 6.3: How long will these benefits realistically continue for without additional support?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>72</sup> Refer to Transition Strategy in <u>Support to Agriculture-based Livelihoods project</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>73</sup> This engagement was citied to involve 6 months check-ups and not substantive input/support.

assets like greenhouses would contribute to ownership of their livelihood and galvanize motivation to continue/sustain these activities.

84. Project staff are aware of these concerns as questions around project sustainability was raised across all interviews. Staff expressed further concerns around the feasibility of sustaining these livelihoods independently for the most vulnerable people involved in this project. Some staff suggested that the alternative approach of allowing more able rightsholders the ability to employ and appropriately compensate vulnerable groups may have been a more sustainable model for this project and community.

#### **CHS: Adherence to Core Humanitarian Standards**

85. IRW is a Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) certified organisation. This standard was assessed across the lines of inquiry in this evaluation. The project did not have a structured approach to CHS; there was no specific guidance developed at operational level in terms of what commitments could mean specifically for ways of working or for project activities. The ET did not find substantial evidence of learning from within the IR network or across other IRT programmes relating to the CHS. However, no serious CHS issues were identified. This was because IRT staff were highly principled, and implicitly and intuitively showcased CHS values. The table below presents the level to which adherence to CHS was observed in the findings.

CHS Commitment	CHS Finding
<b>Commitment 1:</b> Humanitarian response is appropriate and relevant	The project conducted needs assessments with a range of local and sector-specific stakeholders to ensure relevance. The value chains that were selected were appropriate to the area and local context.
<b>Commitment 2:</b> Humanitarian response is effective and timely	The project achieved all targets in both Output 1.1 and 1.2.
<b>Commitment 3:</b> Humanitarian response strengthens local capacities and avoids negative effects.	The project built on existing local capacity well by selecting rightsholders with prior experience in certain value chain (apiculture). This was not the case for tomato and strawberry value chains, however. The ET could not find a structured approach to avoiding negative effects. For example, there was no systemic process to identify actual effects for redress, nor was there any mitigation strategies for these potential effects.
<b>Commitment 4:</b> Humanitarian response is based upon communication, participation, and feedback	The project selected technical project staff (engineers) from within the community. This ensured that key staff members had good rapport with the community as they are locals an understand the context well. The establishment of WhatsApp groups as a communication mechanism was particularly well received and effective.
Commitment 5:	Primary evidence indicated there was a structured phone system, with an accompanying complaints log and action standard

#### **Table 11**. CHS findings for this evaluation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>74</sup> EQ 2.3. To what extent was the intervention design and delivery in line with humanitarian principles?

Complaints are welcomed and addressed	operating procedure. WhatsApp groups were also utilised as a way to feedback and complaints. Concerns raised by rightsholders in focus group discussions were echoed by some project staff, indicating that complaints were being read/registered by IRT.
<b>Commitment 6:</b> Humanitarian responses are coordinated and complementary	This is the first IRT livelihood project so it is difficult to assess complementarity. However, the project does build on existing livelihood work across Turkey and is complementary with 3RP regional/national framework.
<b>Commitment 7:</b> Humanitarian actors continuously learn and improve.	IRT has a mechanism to track/list lessons learned that have emerged as a result of this project. The project also learned from previous livelihood projects implemented in the region (i.e. WHH) and adapted its design.
<b>Commitment 8:</b> Staff is supported to do their job effectively and are treated fairly and equitably.	Project staff indicated in interviews they were adequately supported to do their jobs. This was reflected in how the rightsholders regarded them very positively in focus group discussions. There was some feedback that more technical staff members (i.e. engineers) could have been recruited to support the current 2 in covering all the rightsholders.
<b>Commitment 9:</b> Resources are managed and used responsibly for their intended purpose	The project stayed within the budget of USD \$2M and kept to approved activities and outputs, which were generally of good quality. Across the three budget revisions, the project did not exceed this amount. Windfall from currency fluctuations was used to increase rightsholders within the project. The broader value add identified by this evaluation, (1) breaking through dependency mindsets and (2) laying foundational capacity for continued IRT initiatives in agriculture livelihood, was not captured in a measurable manner but would likely increase the value for money of this project.

#### 4.1 Crosscutting themes

- 86. This section presents cross-cutting themes emerging from the finding section above.
- 87. **Gender.** IRT took steps to make livelihood pathways more accessible to women in this project by allocating land/greenhouses closer to their households (*Finding 9*). This reduced travel time to/from their homes and work and discussions with rightsholders confirmed this had a meaningful impact on their participation in the project.
- 88. <u>Finding 9</u> also highlights that women from conservative families were encouraged to work in greenhouses, where it is sheltered and movement may be less inhibited. They were also given the ability to pick greenhouse partners. Discussions with rightsholders indicated women generally picked other women or relatives as partners.

- 89. **Disability.** Project documents indicate that 14 households were headed by persons with disabilities.<sup>75</sup> The project documents and staff indicated that these families were intentionally selected as rightsholders.<sup>76</sup> Project staff indicated that rightsholders with disabilities were able to join the project so long as there were members within the household that were able to work or sustain the household in other ways if necessary. Interviews with project staff indicated that issues of disability access to farms was identified. However, the ET found no evidence this was actioned.
- 90. **Protection.** For protection themes, the project focused primarily on gender equity and women's empowerment, as described above. The ET found the project adhered to the protection principles outlined in the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response.<sup>77</sup> There was no evidence that activities exposed refugees/rightsholders to any further harm, discrimination or impeded on their rights. Interviews confirmed that there were no serious instances of physical or psychological harm or other abuses caused to rightsholders during the project course. The only issue highlighted was the tensions caused by the close proximity of rightsholders within greenhouses. However, interviews indicated this was resolved through close collaboration between project staff and the rightsholders.
- 91. **Resilience and self-reliance**. The project made a deliberate and bold attempt to shift IRT programme modalities from transfer-based humanitarian assistance activities to self-reliance activities that go beyond input distribution to also involve training and accompaniment. It is important to acknowledge that this is IRT's first attempt to break through a well-established dependency mindset towards increasing engagement and investment by project participants towards sustainable solutions. Such self-reliance programming is a cornerstone of building long-term resilience among the target group.

#### 4.2 Lessons Learned

92. Based on internal project documents and triangulated with in interviews, the table below presents a summary of preliminary lessons acknowledged by the project.<sup>78</sup> This list is expected to increase as further reflections on the project take place.

Issue/Observation	Lesson Learned	Suggestions by project staff to be undertaken
The allocated land of 250m <sup>2</sup> for tomato cultivation was too small. This caused the rightsholders to not generate the anticipated income from the tomato value chain.	The size of the land per rightsholder should be re- considered and allocated with the intention that rightsholders can earn sufficient income and speed up the sustainability and self-independence process.	Allocate at least 1 donum greenhouse per rightsholder.
Some land/farms were rented far from the town centre, as there was no suitable lands near the centre. The lack of a public transportation system in the region meant rightsholders had to utilise private vehicles. This resulted in increased	Land should be chosen as close to the rightsholders' homes as possible, particularly for women. Accessibility between work and home should be considered in project design: if land is not able to be secured close to rightsholders' homes or close to the town centre, then provide the necessary transportation solutions. For example, a shuttle	Ideally, select land to rent as close to rightsholders as possible.

Table 12. Summary	of lessons learned as adap	oted from project documents	and elaborated from findings.
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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>75</sup> Islamic Relief Turkey. (2021). Fourth Interim Report – Support to Agriculture based Livelihoods in Turkey.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>76</sup> Refer to Section 2.2 for the full vulnerability criteria in the targeting approach.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>77</sup> Sphere. (2018). Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response: Sphere Handbook.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>78</sup> Islamic Relief Turkey. (2021). Lessons Learned Project Log for 020\_002928 for the 1<sup>st</sup> phase.

expenses and negatively affected the project continuity of some of the rightsholders (particularly women).	system that picks up rightsholders from designated places in the morning and drops off in the evening.	
Rightsholders sharing greenhouses has resulted in conflicts and crop damage due to infectious diseases.	Limit the sharing of greenhouses as much as possible	Develop small greenhouses and allocate them for standalone use.
A colder season/cold waves that hit Yayladağ adversely affected the yield of tomato and strawberry crops, despite the use of greenhouses.	Changes in climate and weather conditions should be taken into account at all project stages. This includes conducting risk assessments and budgeting for heating systems/techniques if necessary.	Moving different types of crops into greenhouses may safeguard against changes in temperature/climate.
A drought in the third season led to water shortages. No irrigation support was provided to rightsholders when this occurred and many had to pay extra to secure water for their crops.	Drought and water shortages must be considered in all project stages. Risk assessments must be included in the design phase.	This needs to be included in future projects' budgets and planning.
Feedback indicates that there needs to be more variety in pesticides and fertilisers distributed, depending on each farms' need. This was particularly the case for strawberry cultivation.	Pesticides and other medicine differed from one farm to another. It was recommended that instead of providing these inputs directly, vouchers could be used instead. This way rightsholders could choose the appropriate variety.	This needs to be included in future projects' budgets and planning.
Due to a lack of marketing support or training from the project, some rightsholders faced challenges in reaching the market. Tomato rightsholders in particular faced this issue.	Marketing support should be included within the scope of the project. This could include establishing a committee with a number of rightsholders and project staff that can market crops on behalf of other rightsholders, and avoid any compromising or undervaluation of outputs.	This needs to be included in future projects' budgets and planning.
The most vulnerable households require extra support/attention as there were challenges reported harsh weather periods.	Provide transportation to at-risk or vulnerable groups and provide them assistance related to daily activities.	This needs to be included in future projects' budgets and planning.

# 5. Conclusions and Recommendations

#### 5.1 Conclusions

#### Relevance

93. The project was overall appropriate to the needs of the community. It provided livelihood support for vulnerable groups, particularly women and woman-headed households, in Yayladağı. The selection of agricultural value chains was relevant to climate and environment of Yayladağı, with both strawberries and tomatoes growing well in the area. The project further demonstrated relevance by maxmising the existing capacities and experiences of rightsholders receiving apicultural support; this contributed to the successes in this particular value chain. The project staff did well include relevant cultural considerations into the project design and took steps to make rightsholders more comfortable in engaging with livelihood activities, particularly women.

#### Coherence

- 94. The project represents IRT's first step into activities focusing on self-reliance. Previous to this project, IRT focused on programmes centered on cash and in-kind direct transfer modalities typical mainly to humanitarian assistance and emergency recovery initiatives.
- 95. This is aligned directly with national-level and regional-level priorities for Turkey and the Syria crisis response: building self-resilience, livelihoods and resilience of refugee and host communities. By aligning with the largest and most regionally coordinated mechanism for the Syria response, the UNHCR/UNDP-led 3RP, IRT has demonstrated its commitment to wider frameworks, particularly in the livelihood sector. The indication that IRT is continuing forward with livelihood and self-reliance programming provides further emphasis on these priorities and organisational steer.
- 96. However, the project did not explicitly consider other frameworks and livelihood working groups in either the design or implementation phases. The project does not draw upon existing internal technical guidance available from wider IR networks, however it is acknowledged this may be difficult for national and operational-level staff.

#### Efficiency

- 97. The project was efficient, and the project staff did well to stay within the overall allocation of the budget. Maximising on the currency fluctuations is an efficient way to continue support to original rightsholders while expanding to support additional individuals/households. Overall, this project worked well as a proofof-concept that IRT has existing capacity to extend into livelihood programming.
- 98. Project efficiency is further demonstrated by the value of the yields that rightsholders saw across all three value chains; the value of agricultural and apicultural yields was high enough to provide considerable income to some rightsholders' households. However, the level of satisfaction between value chains varied and the project fell short in providing sufficient assets to generate expected income increases for some households, namely in the tomato value chain.
- 99. While the project was sufficiently staffed, retaining further technical capacity to the roster of project staff would have eased the workload for the field engineers. While the project may have seen efficiency gains in lowering the number of field engineers from 3 to 2 for the second phase, retaining all three would have allowed the technical staff to better manage and cope with rightsholders' support needs.

#### Effectiveness

- 100. The project met all targets however its outcomes still indicated that rightsholders' were dependent on IRT support to produce effective results.
- 101. The project did not have key programmatic components explicitly outlined or in place during the design phase. The lack of a robust targeting strategy that clearly states vulnerability criteria and thresholds may have excluded key rightsholders/families in need or those more appropriate for this kind of livelihood support. The project also lacked a defined exit strategy which will considerably impact the continued effectiveness of results and the sustainability of the project (see conclusion for Sustainability below for more detail).
- 102. There was a mis-match in expectations between some rightsholders in how much the livelihood activities would increase their household income. The project did not sufficiently integrate the agricultural activities

into the livelihood profiles of rightsholders. However, the project did crop diversification to maximise inputs and assets.

#### Impact

103. The rise in household income of the rightsholders is the primary impact of the project, although this is likely for the short-term. The long-term and/or transformational nature of project impact is inconclusive as it is not clear how long rightsholders will continue with livelihood activities. However, the shift from dependency to self-reliance within IRT's general approach and priorities points towards a meaningful impact of this project on IRT at the organisational level.

## **Sustainability**

104. Overall, the project did not sufficiently demonstrate project outcomes are sustainable for many rightsholders. The lack of an exit strategy resulted in rightsholders continuing in a dependency-based model which will considerably hamper the ability to carry on value chain activities in the future. The project did not sufficiently work towards empowering rightsholders towards full self-reliance. However, as mentioned in conclusions above, these considerations must be balanced against the fact that this is IRT's first livelihood-focused project; project lessons highlighted by staff indicate that learning is being internalised and there is intention to put this towards the next iteration of livelihood projects designed and implemented by IRT.

## **Conclusions on the CHS**

105. The project did not have active indicators for tracking CHS commitments, nor did IRT deliver training to staff in this regard. The project lacked downstream activities that make CHS alignment a deliberate consideration in the project design. However, the CHS was operationalised by project staff in an implicit manner. The staff demonstrated a principled-based approach; staff intuitively handled rightsholders and activities in a respectful manner and sufficient evidence to all nine commitments was found. This resulted in the project being aligned with the CHS however concerted effort to make this more intentional is required.

# 5.2 Recommendations

106. The following presents recommendations emerging from the findings and conclusions of this evaluation. Operational recommendations relate directly to the outcomes of this project and are intended to be undertaken in the immediate/short-term. Strategic recommendations are broader takeaway lessons for IRT/W to take forward at the organisational level, i.e. in the design of future programmes.

#### **Operational recommendations**

- 1. The most urgent priority for IRT is to initiate a continuity planning process, ideally prior to formal project closure to maximise use of remaining resources for continuation/transition purposes. For this project, this would involve the following minimum steps:
  - a. Organise a sustainability assessment for rightsholders who are still participating in activities initiated by the projects. This could take the form of ranking rightsholders according to high, medium and low likelihood of sustaining project outputs and outcomes. While this

evaluation shows that the project has not sufficiently enabled sustainability, a more granular understanding is needed to inform responsible continuity planning appropriate to the livelihood profiles of rightsholders. In some cases, this could involve additional and specific assistance for rightsholders who are no longer willing or able to continue project activities. Such cases should have the opportunity to exit the project 'gracefully' – keeping in mind the principle of do no harm.

- b. Building on the sustainability assessment, develop a continuation plan for this project with a costed workplan for continuation and exit support to rightsholders, including realistic roles and expectations for rightsholders, IRT staff, and external stakeholders like local government and landowners. This plan should also include a risks and assumptions matrix that indicates the likelihood of any negative impact for rightsholders, with mitigation strategies in place for high-risk elements.
- c. Work with human resources colleagues to find ways to continue existing or prior project staff, including options to bridge periods between project-specific contracts, to maintain and reinforce institutional capacity – especially relevant to new activity/project domains. Prioritise technical staff whose accompaniment is critical as rightsholders work through livelihood continuity decisions.
- d. Ensure that the continuity plan connects to existing or upcoming projects or partner initiatives. This can include options for temporary resource sharing to support continuity activities.
- e. Work with procurement colleagues to clarify asset ownership and a rightsholders right to sell assets. There should be allowance for and support to rightsholders with low likelihood of continuation to sell assets and use freed up finances towards other types of productive investment.
- 2. Address the deficit in marketing and sales capacity building and sustainable market linkages for current rightsholders who choose to continue with project-supported value chains. This can be embedded into the continuation plan or set up as a separate initiative/project. The full potential of this agricultural production project will not be realised without proportionate emphasis on market access and sales. The dependence on project staff, who are no longer employed, for marketing and sales activities must be addressed head on through proven leading practice, i.e., ranging from immediate options such as farmer organisation, collective action across the agricultural cycle, and organising linking activities with buyers, to cooperative formation and contract farming activities further down to line.

#### Strategic recommendations

 Be an active participant in peer networks, such as the Livelihood Working Group organised under the 3RP Country Chapter. The IR experience in shifting from humanitarian assistance modalities to self-reliance activities aligns directly with learning needs across the Syria crisis response, and specifically with the current traction around resilience as a conceptual framework and the HDPN as a way of working.

- 2. Proactively seek out technical and implementation partnerships (at operational and headquarters levels), especially for new areas of implementation or domains where you are seeking scale. For example, this could include establishing joint learning with Humanity and Inclusion on issues related to people living with disabilities, collaborating with CARE on issues of gender equity and women's empowerment, working with Plan International on vocational training and youth engagement or with Mercy Corps on agricultural value chain activities.
- **3.** Explore and follow through on options for local partnerships with community-based organisation, private sector organisations, host communities and local government entities. Such engagement should be viewed through a risk and opportunity lens, to make sure the project design and implementation is fully cognizant of enabling and disabling factors that may affect its success.
- 4. Ensure appropriate technical oversight of key programme areas by building engagement channels from headquarters technical experts to priority country operations, i.e., those that are demonstrating proof of concept or scale. Such arrangements can be formalised by costing time of such expertise in project budgets and should be accompanied by specific scopes of work and deliverables for experts in a technical assistance role. For some country program portfolios, it may be advisable to not rely on remote support but to direct hire the right technical expertise at program and project level, especially when building up a new programming domain like agriculture livelihoods.
- 5. For every project design, undertake appropriate situational analyses to set up relevant, effective and sustainable results pathways. This may include gender equity, social cohesion, people living with disabilities, climate change and environmental, and value chain assessments to identify risks and opportunities for a project's success. For every project, organise a CHS risk and opportunity assessment (which includes a focus on humanitarian principles and protection issues) to develop a context-specific and practical understanding of how to strengthen CHS implementation In a deliberate manner proactively mitigating risks and reinforcing opportunities for learning and establishing good practice.
- **6.** Ensure projects are appropriately staffed through hiring in the right level of expertise or training up current personnel. Proactively track and manage staff workload and performance. Do not spread staff too thin, especially in priority and new programme areas.

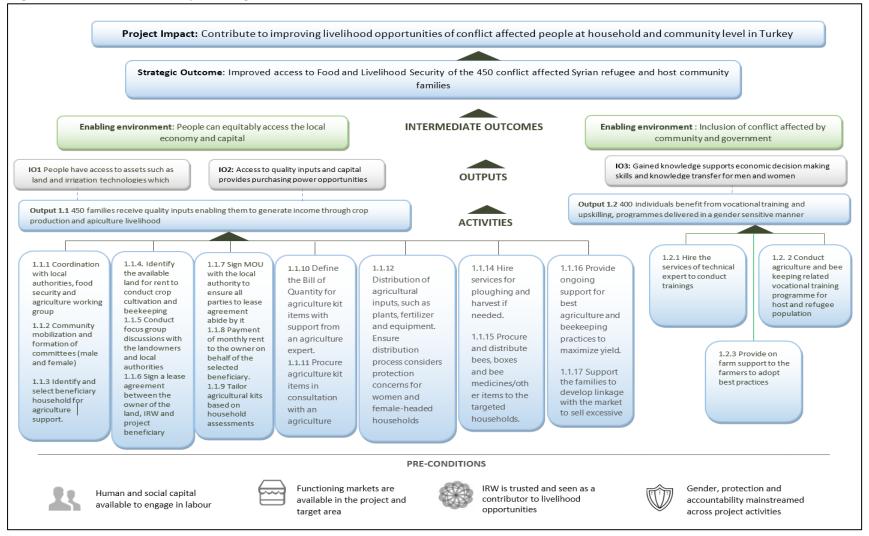
# 6. Appendices

Table 13. Lis	st of appendices	for this evalu	ation report.
	st of uppendices		acioni cport.

Number	Title
Appendix 1	Reconstructed Theory of Change
Appendix 2	Evaluation Methodology
Appendix 3	Data Collection Tools
Appendix 4	List of People Interviewed
Appendix 5	Evaluation Timeline
Appendix 6	Evaluation Matrix
Appendix 7	Evaluability Assessment
Appendix 8	Acronym List
Appendix 9	Documents Cited

# **Appendix 1: Reconstructed Theory of Change**

#### Figure 4. Reconstructed theory of change.



# **Appendix 2: Evaluation Methodology**

This evaluation focused on qualitative data collection and analysis, triangulated with programme documentation and literature. This was due to the availability of secondary quantitative and qualitative data, the short timeframe allotted for the evaluation, and the high costs and complexity of conducting representative quantitative surveys.

TANGO collaborated with local partner, **Trust Consultancy**, to lead the in-person qualitative data collection of this evaluation. TANGO remotely supported Trust during fieldwork and remained responsible for analysis, reporting and quality assurance. The following mixed methods were utilised:

- A. Desk Review. Structured review of all available secondary data. Additional desk reviews established an up-to-date context for the assessment areas of inquiry and to identify current themes. This included all previous reporting. The ET worked closely with IRT staff throughout the evaluation period to fill data, knowledge and document gaps.
- B. **Remote key informant interviews.** Key informant interviews (KIIs) with senior country and programme leadership and technical officers was conducted remotely through online platforms (e.g., Zoom, Skype, WhatsApp, Google Meet) by TANGO International staff. Selected senior leadership were interviewed twice.
- C. In-field key informant interviews. Trust conducted in-person KIIs in the sites around Yayladağı and involved programme staff, local leaders and NGO partners. In-field KIIs lasted approximately an hour.

**Focus group discussions.** Trust conducted focus group discussions with programme participants in-person in Yayladağı. They were conducted with tomato, strawberry and beekeeping rightsholders from both Phase 1 and 2. These FGDs involve a range of minority and marginalized groups to capture key insights and priorities at the community and household scale. Specific groups include women, people with disabilities, windows and elderly. The groups were managed by two Trust staff, one facilitator and one notetaker. Groups involving women had female facilitators/notetakers. Discussions featured between 4-10 people and were selected for representation and local insight and lasted approximately an hour. breakdown of remote and in-field qualitative activities is presented in the table below:

Qualitative Activity	Number	Breakdown	
Remote KIIs	9	- Senior leadership and programme staff	
In-field KIIs	16	<ul> <li>Implementing staff and specialists, local leaders, government, I/NGO partners</li> </ul>	
In-field FGDs	9	<ul> <li>Rightsholders from tomato, strawberry and beekeeping components.</li> </ul>	
Total activities: 34			

**Table 14.** Breakdown of qualitative activities.

#### Data analysis plan

The ET combined analytical approaches to cover the evaluation design and specified data collection methods, namely semi-structured thematic literature review and qualitative iterative analysis. Analysis was documented in consistent formats to facilitate easy access across team members, enabled systematic and efficient triangulation, and performed weighted analysis across resources. The various analytical approaches was sequenced to align with data collection timelines, with the intent to start analysis as soon as possible after data collection had started. Analysis was layered through real-time and structured coordination of findings and insights across the team. The following presents approaches to analysis for this evaluation:

**Semi-structured thematic analysis** was applied to the document review, which was ongoing throughout of the evaluation timeframe. Documents was reviewed against pre-identified markers associated with the evaluation questions, the thematic focus areas, and emerging hypotheses.

Matrix-based approach to qualitative analysis. All data collected through remote KIIs, in-person KIIs and FGDs, was organised for analysis using a structured top line review template that aligned with the topical outlines and encouraged the identification of emerging topics. Analysis of qualitative data utilized a matrix approach, which is a proven method of organizing data entry and facilitating analysis of qualitative data. Data was reviewed, synthesized, and analysed regularly using Microsoft Excel spreadsheets, which allowed narrative data to be condensed, filtered and/or aggregated to identify patterns, trends, and outliers with respect to the research questions and topical outlines. Team members applied a real-time analysis process that updated preliminary findings across qualitative sources every time new interview batches were added. Responses from participants were triangulated between KIIs and FGDs to cross-check the reliability of information and to identify differences in perception between groups based on roles, functions, and activities the individuals or groups were involved in. Based on the evaluation matrix, themes were identified through deductive analysis. Inductive analysis allowed for new or unexpected themes emerging as a result of the data collection and analysis process, which was highlighted. The overall analysis activities wase grounded in a contribution analysis approach to assess results: to what extent has IRT contributed to the changes being observed, and what were the main factors that affected performance?

**Triangulation, sense-making and validation of analysis results.** Triangulation occured when multiple information sources provide insights on the same theme. For every evaluation question, the ET drew upon findings across the sources of data: e.g., KIIs, FGDs, and documents, describing where there is agreement in the data versus mixed results. All key findings and conclusions were thus based on triangulated results across data points. From the start of the data collection phase, the ET organised weekly triangulation and sense-making meetings to review analytical progress and discuss highlights and emerging themes as a team, including the TANGO Internal remote and in-person data collection research leads.

A validation meeting was planned after data collection is completed, in which the in-person field researchers and remote TANGO International staff met to discuss emerging themes and validate preliminary analysis results.

# **Ethical considerations**

TANGO consultants are trained internally on ethical research safeguards, and child and youth protection, based on international guidance and client policies and standards. TANGO has demonstrated experience using the Core Humanitarian Standard on Quality and Accountability (CHS), Sphere and Human Accountability Partnership (HAP) standards for humanitarian response. The evaluation maintained the anonymity and confidentiality of the participants involved in this study.

Given the continued presence of COVID-19, measures were taken through evaluation phases to ensure the safety of staff and respondents. Online/phone interviews with participants were prioritised. Safety and health protocol were followed (wearing masks, gloves, all body covered). Facilitators carried sanitiser and social distancing and measures with respondents were followed. During the inception phase the following ethical issues, related risks, safeguards, and measures have additionally been considered:

Phase	Ethical Consideration	Safeguards
Inception	<ul> <li>Mitigating Bias in Methodology Design</li> <li>Integration into Methodology</li> <li>Fair recruitment of participants</li> <li>Formal ethical approval</li> <li>Gender representation</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>A series of measures are integrated into the methodological approach to respond to issues of potential bias. The selection of stakeholders interviewed ensured the respective voices from each of the stakeholder categories were included in the data.</li> <li>As a single programme performance evaluation that is not meant to contribute to generalisable data on a population, it does not fit the definition of research with human subjects and will not need ethical review board approval.</li> <li>All attempts will be made to ensure that there is a gender balance in the participants that are engaged in the qualitative interviews.</li> </ul>
Data Collection	<ul> <li>Informed Consent</li> <li>Anonymity and confidentiality</li> <li>Fear of participation in interviews (security concerns)</li> <li>Burden on participants</li> <li>Gender responsive questions and data collection methods</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>All individuals participating in any data collection method will provide verbal informed consent prior to the start of any interview. The participant(s) will be informed of the purpose of the evaluation/their interview, how that information will be used and how their anonymity will be ensured in the results/final deliverables so that specific information provided in an interview or survey cannot be traced to the individual source.</li> <li>Allowing time to build trust with qualitative interview participants. This could involve looking to local leaders for introductions.</li> <li>The evaluation team will seek to minimize risks to, and burdens on those participating in the evaluation. This includes ensuring that KIIs and their affiliated</li> </ul>

Table 15.	Ethical Considerations and safeguards, by phase
Tuble 13.	Ethical considerations and safeguards, by phase

		organization do not face risks in agreeing to provide data for the evaluation, and ensuring that all interviews last no longer than one hour.
Data analysis	<ul> <li>Quality checks</li> <li>Data protection and management</li> <li>Time limitations</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Systematic checks on accuracy, consistency, reliability and validity of collected data through triangulation and follow-up meetings will take place as needed. This includes making sure safeguards are explicitly referenced and international standards for engagement with participants are applied. The Team Leader will conduct regular debriefings with the team as part of this process.</li> <li>All data generated through this evaluation will remain internal to the evaluation and will not be shared without the express consent of participants and/or removal of all personally identifying information included in the data.</li> <li>ET members given access to confidential information by IR Turkey will not use this information for any purpose other than the evaluation process and shall not disclose such information to any third parties.</li> <li>Planning and coordination of field networks in advance and have extra human resources at hand to supplement data collection, if needed</li> </ul>
Reporting and Dissemination	<ul> <li>Ethical representation of data</li> <li>Equitable distribution of results</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Reporting will be complete and representative of diverse perspectives, triangulated across data points.</li> <li>The ET will ensure adequate representation of ethical and gender considerations in the assessment of</li> </ul>
	results	<ul> <li>Stakeholders involved in the evaluation will be included in the dissemination of final report deliverables.</li> </ul>

# **Data Collection Tools**

The evaluation used one consolidated topical outline with main topics and sub-topics to guide FGDs and KIIs for programme beneficiaries and one for KIIs with programme staff. Topical outlines enabled interviewers to explore relevant topics in depth, to probe for more information on issues when relevant, and to focus on topics on which the respondents have knowledge and experience. The use of a common topical outline maximised triangulation around the evaluation questions and secondary data. The topical outline will bewas carefully reviewed to ensure the topics are contextually and culturally appropriate, easily understandable, and relevant to the respondents.

Specific effort was placed to ensure the discussions and interviews focused on topics about which respondents or participants are knowledgeable and had an informed opinion. The relevance of topics to the respondents/participants depended on their role/relationship with the project, and responses was weighted accordingly.

Refer to the Appendix 3 for both the data collection tools for this evaluation.

#### **Quality assurance**

Quality control was ensured through direct oversight of data collection from the TANGO team; Trust fieldstaff provided daily updates to the TANGO team. Quality control was maintained by a comprehensive training of local consultants, to review specific questions in completed KIIs/FGDs, and prior to uploading data to the TANGO server. They were tasked to complete a purposeful spot check daily, verifying facilitators were collecting accurate data. In addition to these mechanisms, data was uploaded to TANGO two times per week at a minimum. TANGO reviewed the data and provided feedback on data quality, field progress, and highlighted specific issues to be discussed with field teams.

TANGO has an internal QA mechanism which draws upon a bench of senior evaluators and technical advisors that specialise in such programme evaluations to be consulted as necessary. All deliverables were reviewed by senior evaluators/team leader to ensure it is up to both TANGO and IRW/T's quality standard.

# **Appendix 3: Data Collection Tools**

#### **Key Informant Interviews**

The following topics provide general guidance for semi-structured interviews with programme staff, and stakeholders of the project. These questions will be adapted depending on the respondent.

The corresponding evaluation question sub-area are indicated in the far-right column of the tool. Not all questions will be applicable to all participants. The interviewer will use informed discretion to ask the relevant lines of inquiry, based on the participant's background and knowledge.

Interviewer name:

Notetaker name:

Date:

Names of interviewee(s):

#### Location of the interview:

**Introduction/consent**: Interviewers will introduce themselves and explain the purpose of the interview and how the information will be used. The interviewers will inform the FGD participants that their participation is strictly voluntary, that all information discussed is confidential, and that people will not be individually identified in the reporting of findings. Participants can refrain from answering any question and can stop the interview at any time, without providing a reason. The interviewer must gain verbal consent as per the Introductory Comments.

Introductory Note: Ensure you make eye contact with each individual participant to confirm their consent prior to beginning the interview.

Thank you for being willing to talk with our team. My name is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_. I am a researcher with TRUST Consulting, working with international consultant firm TANGO International to conduct an evaluation of the IR Turkey Sustainable Livelihoods Project. This interview will be confidential, meaning the information discussed during this group discussion today will not be shared verbatim with IR Turkey or any other entity, and you individually will not be identified alongside anything you share today. All of the discussion today will be presented at a high-level, not specific to any one specific group interview. The information will be used to evaluate the results of the livelihoods project create general learning about how IR Turkey can improve its programming. I will be asking your role, experience and opinions about this project. The interview will take about 60 minutes. Your participation is completely voluntary, and you are free to choose not to respond to a specific question or leave the group at any time.

Do you all agree to participate in this group discussion? Do you have any questions about myself or the interview before we begin?

No.	Theme/Topic	Question	Probes	EQ
1	Introduction	To start, can you please introduce yourself and give a bit of background on your specific role within the project?	<ul> <li>Please describe your functions/responsibilities for the project</li> <li>Services provided or supported</li> <li>Ways in which your role/team supports the project</li> <li>Timeline of when you first became engaged with the project (design, inception, implementation phase)</li> </ul>	-
2	Relevance	Were the activities of this project relevant to the needs of host community and refugee participants? How so?	<ul> <li>How were the "needs" identified/what does that mean to you?</li> <li>Were there specific activities that were the most needed/relevant?</li> <li>How did the project design utilise existing assessments, or conducted assessments, to identify refugee and host communities needs and incorporate this information into development of the project objectives?</li> </ul>	1.2 1.3 1.4 CHS 1
3		What and how were contextual and local factors considered into programme design, delivery and monitoring?	<ul> <li>How have vulnerable groups been targeted in design and implementation?</li> <li>To what extent were local capacities integrated into the design and implementation of the intervention?</li> <li>Does the design of the project appropriately address the livelihood and food security needs of participants?</li> </ul>	1.1 1.5 CHS 4
5	Coherence	To what extent is this programme aligned with IRT's other programmes, and, to the wider context of southern Turkey?	<ul> <li>Do you think this programme and its goals sync up with other IRT programmes in the area?</li> <li>Does this programme align with other work in the livelihood sector around refugees/host communities?</li> <li>Does this project do anything differently when compared with others in the sector/area.</li> <li>Has this project shifted to account for local context shifts (changes in leadership, seasonal issues, procurement issues)?</li> </ul>	2.1 2.2 2.4
6		Can you speak to the alignment of how this programme was implemented with global frameworks and principles?	<ul> <li>Can you speak to any humanitarian principles that this programme/IRT committed to?</li> </ul>	2.3
8	Efficiency	Were allocated funds sufficient to achieve the project objectives? Why/why not?	<ul> <li>Did time and resource investments lead to expected results?</li> <li>Were there areas of over/under expenditure? Which, why?</li> <li>Were there any budget shifts/adjustments? If so, why?</li> <li>Were there any particularly efficient outcomes given the time/resource investment?</li> <li>How does the program compare to other organizations working with displaced populations in the livelihood sector? (Cost allocation/efficiency, project management, design and delivery)</li> <li>Did the programme/staff learn valuable lessons that was incorporated into the programme? Was this learning documented?</li> </ul>	3.1 3.2 3.4 CHS 2 CHS 9 CHS 7
9			<ul> <li>Enough staff for each function: monitoring, implementation, management, donor relations/reporting</li> <li>Was there enough staff capacity/skills for each function?</li> </ul>	3.3 CHS 2 CHS 6

		Were there enough human resources (staff) to achieve project objectives? Why/why not?	<ul> <li>Staff turnover – were the same staff involved in the design of the project still involved at endline?</li> <li>Were staff supported appropriately to fulfill their roles and functions? Were there steps taken to adjust roles and functions based on staff feedback?</li> </ul>	CHS 8
10		Do you feel the project has achieved its expected outcomes? Which ones? Why/why not?	<ul> <li>Did you feel the outputs were sufficiently achieved, compared to the programme goals?</li> <li>From your perspective, was the agriculture or apiculture more effective? Why?</li> <li>How well do you think the vocational trainings were received by the participants?</li> <li>Did you feel those who did not participate in the vocational trainings missed out on crucial information/approaches?</li> <li>What were the technical standards set by the programme?</li> </ul>	4.2 4.4 4.5 CHS 2 CHS 3
11	Effectiveness	What were the internal and external factors that may have affected the results?	<ul> <li>What were the challenges faced by IRT programming team in the design, implementation, and monitoring of the project?</li> <li>Where there any internal factors that affected results? (probe for issues of coordination, communication, IRT structure, staffing)</li> <li>Where there any external factors?</li> <li>Were there any negative or unintended consequences as a result of interventions? Could you explain if so?</li> <li>What was the feedback mechanism for this project? Were participants wee able to provide complaints/suggestions to programme staff? How were these issues addressed if so?</li> </ul>	4.4 4.6 CHS 5 CHS 3
10		Was there any specific intervention that was more impactful than others?	<ul> <li>Which interventions?</li> <li>Did you find any transformational effects as a result of programming on the participants lives?</li> <li>Did you find any outcomes to be long-lasting on the participants lives/livelihoods?</li> <li>Could these impactful activities be scaled up or replicated in other contexts?</li> </ul>	5.1 5.2 5.5 5.6 CHS 3
11	Impact	To what extent did interventions consider age, disability or gender- specific issues? Was there any impacts in this regard?	<ul> <li>Please describe steps the programme took to be inclusive.</li> <li>How have male and female project committees supported gained knowledge and skills?</li> </ul>	5.3
12		How has COVID 19 affected the project and its implementation?	<ul> <li>Were changes made to project implementation as a result of COVID-19? What were these changes? What impact did this have on implementation?</li> <li>How did IRT and partners respond to COVID?</li> <li>What new mechanisms were developed in response to COVID-19? Have these proven to be effective? Why/why not?</li> </ul>	-
13	Sustainability	Has the project established sustainability mechanisms with cooperatives? If so, what are these mechanisms?	<ul> <li>Management of assets, access to labour markets, vendors/distributors for agri/apicultural goods</li> <li>What is IRTs doing to ensure profitability of agri/apiculture outputs and their sustainability once the project is over?</li> <li>Do you believe people will continue with agri/apicultural activities last after the project ends? Why/why not?</li> <li>Are there any lessons or good practices that are relevant or replicable for other IRT/Turkey contexts?</li> </ul>	6.1 6.2

14		Do you feel the project participants have been equipped with the skills, access to markets/vendors, and resources needed to sustain the project results? Why/why not?	<ul> <li>To what extent?</li> <li>What skills have participants gained as a result of participation? Which activities enabled this most?</li> <li>What skills or activities are expected to be sustained?</li> <li>Are there any known risks for skills or activities that aren't expected to sustain? Why is that?</li> </ul>	6.3
15	Closing	Is there anything else you feel would be important for us to know, that we haven't already discussed?		-

# **Additional questions**

Not all these questions need to be asked. Please use these questions to supplement the list of questions/probes listed above.

#### Local leaders, Muktar and/or prominent community members (not project staff)

- How did the programme seek your help or support?
- What was your role in this project and did you provide any specific support?
- Did you help in identifying participants to receive support from this project? *Probe: If so, what were your inputs?*
- Did project staff engage with the community in a respectful manner?
- What is the general consensus of the programme and programme staff in your community?
- Do you think the results of the project will continue to be useful to people once the project completes?

#### **NGO and local partners**

- What was your involvement in this project?
- How did your you/your organisation support project activities?
- Was the interventions suitable to needs of the community?
- Overall, what was the strongest aspect of the project?
- What aspects did the project struggle with, based on your opinion?
- How does this programme and IRT sit generally within sector? *Probe: Does it satisfy an urgent need? Does it provide innovation in programming?*

#### **Focus Group Discussions**

The following topics provide general guidance for the FGDs with participants/rightsholders of the project. These questions can also be restructured to be used as a guide for interviews with other stakeholders, as necessary.

Not all questions will be applicable to all participants. The interviewer will use informed discretion to ask the relevant lines of inquiry, based on the participant or stakeholder's background and knowledge

#### Interviewer name:

Date:

#### Location of Interview:

**Introduction/consent**: Interviewers will introduce themselves and explain the purpose of the interview and how the information will be used. The interviewers will inform the participants that their participation is strictly **voluntary**, that all information discussed is **confidential**, and that people will not be individually identified in the reporting of findings. However, the final report will include a listing of the FGDs. Participants can refrain from answering any question and can stop the interview at any time, without providing a reason. The interviewer must gain verbal consent as per the Introductory Comments.

Introductory Comments: If notes are available, you can be specific as to why that particular individual was selected to be a Key Informant, for example "in your role as a field implementer working on irrigation installation...".

Thank you for being willing to talk with our team. My name is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_. I am a researcher with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_. *Trust Consulting, working with international consultant firm TANGO International* to conduct an evaluation of the IR Turkey-supported Sustainable Livelihoods project. This interview will be confidential, meaning what you share with me will not be shared verbatim with anyone else or included in the report. Your responses will not be tied specifically to you individually, however, a list of all key informants will be included as an annex to the report. I will be asking your role, experience and opinions about this project. The information you share with us today will be used to evaluate the results of the Livelihoods project create general learning about how IR Turkey can improve its programming. The interview will take about 45-60 minutes. Your participation in this interview is completely voluntary, and you can certainly refrain from answering any question and can stop the interview at any time, without providing a reason.

Do you agree to begin this interview? Do you have any questions about myself or the interview before we begin?

No.	Theme/Topic	Question	Probes	EQ Addressed
1		What activities have you (or your household) participated in through this IRT livelihoods project?	<ul> <li>Possible activities include:</li> <li>Households benefit from tomato cultivation agriculture support</li> <li>Household benefit from strawberry cultivation agriculture support</li> <li>Household benefit from beekeeping support</li> <li>Received vocational training program and ongoing technical support</li> </ul>	1.2 1.3
2	Relevance	Were these activities and inputs relevant/appropriate to meet your livelihood needs?	<ul> <li>Example of agricultural inputs: plant, fertilizer and equipment, drip irrigation, services for ploughing and harvest</li> <li>Example of apiculture inputs: distribute bees, boxes and bee medicines/other item.</li> <li>How much communication was there between you and the programme staff? What did they do to understand your needs?</li> <li>Did you feel listened to when you provided feedback to programme staff about the support you received?</li> </ul>	1.2 1.3 CHS 1 CHS 4
3		How has your household income changed since being involved in this project?	<ul> <li>Increased/decreased, why?</li> <li>How many/what income sources?</li> <li>Is agri/apicultural production through this project your primary income source?</li> <li>What has been the impact of the change in income for the household? For the community?</li> <li>Access to savings?</li> <li>Access to financial services?</li> <li>Yield: # of tomatoes, strawberries or honey production each season and it's income.</li> <li>Did the support you received in this project have material/downstream affects on other areas of your life? (probe for further access to safety nets, livelihood options)</li> </ul>	4.2 4.4 4.6 CHS 3
4	Effectiveness	What kind of on-going support did you receive from the project?	<ul> <li>Did the project staff follow up with them throughout the project cycle?</li> <li>Where they provided additional inputs/resources if required?</li> <li>Do they feel they could sustain agri/apicultural activities in the long-term?</li> <li>Was the programme staffed sufficiently for your needs?</li> <li>Was the support you received provided in a timely manner? Were there delays?</li> <li>Were you able to provide feedback to the project or its staff on areas to strengthen? Can you describe this process if so?</li> </ul>	4.1 4.5 4.3 CHS 2 CHS 5
5		How were the vocational trainings in assisting with upskilling and providing technical support?	<ul> <li>How did you find the training generally?</li> <li>Did you feel they provided valuable approaches/lessons?</li> <li>Were they contextually relevant?</li> <li>Do you know people did not attend or stopped attending? If so, why was this?</li> </ul>	4.1 4.3

6	Sustainability	Will you continue with agri/apiculture activities?	<ul> <li>Has this livelihood activities proved effective and rewarding for you and your household?</li> <li>Do you think you could sustain this livelihood without programme intervention?</li> <li>What do you think are the barriers for people to enter agri/apiculture that this programme helped/helps bridge?</li> </ul>	6.2
7	Recommendations	In what ways do you think this programme could have been improved?	<ul> <li>Where there areas where you felt unsupported or you felt the programme was challenged in?</li> <li>Do you have any thoughts on how better to improve a programme like this if it were to be repeated?</li> <li>How much do you think of your success/challenges was due to the programme/IRT or due to external factors.</li> </ul>	6.1 6.3
8	Closing	Is there anything else you feel would be important for us to know, that we haven't already discussed?		

# **Appendix 4: List of People Interviewed**

The evaluation conducted 9 remote KIIs with IRT and IRW staff, 16 in-field KIIs, and 9 focus group discussions. This list was developed in close consultation of IRT and follow-up KIIs were conducted with key staff, as necessary. The table below details below:

Name	Position	Notes	Date Conducted	
Ertugrul Ayranci	Programme Coordinator		18 March 2021	
Zahide Kaya	Programme Coordinator		21 March 2021	
Abdollah Wrewar	Senior Meal Officer		22 March 2021	
Murat Madvaroglu	Procurement Officer		23 March 2021	
Saqib Babar	Head of Programme		24 March 2021	
Ertugrul Ayranci	Programme Coordinator	Follow-up interview	28 March 2021	
Abdollah Wrewar	Senior Meal Officer	Follow up interview	29 March 2021	
Abdulhamed Salem	IRW Regional Desk Coordinator		29 March 2021	
Samra Sadaf	Regional Partnerships and Programme Development Funding Manager		31 March 2021	
Total remote KIIs: 9 KIIs				

# Table 16. Remote KIIs for this evaluation

 Table 17. In-field KIIs for this evaluation.

Position	Role in Project	Date Conducted
Agricultural Engineer	Project staff	04 March 2021
Agricultural Engineer	Project staff	04 March 2021
Programme Officer	Project staff	05 March 2021
Mutar	Community leader	09 March 2021
Government agronomer	Advisor to project	07 March 2021
Vendor	Community member	09 March 2021
NGO of local CEO	Local/sector stakeholder	06 March 2021
Focal point of INGO	Sector stakeholder	07 March 2021
Vendor	Community member	22 March 2021
Teacher	Community leader	07 March 2021

Position	Role in Project	Date Conducted			
Religious leader	Community leader	08 March 2021			
Local government authority	Local government	08 March 2021			
Community leader	Advisor to project	07 March 2021			
Micro businessperson	Community leader	06 March 2021			
Political/Community representative	Community leader	06 March 2021			
Teacher and community leader	Community leader	06 March 2021			
Total in-field KIIs: 16					

# Table 18. Focus group discussions for this evaluation

Value Chain	Number & sex of participants	Date Conducted			
Tomato/Greenhouse					
Greenhouse Leaders	Greenhouse Leaders 6 2 female and 4 males				
Greenhouse (tomato) rightsholders 1	7 2 females and 5 males	07 March 2021			
Greenhouse (tomato) rightsholders 2	4 2 females and 2 males	07 March 2021			
Greenhouse (tomato) rightsholders 3	4 4 males	08 March 2021			
	Strawberry				
Strawberry rightsholders 1	5 2 females and 3 males	08 March 2021			
Strawberry rightsholders 2	4 1 females and 3 males	08 March 2021			
Strawberry rightsholders 3	8 2 females and 6 males	08 March 2021			
	Beekeeping				
Beekeeping leaders	4 4 males	05 March 2021			
Beekeeping rightsholders	5 5 males	08 March 2021			
Total FGDs: 9	<b>47 total participants</b> 11 females and 36 males				

# Appendix 5: Evaluation Timeline

 Table 19.
 Timeline of this evaluation.

Proposed Activity	Starting week of / deadlines
Phase 1: Inception	
Inception calls with IRW; initial desk review	17 January 2022
Draft inception report (incl. tools)	17 January – 11 February 2022
Submission of draft inception report to IRT	11 February 2022
Feedback from IRT/W	21 February 2022
Submit final inception report	2 March 2022
Phase 2: Data Collection	
Training/orientation of data collection team & field work preparation	28 February – 04 March 2022
Data collection (remote KIIs, field work & supplementary doc review)	04 March – 31 March 2022
Phase 3: Analysis, Reporting, & Presentation	
Analysis and triangulation of findings	21 March – 01 April 2022
Draft report submission	01 April 2022
Evaluation Report review + feedback from IRW/IRT	To be determined
Initial presentation of findings with IRT/IRW	05 April 2021
Final revised report	One week following receipt of feedback
Final Presentations with IR donors and key stakeholders	To be determined

# **Appendix 6: Evaluation Matrix**

**Table 20.** Evaluation matrix and corresponding data sources and methods.

	Evaluation questions against the evaluation criteria	Data Sources	Methods
	1. Relevance		
1.1	Was the design of the intervention relevant to the wider context?	<ul> <li>Programme staff</li> <li>Local leaders and authorities</li> <li>Refugees and host community</li> <li>Local NGOs and stakeholders</li> <li>Project Proposal</li> <li>Eleventh National Plan</li> <li>CHS</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Doc review</li> <li>KIIs</li> <li>FGD</li> </ul>
1.2	Is the intervention in line with the needs and highest priorities of the most vulnerable groups (men and women, boys and girls)?	<ul> <li>Programme staff</li> <li>Refugees and host community</li> <li>Project Proposal</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Doc review</li><li>KIIs</li><li>FGD</li></ul>
1.3	Is the intervention design and objectives aligned with the needs of the livelihood sector and cluster strategy?	<ul> <li>Programme staff</li> <li>Refugees and host community</li> <li>Project Proposal</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Doc review</li><li>KIIs</li></ul>
1.4	Did the design and implementation of the intervention consider and build on available local capacities?	<ul> <li>Programme staff</li> <li>Local leaders and authorities</li> <li>Refugees and host community</li> <li>Project Proposal</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Doc review</li><li>KIIs</li><li>FGD</li></ul>
1.5	Was the design and implementation of interventions age, gender, protection and disability- sensitive?	<ul> <li>Programme staff</li> <li>Refugees and host community</li> <li>Project Proposal</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Doc review</li><li>KIIs</li><li>FGD</li></ul>
	2. Coherence		
2.1	To what extent were context factors (political stability/instability, population movements, etc.) considered in the design and delivery of the intervention?	<ul> <li>Programme staff</li> <li>Refugees and host community</li> <li>Interim Reports</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Doc review</li><li>KIIs</li></ul>

		<ul> <li>Programme staff</li> </ul>	Doc review
2.2	To what extent was IRW's intervention coherent with policies and programmes of other	<ul> <li>Local leaders and authorities</li> </ul>	• KIIs
2.2	stakeholders and service provider operating within the same context?	<ul> <li>Refugees and host community</li> </ul>	
		<ul> <li>Local NGOs and stakeholders</li> </ul>	
		<ul> <li>Programme staff</li> </ul>	• KIIs
2.3		<ul> <li>Project Proposal</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Doc review</li> </ul>
2.3	To what extent was the intervention design and delivery in line with humanitarian principles?	<ul> <li>Interim reports</li> </ul>	
		• CHS	
		<ul> <li>Project Proposal</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Doc review</li> </ul>
2.4	What have been the synergies between the intervention and other IRW interventions?	<ul> <li>Broad review of IRW interventions</li> </ul>	• KIIs
		<ul> <li>Programme staff</li> </ul>	
	3. Efficiency		
	What were the alternative options and was the intervention and key components of the project	<ul> <li>Programme staff</li> </ul>	• KIIs
3.1	cost-efficient considering alternative options?	• Budget	
2.2	Was the intervention and key components of the project implemented efficiently compared to	Programme staff	<ul> <li>Doc review</li> </ul>
3.2	alternatives?	<ul> <li>Refugees and host community</li> </ul>	• KIIs
3.3	Did the terresting of the intervention result in an equitable allocation of recourses?	<ul> <li>Programme staff</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Doc review</li> </ul>
5.5	Did the targeting of the intervention result in an equitable allocation of resources?	<ul> <li>Refugees and host community</li> </ul>	
3.4	Was the intervention implemented in a timely way?	<ul> <li>Programme staff</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Doc review</li> </ul>
5.4	was the intervention implemented in a timely way!		• KIIs
	4. Effectiveness		
		<ul> <li>Programme staff</li> </ul>	Doc review
4.1	Were relevant technical and quality standards for livelihood interventions in a humanitarian	<ul> <li>Refugees and host community</li> </ul>	• KIIs
	context followed and met?	Interim reports	
		Programme staff	• KIIs
1 2	Were (are) the outputs and outcomes achieved?	<ul> <li>Refugees and host community</li> </ul>	• FGDs
4.2		<ul> <li>Participant data broken down by phase</li> </ul>	Doc review
		Programme staff	• KIIs
4.3	What major factors influenced the achievement or non-achievement of the outcomes?	<ul> <li>Refugees and host community</li> </ul>	• FGDs
		Interim Reports	<ul> <li>Doc review</li> </ul>

	Ware there any unintended (necitive or persive) outcomes existing from the intervention for	<ul> <li>Programme staff</li> </ul>	• Klls
4.4	Were there any unintended (positive or negative) outcomes arising from the intervention for	<ul> <li>Refugees and host community</li> </ul>	FGDs
	participants and non-participants?	<ul> <li>Interim reports</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Doc review</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Programme staff</li> </ul>	• KIIs
4.5	Is the achievement of outcomes leading to/likely to lead to achievement of the project's overall	<ul> <li>Refugees and host community</li> </ul>	FGDs
	objective?	Interim Reports	<ul> <li>Doc review</li> </ul>
		Programme staff	• KIIs
4.6	What major factors influenced, supported or hindered this?	<ul> <li>Refugees and host community</li> </ul>	FGDs
		<ul> <li>Interim Reports</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Doc review</li> </ul>
4 7	Were results delivered equitably for men, and women, boys and girls, person with disability and	<ul> <li>Programme staff</li> </ul>	KIIs
4.7	from different age groups?	<ul> <li>Refugees and host community</li> </ul>	• FGDs
	5. Impact		
	What were/are the anticipated long lasting or transformational effects of the intervention on	<ul> <li>Programme staff</li> </ul>	Klls
5.1	participants' lives (intended and unintended)?	<ul> <li>Refugees and host community</li> </ul>	• FGDs
		Programme staff	• Klls
5.2	Is a specific part of the intervention likely to achieve greater impact than another?	<ul> <li>Refugees and host community</li> </ul>	• FGDs
		Programme staff	• KIIs
5.3	What are the likely age, disability or gender-specific impacts?	<ul> <li>Refugees and host community</li> </ul>	FGDs
		Interim Reports	
		<ul> <li>Programme staff</li> </ul>	• Klls
5.4	Did the intervention influence the gender context?	<ul> <li>Refugees and host community</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>FGDs</li> </ul>
		Interim Reports	
	Are there any positive or possible long lecting intended or upintended impacts at the bousehold	<ul> <li>Programme staff</li> </ul>	• Klls
5.5	Are there any positive or negative long-lasting intended or unintended impacts at the household, community and wider system level?	<ul> <li>Refugees and host community</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>FGDs</li> </ul>
	community and wider system lever:	<ul> <li>Local leaders and authorities</li> </ul>	
5.6	Have or should any components of the project be replicated or scaled-up by others?	<ul> <li>Programme staff</li> </ul>	• Klls
5.0	have of should any components of the project be replicated of scaled-up by others!	<ul> <li>Refugees and host community</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>FGDs</li> </ul>
5.7	Did/will the intervention contribute to long-term intended results?	<ul> <li>Programme staff</li> </ul>	• Klls
5.7		<ul> <li>Refugees and host community</li> </ul>	
	6. Sustainability		
C 1	To what extent does the intermention incolor extention consider contains hills.	Project Proposal	Doc review
6.1	To what extent does the intervention implementation consider sustainability?	Interim reports	KIIs

		<ul><li> Programme staff</li><li> Refugees and host community</li></ul>	
6.2	To what extent will the interventions be sustainable and will provide ongoing benefit to individuals, households and communities?	<ul> <li>Interim reports</li> <li>Programme staff</li> <li>Refugees and host community</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Doc review</li><li>KIIs</li></ul>
6.3	How long will these benefits realistically continue for without additional support?	<ul> <li>Interim reports</li> <li>Programme staff</li> <li>Refugees and host community</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Doc review</li><li>KIIs</li></ul>
6.4	Is there any consideration of the effects of projected climate change on the continuation of activities in the future?	<ul><li> Programme staff</li><li> Refugees and host community</li></ul>	• KIIs

# **Appendix 7: Evaluability Assessment**

The evaluation has the following specific objectives determined by IRT/W: 79

- Evaluate the appropriateness of the project interventions, approaches, and methodology.
- Assess the effectiveness and relevance of the agricultural, apicultural and vocational livelihood initiatives.
- Evaluate the efficiency, effectiveness & impact of the project in light of the overall project goal, specific objective, and results.
- Assess the value for money considerations in relation to each component of the project, considering economy, efficient, effectiveness and equity.
- Assess the socio-economic changes/effects in the lives of targeted households as a result of project interventions and change and implementation of government policies.
- Evaluate the sustainability of project results, impact, and approach at different levels (household level, community level, and organization level).
- Examine the effectiveness and impact of mainstreaming issues, including gender, disability, child rights and protection.
- Identifying lessons learned and good practices of the project to inform both IRW and IR Turkey's future response and the wider sector.
- Assess if and how the project interventions have related to and influenced government and cluster policies effecting socio-economic changes in the lives of targeted people.

The evaluability exercise, conducted in the inception phase, points out any limitations in thoroughly answering an evaluation question. Status marked as **GREEN** indicates the ET has sufficient access to quality information to answer the corresponding question/line of inquiry. **YELLOW** indicates data may available, but not in the possession of the ET at the time of the assessment. **ORANGE** indicates the gaps in the information at this stage are too large to sufficiently answer the question/line of inquiry. The ET worked with IRT to bridge data and information gaps where possible from the qualitative data collection and document requests.

<sup>79</sup> IR Turkey. 2021. Tender document of a consultancy for the final evaluation for the support to agriculture, November 2021.

Eval. Question	Question	Key documents in our	ur Evaluability		
(EQ)	Question	possession	Secondary data availability	Primary data availability	Overall Evaluability
	1.1. Was the design of the intervention relevant to the wider context?	Literature review/situation analysis in the project proposal	Short explanation of contextual relevance with links to external background information.	KIIs with participant, local leaders, and stakeholders will highlight in what ways did this project address community needs and the wider context.	Data sufficient to answer question
	1.2. Is the intervention in line with the needs and highest priorities of the most vulnerable groups (men and women, boys and girls)?	Brief needs assessment/stakeholder consultation in the project proposal	Needs assessment draws upon stakeholder consultation conducted by FAO.	KIIs/FGDs with vulnerable groups outline the priorities of these groups and understand how the project may have addressed some of the issues.	Requires further needs assessment information.
	1.3. Is the intervention design and objectives aligned with the needs of the livelihood sector and cluster strategy?	No direct reference to alignment of project to cluster strategy Eleventh Development Plan Reference to 3RP in project proposal	Eleventh Development Plan references agriculture development for Turkey. IRT is a 3RP member Requires more strategic documentation. External documentation on cluster/sector strategies	Potential KIIs with senior IRW/IRT leadership to see cluster alignment.	Comments on alignment can be made by assessing against project rationale and implementation (in addition to supplied strategic documents).
1. Relevance	1.4. Did the design and implementation of the intervention consider and build on available local capacities?	Needs assessment and implementation strategy in the project proposal. List of required capacities only in the first interim report.	Needs assessment looks at lack of capacity. Implementation strategy accounts for skills to design trainings. Interim report – questionnaire gauged local capacities and informed beneficiary selection	KII with strategic and operational staff around implementation strategies in view of local capacities. KII with community members/participants to understand local capacities.	Data sufficient to answer question.
	1.5. Was the design and implementation of interventions age, gender, protection and disability sensitive?	Needs assessment and cross cutting themes in project proposal Light inclusion of gender/disability in introduction of second and third interim report	Gender and children considerations informed project design. Description of beneficiary selection. Need additional information on implementation	KII with implementation staff to examine inclusive strategies. KII/FGD with vulnerable/marginalised groups to validate the extent to which programme was inclusive/sensitive to these issues	Requires further inclusive sensitive documentation.
2. Coherence	2.1 To what extent were context factors (political stability/instability, population movements, etc.)	Situation analysis in project proposal.	Political context is laid out in documents though there is little information on Turkish policy	KIIs with local leaders to understand local context that may affect programme delivery/outcome.	Data sufficient to answer question

Eval. Question	Questier	Key documents in our		Evaluability	
(EQ)	Question	possession	Secondary data availability	Primary data availability	Overall Evaluability
	considered in the design and delivery of the intervention?				
	2.2. To what extent was IRW's intervention coherent with policies and programmes of other stakeholders and service provider operating within the same context?	Brief situation analysis and technical verification in project proposal	Alignment to 3RP Turkey (2018-19); FAO reports, IR Syria, secondary sources and humanitarian sources referenced in design. Need list of stakeholders and documentation on co-strategic plans as available	KIIs with strategic staff and key partners on coherency and alignment with external policies and programmes.	Data sufficient to answer question.
	2.3. To what extent was the intervention design and delivery in line with humanitarian principles?	TOR references CHS; no direct reference to CHS, or other principles, in design/delivery	More documentation needed inclusion of humanitarian principles at various project stages	KIIs with strategic and operational staff to the extent in which humanitarian principles are being observed/actioned.	Data sufficient to answer question.
	2.4. What have been the synergies between the intervention and other IRW interventions?	Technical verification and implementation strategy in project proposal	IR Syria supported development of program in Turkey. Need details on synergies between broader IRW	KIIs with strategic staff and key partners and operational stakeholders.	Require broader IRW intervention information.
	3.1. What were the alternative options and was the intervention and key components of the project cost-efficient considering alternative options?	Budget and change request available for financial cost effectiveness. No documentation on alternatives.	Need documentation on alternative options	KIIs with strategic staff and NGOs to highlight alternative/previous options and plans.	Requires further documentation.
3. Efficiency	3.2. Was the intervention and key components of the project implemented efficiently compared to alternatives?	Third and fourth interim report describe inefficiencies in sections 1-5. No documentation on alternatives.	Monthly monitoring reports on key components requested. Programme information on alternative options required.	KIIs with operational stakeholders on intervention delivery and operational challenges/shortcomings.	Requires more information on the timeliness of programme delivery and alternative project details.
	3.3. Did the targeting of the intervention result in an equitable allocation of resources?	Project proposal implementation strategy includes resource allocation plan.	Households receive the same amount of resources (equality).	KII/FGDs with participants to examine resource allocation.	Data sufficient to answer question.

Eval. Question	Quantian	Key documents in our		Evaluability	
(EQ)	Question	possession	Secondary data availability	Primary data availability	Overall Evaluability
		Interim reports describe dissemination of resources	Targeting strategy Women committees were created. Need additional documentation on assurance of equity for people with special needs/women/children/etc.	KIIs with senior/programme staff for targeting strategy (if any).	
	3.4. Was the intervention implemented in a timely way?	Interim reports include timeliness of implemented activities	Procurement, dissemination, planting, and harvesting delays described	KIIs with strategic and operational staff. KIIs/FGDs with programme participants.	Data sufficient to answer question.
	4.1. Were relevant technical and quality standards for livelihood interventions in a humanitarian context followed and met?	No technical and quality standards directly referenced	Need technical and quality standards documentation (implementation strategy, methods, best practice). Utilise ET's experience of relevant technical standards for livelihood interventions.	Klls with operational staff to understand intervention approach and delivery methods.	Data sufficient to answer question.
	4.2 Were (are) the outputs and outcomes achieved?	Interim reports have targets and achievements for output 1 and 2. Targets and achievements for indicators incomplete in updated monitoring plan and interim reports	Need complete list targets and achievements for indicators per interim (MEAL information).	KIIs with programme staff on indicator and project outcomes results.	Data sufficient to answer question (pending MEAL information)
4. Effectiveness	4.3. What major factors influenced the achievement or non-achievement of the outcomes?	Sections 1-5 in interim reports provide influential factors	Annual report needed if available.	KIIs with operational and strategic staff to highlight internal and external factors. KIIs/FGDs with community members to investigate contextual factors.	Data sufficient to answer question.
	4.4. Were there any unintended (positive or negative) outcomes arising from the intervention for	Sections 1-5 in interim reports lightly positive outcome	Annual report needed if available	KIIs with programme staff to examine overall outcomes (intended or unintended).	Data sufficient to answer question.

Eval. Question (EQ)	Question	Key documents in our possession	Evaluability		
			Secondary data availability	Primary data availability	Overall Evaluability
	participants and non- participants?			KIIs/FGDs with participants to assess downstream effects.	
	4.5 Is the achievement of outcomes leading to/likely to lead to achievement of the project's overall objective?	Interim reports including human interest stories refer to progress	Additional documentation on progress and strategy required.	KIIs with programme managers to understand project ToC and how activities contribute to goals. FGDs with participants to assess effectiveness of activities	Requires more strategic documents showcasing pathways of change.
	4.6. What major factors influenced, supported or hindered this?	Interim reports reference influencing factors	Require programme reflections and any information highlighting internal and external factors.	KIIs with programme staff to discuss internal and external factors that affected results.	Require programme and operational reflections/learning documentation.
	4.7. Were results delivered equitably for men, and women, boys and girls, person with disability and from different age groups?	Results in interim reports are not disaggregated	Provide disaggregated data on achievements	KIIs with programme staff to understand how different groups were engaged in this project FGDs with group leaders to learn equity of programme delivery	Equitable results and service delivery will be primarily assessed with primary evidence.
5. Impact	5.1. What were/are the anticipated long lasting or transformational effects of the intervention on participants' lives (intended and unintended)?	Light reference to long term impact in interim reports	Need additional documentation/analysis on longer term impact.	KIIs with strategic staff may indicate impact-level outcomes from previous similar projects. FGDs with participants to identify potential long-term impact	Difficult to assess long- term/transformational change based on the data available. Comments on transformational effects will rely primarily on FGDs and KIIs.
	5.2. Is a specific part of the intervention likely to achieve greater impact than another?	Interim reports include reference to issues and success with specific interventions.	Achievements focus on agriculture and apiculture. Need information on vocational progress	KIIs with strategic and operational staff on successes. KIIs/FGDs with programme participants for contextual	Data sufficient to answer question

Eval. Question	Question	Key documents in our possession	Evaluability		
(EQ)			Secondary data availability	Primary data availability	Overall Evaluability
				factors that influence certain success.	
	5.3. What are the likely age, disability or gender-specific impacts?	Interim reports lightly speak to gender, children, and disability	Additional documentation on outcomes or impact per disaggregated population needed.	KIIs with programme staff to examine the extent to which ADG-inclusiveness was considered. KIIs/FGDs with vulnerable groups to gauge material impact as a result of interventions.	Difficult to assess without documentation on the ADG and inclusive strategies/outcomes of the programme. Comments on ADG will rely primarily on KII and FGDs
	5.4. Did the intervention influence the gender context?	Project proposal mentions gender promotion there is minimal reference to how interventions affected the wider gender context.	Need additional information on effect of intervention on gender context	KIIs with strategic and operational staff to discuss gender-based issues and inclusion. KIIs/FGDs with female programme participants and community members to see to what extent does this programme consider gender- based issues.	Difficult to assess without any gender-related assessments or documentation.
	5.5. Are there any positive or negative long-lasting intended or unintended impacts at the household, community and wider system level?	Interim reports speak very lightly and indirectly of household, community, and wider system levels	Need additional information on impact beyond the individual/household.	KIIs with strategic staff may indicate impact-level outcomes from previous similar projects.	Difficult to assess system-level impact given availability of data.
	5.6. Have or should any components of the project be replicated or scaled-up by others?	Scalability section in project proposal describes intent of scaleup/replication; no reference to action steps taken to do so	Need data on any attempts to scale up/ replicate project components	KIIs with strategic and operational staff on elements that are reproducible/contextually relevant for scaling.	ET may be able to assess scalability based on experience with similar programmes (in terms of scope and interventions)

Eval. Question (EQ)	Question	Key documents in our possession	Evaluability		
			Secondary data availability	Primary data availability	Overall Evaluability
	5.7. Did/will the intervention contribute to long-term intended results?	Interim reports describe outcomes, but not in the context of long-term results	Need documentation on progress towards targets for each indicator	KIIs with strategic staff may indicate long-term outcomes from previous similar projects	Difficult to assess long-term impact given availability of data.
6. Sustainability	6.1. To what extent does the intervention implementation consider sustainability?	Sustainability is included in the project proposal though interim reports do not directly refer to it.	Consultation and ownership and economic sustainability are indirectly described in the interim reports	KIIs with programme staff and stakeholders around sustainability approaches. KII/FGDs with participants to programme approaches.	Difficult to assess long-term impact and therefore sustainability of outcomes.
	6.2. To what extent will the interventions be sustainable and will provide ongoing benefit to individuals, households and communities?	Longevity of benefits in the household and community are not directly referenced	Interim reports speak to economic progress for individuals and indirectly their households.	KIIs/FGDs with participants to examine how well interventions were received and how useful they are in the long-term.	Data sufficient to answer question
	6.3. How long will these benefits realistically continue for without additional support?	Longevity of benefits not directly referenced	Need documentation supporting sustainability of benefits and exit strategies.	KIIs with strategic and operational staff to discuss IRT exit strategies. KIIs/FGDs with participants to gauge longer-term use of programme outputs.	ET would rely heavily on qualitative evidence to answer this question.
	6.4. Is there any consideration of the effects of projected climate change on the continuation of activities in the future?	No reference to climate change	Need documentation on effect of climate change/shocks.	KIIs with strategic to examine wider organisational context in which this programme sits under.	Difficult to evaluate based on data available and scope of this evaluation.

# Appendix 8: Acronym List

3RP	Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan
СНЅ	Core Humanitarian Standard
DAC	OECD's Development Assistance Committee
ET	Evaluation Team
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GBP	British Pound
IR	Islamic Relief
IRT	Islamic Relief Turkey
IRW	Islamic Relief Worldwide
КП	Key Informant Interview
TANGO	Technical Assistance to Non-Governmental Organizations
TRY	Turkish lira
USD	United States Dollar
WASH	Water, sanitation, and hygiene

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