



EUROPEAN COMMISSION



Humanitarian Aid

Project: *Community-based Health and Hygiene Assistance in Palestine (COHHAP)*

Donor: ECHO

Date: Thursday November 5, 2009

Under the “*Community-based Health and Hygiene Assistance in Palestine, COHHAP*” project that is funded by ECHO, CARE is currently distributing drinking water and water for domestic use for more than 4,460 households without regular access to water, and is distributing water storage tanks for more than 175 households in the region. It is also assisting 155 Palestinian households in constructing water harvesting systems (cisterns) in Tulkarem, Nablus, and Jenin.

These efforts are carried out together with providing water and sanitation management awareness and promotion to more than 16,000 individuals in the West Bank and Gaza communities. The letter below was received from Haytham Tawfeek, a beneficiary who was chosen to receive assistance for building a cistern.

“My name is Haytham Tawfeeq Theeb, a resident at Attara village in Jenin district. I am heading a household of seven individuals and I am the only provider for this household. I work in the village and I own four cows that assist in my income generation. I live next to my brother’s house.

The suffering we face due to the scarcity of water is very difficult. We do not have a cistern or well for the household; instead, we use my brother’s well nearby for domestic use. This well does not cover our basic needs of water, thus, we buy water tank. However, we need 70 cubic meters of water on top of what my brother’s well provides, and the amount needed is increasing every year. The price of the cubic meter in typical conditions is 18 NIS in the village, but for us specifically, a cubic meter costs 22 NIS due to the difficulties in transporting the water, where the road leading to my house is not fully constructed. So we are forced to transport the water using small tanks (tractor tanks), which increases the price for water. This is in addition to my efforts in raising the cows and taking them to distant areas to find drinking water for them, which takes a lot of time and effort.

That is why, the cistern we constructed through the project implemented by CARE International and funded by ECHO is extremely helpful and it solved my problems that I suffered from including scarcity and high price of water, as well as providing cows with drinking water. Sincerely, I want to thank you so much for this priceless assistance and I thank CARE and ECHO for their generous contribution.

We, at the village council, thank CARE International and the donor ECHO for the great services they provide for our village, which contribute in easing various difficulties the community suffers from. Many thanks and we hope this relationship between us continues where we cooperate together to improve the livelihoods of this community”.