



# Micro-Garden Technical Working Group

## Food Security Sector

**11<sup>th</sup> June, 2016**

***Venue: Intersos, Jemayzeh***

# Presentations



1. FAO
2. UNHCR
3. Soils Lebanon
4. ACTED
5. Intersos



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# Improving the Nutrition of Syrian Refugees and Host Communities Through Garden Walls

*Mohamad Hachicho*  
*FAO - National Agricultural Consultant*

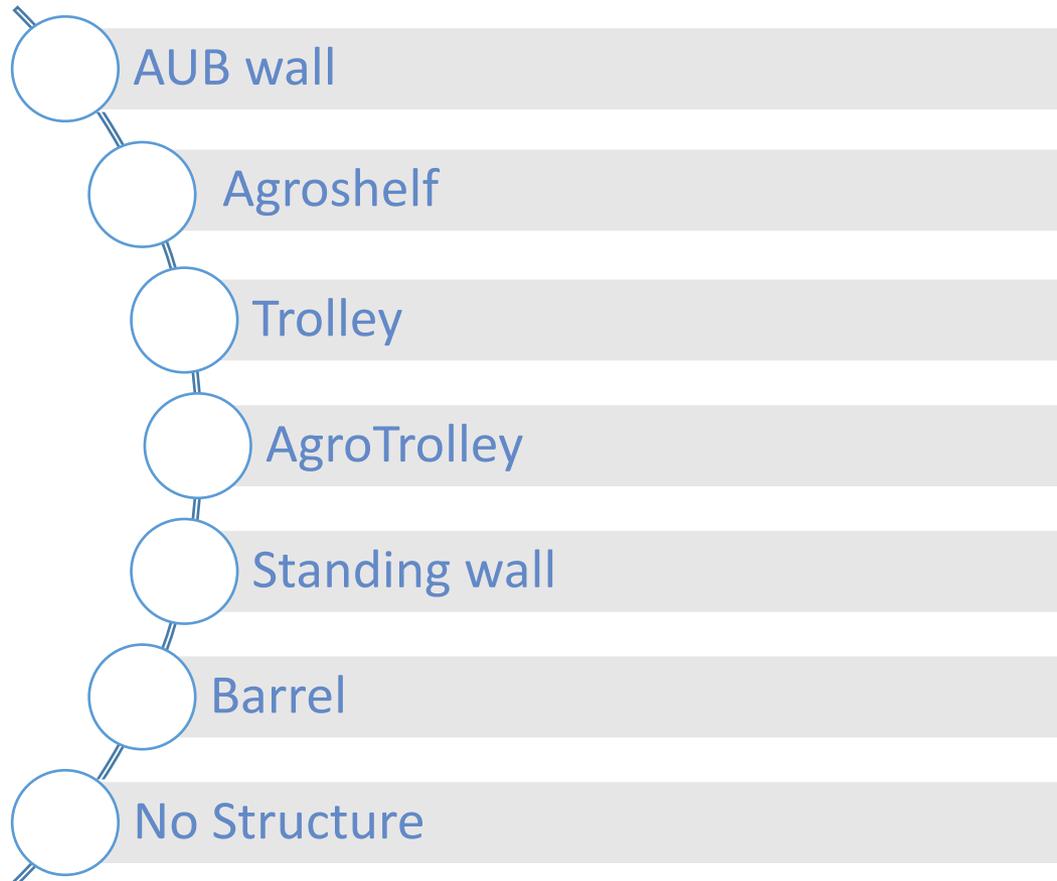


## Objectives:

- To cope with the stressful situation through gardening
- To Improve social relations between people sharing green units and learning from each other
- To innovate and adapt the production units to camp conditions
- To Partially subsidize the diet of the refugees and the hosting communities.

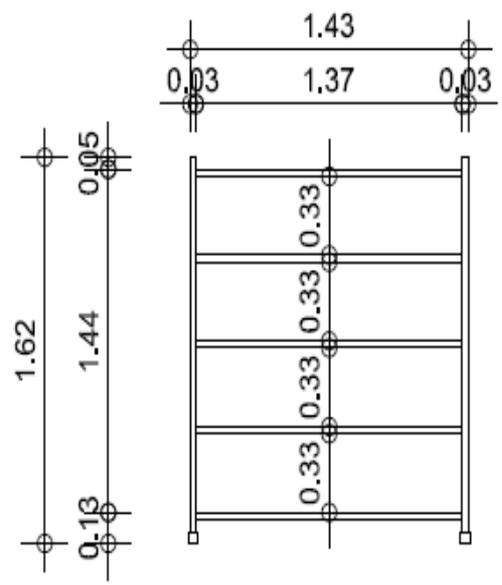


## Units Adopted :

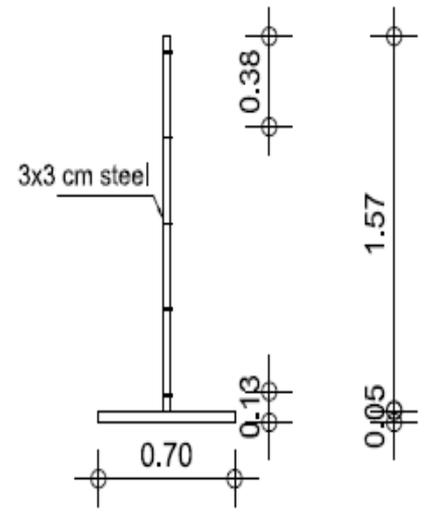




# AUB wall



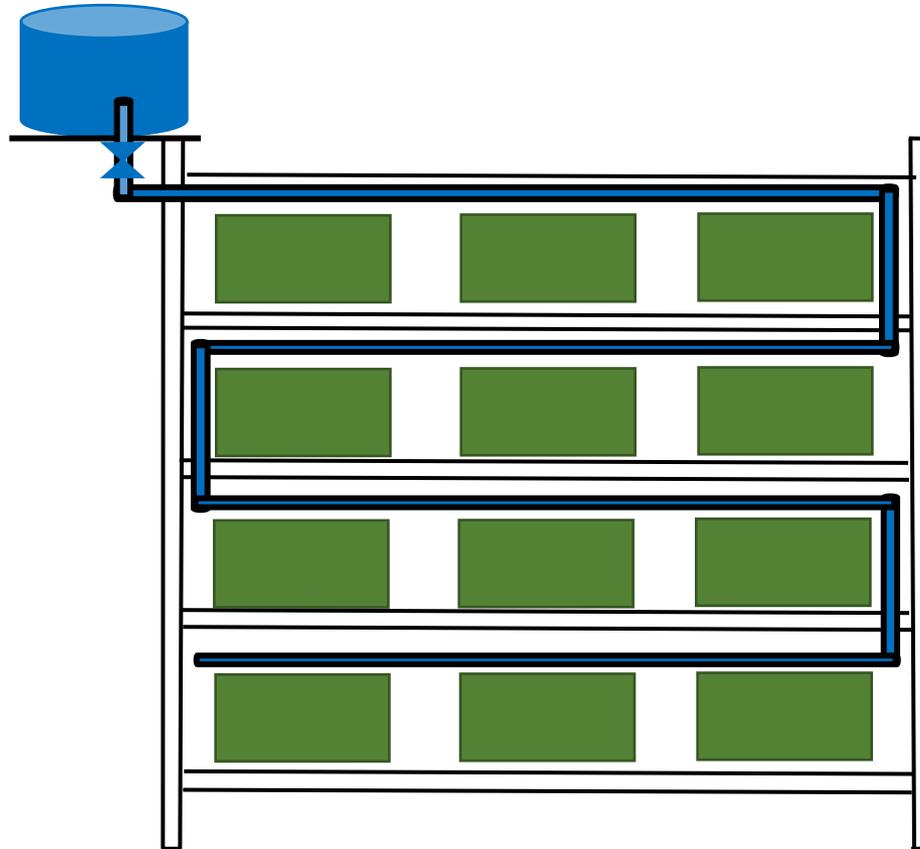
FRONT VIEW



SIDE VIEW



# AUB wall Irrigation Layout





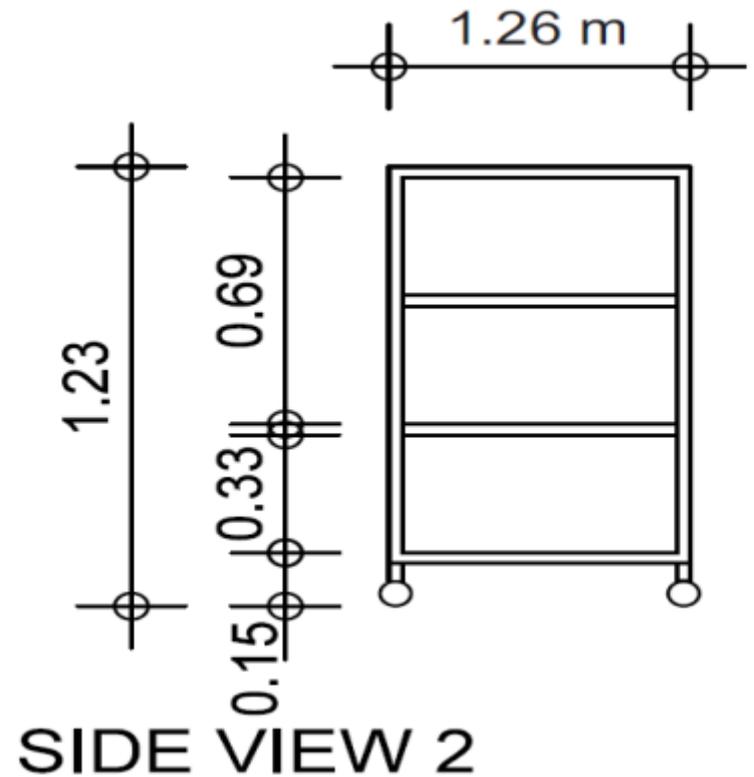
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# Agroshef





# Trolley





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# Agrotrolley





# Standing Wall





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# Barrel





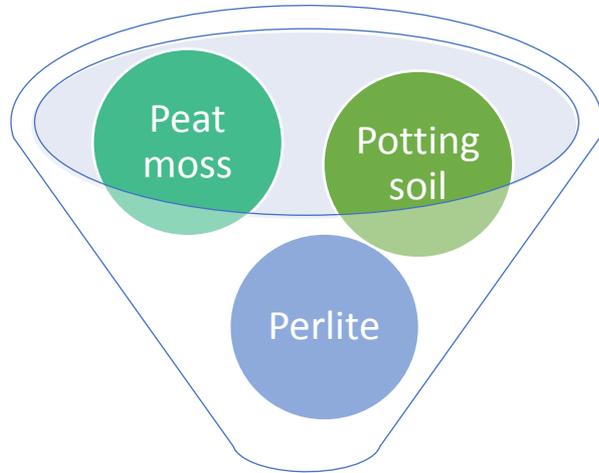
## No Structure





## Soil components used in North Lebanon sites:

### Benefits



- Better Aeration
- Good drainage

**18 liters**

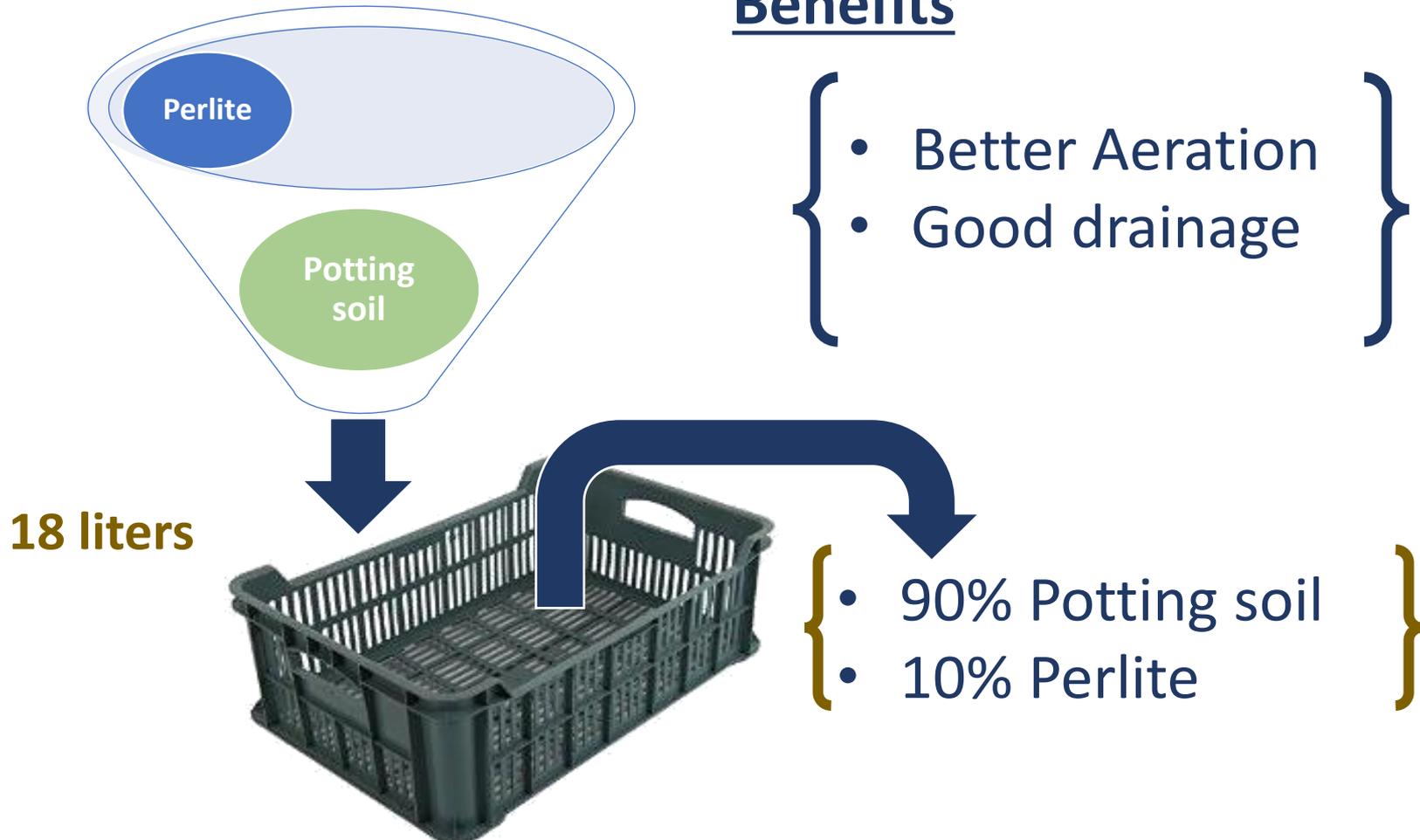


- 1/3 Peat moss
- 1/3 Perlite
- 1/3 Potting soil



## Soil components used in Bekaa sites:

### Benefits





## Soil mixture explained:

**Peatmoss: 250 L - 340 L**

### Analysis Certificate

Baltic (Latvian) high bog peat  
degree of decomposition

H 2 - H5

Structure:

0 - 7 mm

Chemical properties:  
Volume weight (g/l) dry

< 55 – 90

**Potting Soil:  
70 L – 100 L**

Potting Soil, 80 L

Origin:  
Degree of decomposition (H) according to von Post

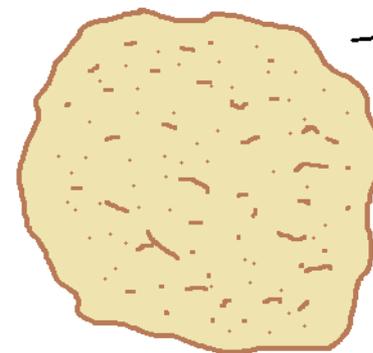
Northern German high bog peat  
H3 – H7

Composition:  
Mixture of approx. 35 vol % slightly to moderately decomposed peat from raised bogs (white peat) and approx. 65 vol. % highly decomposed peat from raised bogs (frozen black peat)

Structure: very fine

## Soil mixture Recommendation:

Use small Bags in order to give each person his share



**Sand Particle**  
2.0 - 0.05 mm

**Silt Particle**  
0.05 to 0.002 mm

**Clay Particle**  
smaller than  
0.002 mm



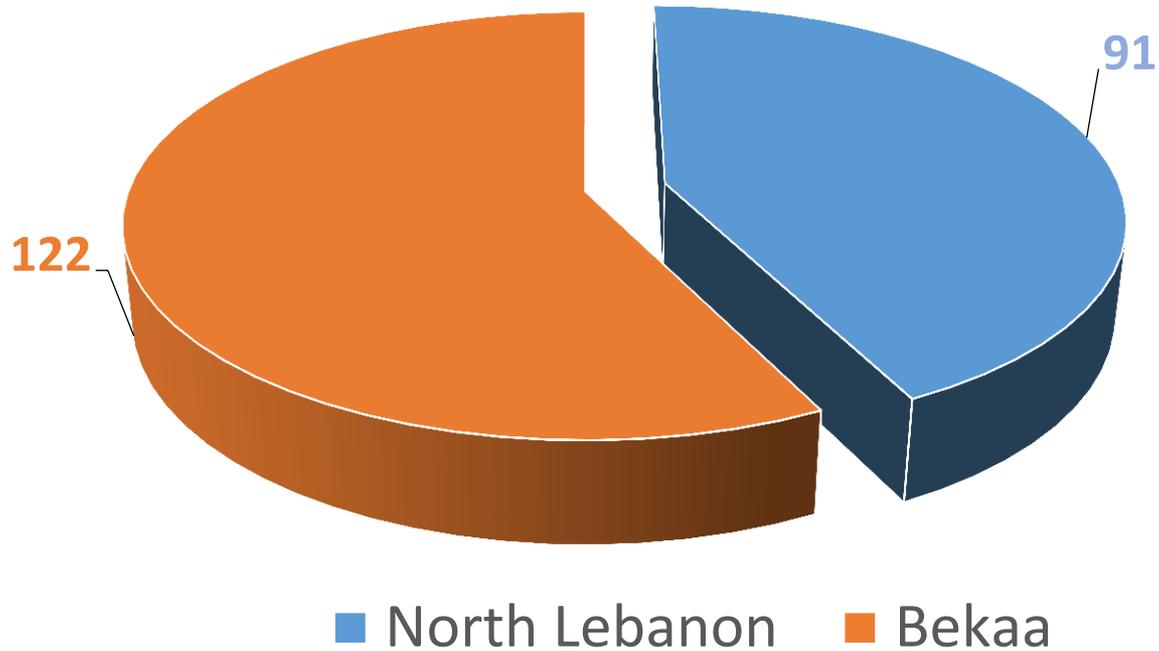
## Seeds used:

1. Bakla or Purslane
2. Parsley
3. Green zaatar or Thyme
4. Spinach
5. Lettuce
6. **Radish ( Not recommended )**
7. Rocca
8. Hindbeh or Dandelion
9. **Rashad or Garden cress ( Not recommended )**
10. Coriander





## Number of Women beneficiaries:





## Site selection recommendation:

- Must have abundant water supply
- Space availability
- Willingness of the beneficiaries to be part of such agricultural techniques



## Financials :

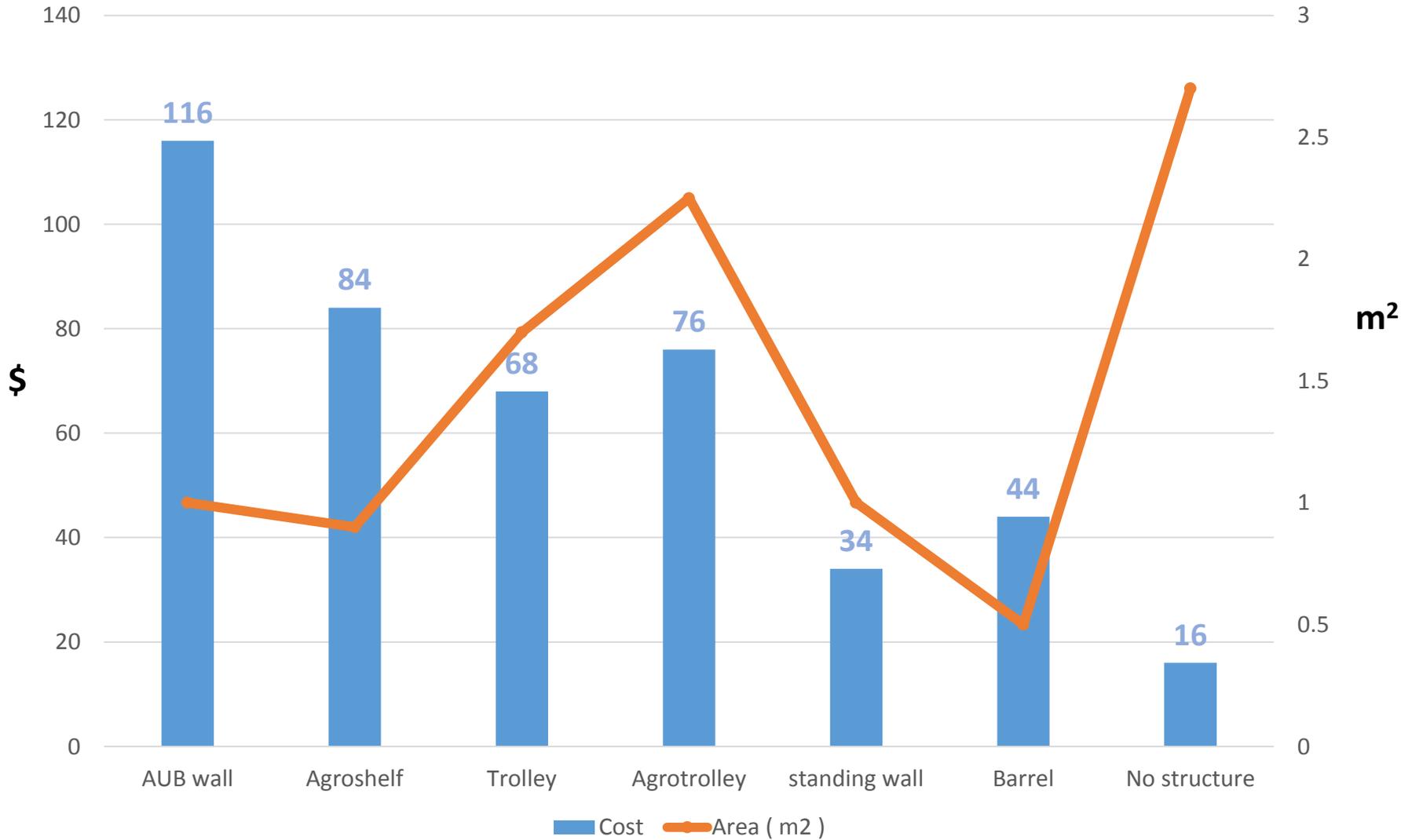
Structure	Cost of structure \$	Number of boxes	Cost of Plastic boxes	Cost of soil + seeds	Cost of Styrofoam	Cost of Linen	Total Cost
AUB wall	112 \$	12	6.7 \$	10 \$	5 \$		140 \$
Agroshelf	100 \$	15	8.4 \$	19 \$		9 \$	127 \$
Trolley	155 \$	32	18 \$	36 \$	13.4 \$		222 \$
Agrotrolley	160 \$	27	15 \$	31 \$		16.2 \$	206 \$
Standing wall	267 \$			103 \$			370 \$
Barrel	70 \$			24 \$			94
No structure		20	11 \$	24 \$			35 \$



Structures	Advantage	Disadvantage
AUB wall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• can utilize space more efficiently</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vertical plants will tend to dry up fast and soil will be lost during the irrigation.</li></ul>
Agroshelf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Can utilities space more efficiently</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cost high compared to others</li></ul>
Trolley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Can accommodate significant amount of boxes</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vertical plants will tend to dry up fast and soil will be lost during the irrigation</li><li>• Heavy and needs a flat surface</li></ul>
Agrotrolley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Can accommodate significant amount of boxes</li><li>• Easier to irrigate</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Heavy and needs a flat surface</li></ul>
Barrel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• More plants per square meter</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Difficult to manufacture</li></ul>
Standing wall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• High production</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• High amount of soil</li><li>• Expensive</li><li>• Heavy</li><li>• Water issues</li></ul>
No structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Low cost</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Needs more space</li></ul>



# Production of 20 bundles





## Recommendations :

- Visit the site daily , especially the first 2 weeks
- Choosing the site is critical, example some Syrian sites in Bekaa receive water weekly through UN agencies and in some cases delivery might be late 1 or 2 days , which might damage the crop
- Give all beneficiaries the same structure
- It is not advised to plant during mid-summer season
- If Tomato and other vegetables are used , a plant protection program should be adopted prior to implementation. As most pests travel by air.



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THANK YOU



# **Vertical Garden for Refugees and Host Communities in Lebanon PILOT PROJECT**



## Key considerations

**Aim** : Production of fresh nutritious food and Boost psychological well-being . **Not a livelihood activity**

**Target** : both Syrian families and Lebanese families.

Urban vs. Rural Context: Both possible as long as space is available  
(collective dwellings, informal settlements, etc.)

**Timeframe** : 6 – 9 months

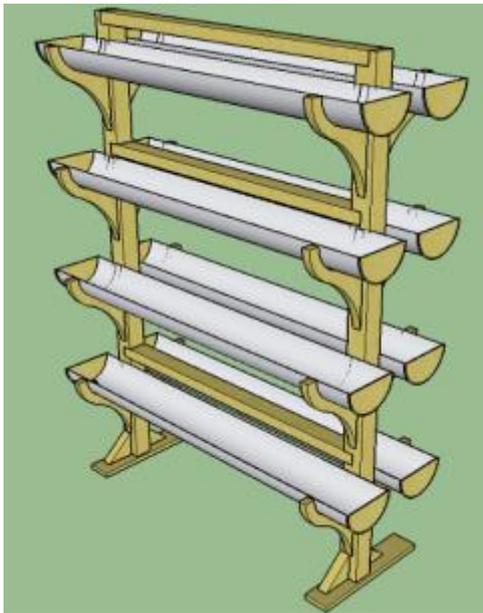
**Site selection criteria**: water availability; availability of space; willingness of people; dynamism of the community, etc.

- Activity can be replicated and expanded by refugees (using resources they can generate, ex plastic bottles, jars, jerry cans, etc.)
- Structures are light-weight, do not require high investment costs, moveable and do not take up much space (Items can be procured locally, as needed)
- Participation is voluntary, yet it is important to solicit engagement of youth, persons with disabilities, older persons, etc. in the implementation
- Vegetable production is based on consumption preferences with quick yields and requiring little in terms of maintenance

## Adopted Planters

### Handmade : PVC Planter

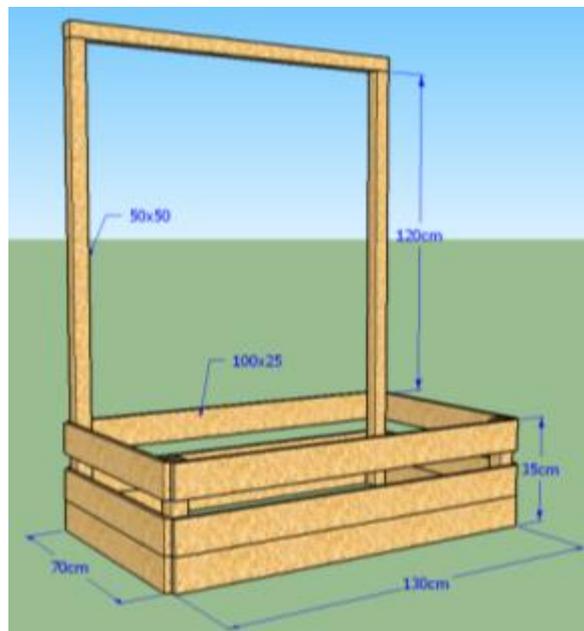
- Planting area : ~2,30 sqm – average water consumption : 2,5 – 4 liters per day
- More suitable for buildings
- Unit cost : \$125 (planter + substrates + seeds)



## Adopted Planters

### Handmade : raised bed planter (wooden)

- Planting area : ~1 sqm – average water consumption : 2,5 – 3,5 liters per day
- Suitable for informal settlement (planter size can be customized depending the space available)
- Unit cost : \$75 - \$80 (planter + substrates + seeds/seedlings)

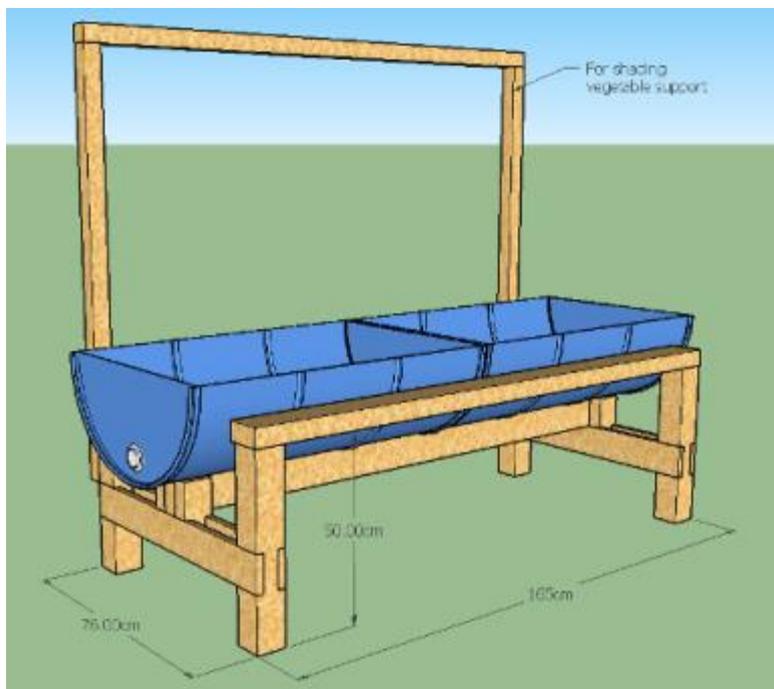


## Adopted Planters

**Handmade** : raised bed planter (barrel)

Planting area : ~1 sqm – average water consumption : 2,5 – 3,5 liters per day

Unit cost : \$80 (planter + substrates + seeds/seedlings)



## Adopted Planters

**Handmade** : used wooden palettes

Unit cost : less than 40\$ including substrates and seeds



## Adopted Planters

**Handmade** : using plastic bottles, tin cans, other containers





## PILOT PROJECT (300 HHs beneficiaries)

Region	Location & Type	Type	# HH	Planters type	Status
North	Tlal - Akkar	Collective Shelter	19	Mixed : barrel raised bed, pallet and PVC pipe	On-going preparation for the implementation
	Waha - Koura	Collective Shelter	132 (36 planters for all)	Mixed : barrel raised bed, pallet and PVC pipe	On-going preparation for the implementation
	Haj Hassan	Collective Shelter	47	Mixed : barrel raised bed, pallet and PVC pipe	On-going preparation for the implementation
South	Debaneh Station	Informal settlement	34	Mixed : raised bed and PVC pipe	Implementation completed
	Kfarchouba	Collective Shelter	8	PVC pipe	On-going preparation for the implementation
ML	Baaourta - Aley	Collective Shelter	14	PVC pipe	Implementation completed
	Jmeilieh - Chouf	Collective Shelter	9	PVC pipe	Implementation completed
Bekaa	Nabi Chit	Collective Shelter	6		Implementation completed
	Saadnayel 013	Informal settlement	29	Raised bed	Implementation completed
	Saadnayel 016	Informal settlement	32	Raised bed	Implementation completed



**Vegetables and herbes** : Onions ,green onions (Leeks), Kale, Cauliflower, Cucumber, Eggplant, Lettuce , Peppers, Persil, Radish, Tomatoes, Spinach, Zucchini, Thymes, Mint, Okra, Peas, Garlic, Arugula

Medicinal : Rosemary, lavender, Aloe Vera, Chamomile, Rhubarb, basilica  
***4 to 5 varieties per HHs***

تراب SOILS



للتربية البيئية لبنان

**PERMACULTURE ASSOCIATION** LEBANON

# Faris camp (Rawda)

*Syrian Eyes*

2015



# AGRICULTURE WORKSHOPS IN CAMPS

## June – Oct 2016

### ➤ **Location: 6 camps**

North Bekaa (Talia, Baalbeck)

Central Bekaa (Taanayel, Taalabaya)

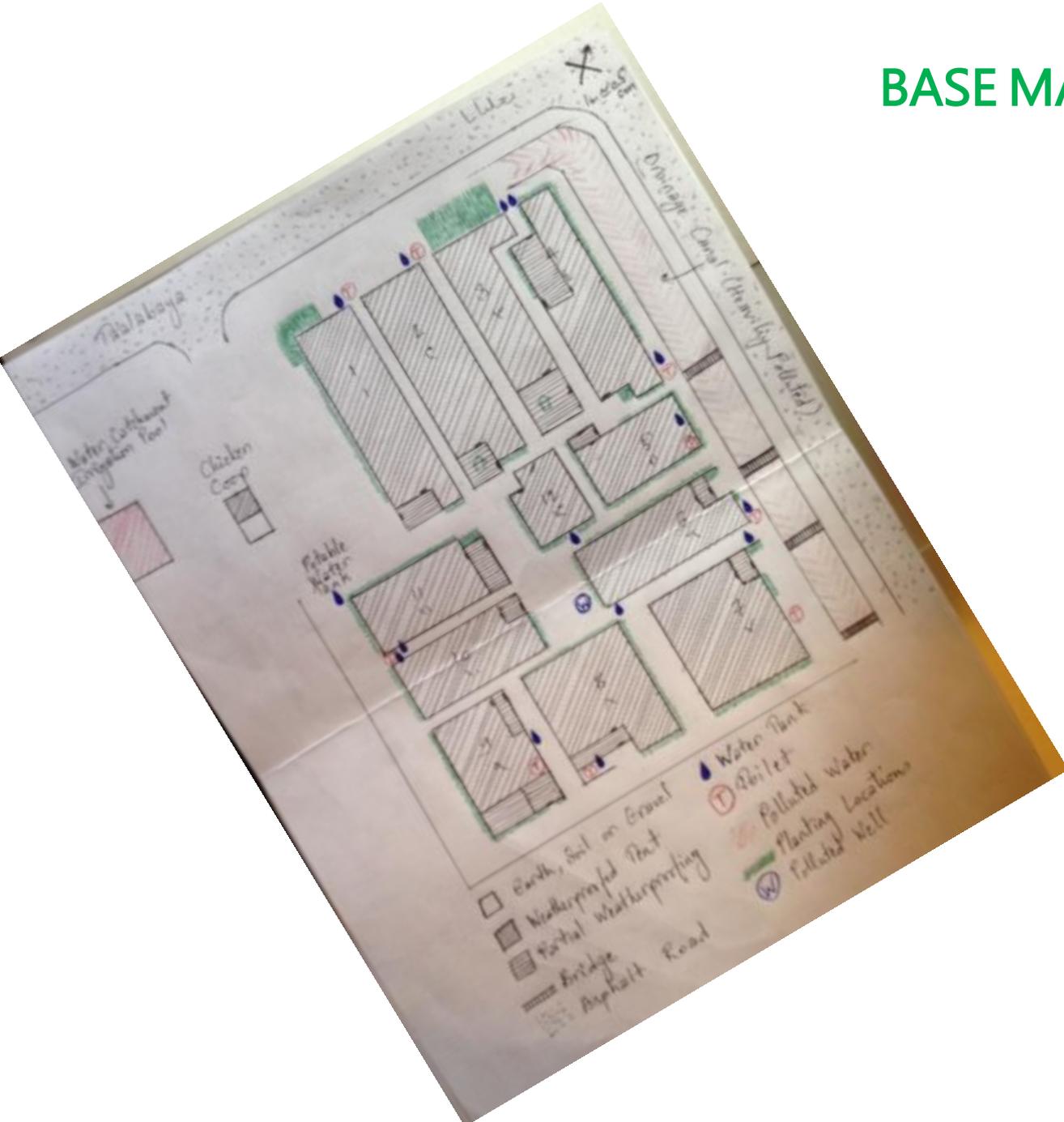
West Bekaa (Rawda, Bar Elias)

> **Site selection:** small camps (20 tents) + interest in gardening

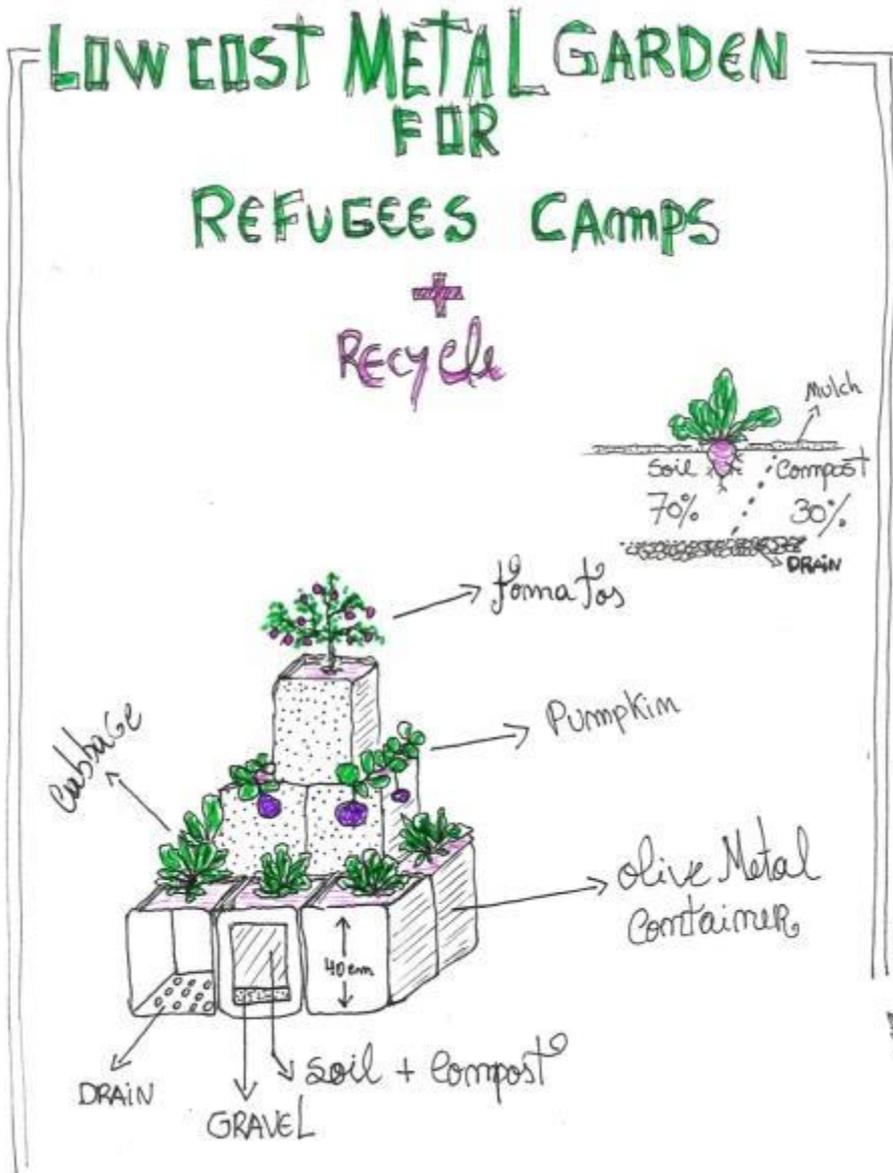
> **Beneficiaries:** 1 per tent (total 120)



# BASE MAP

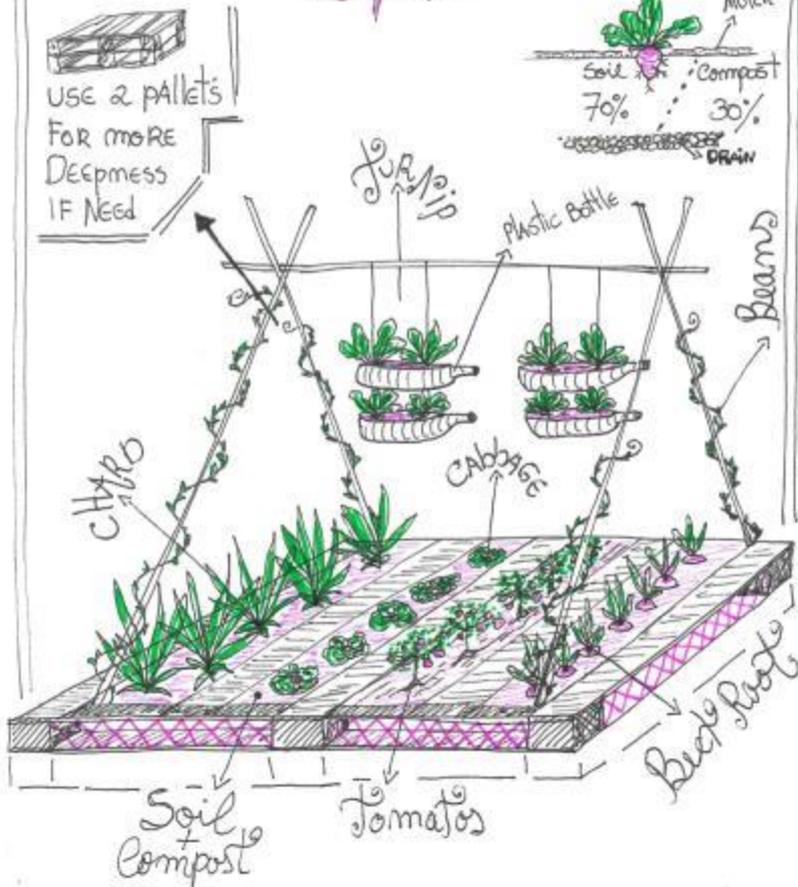


# Micro-garden prototypes



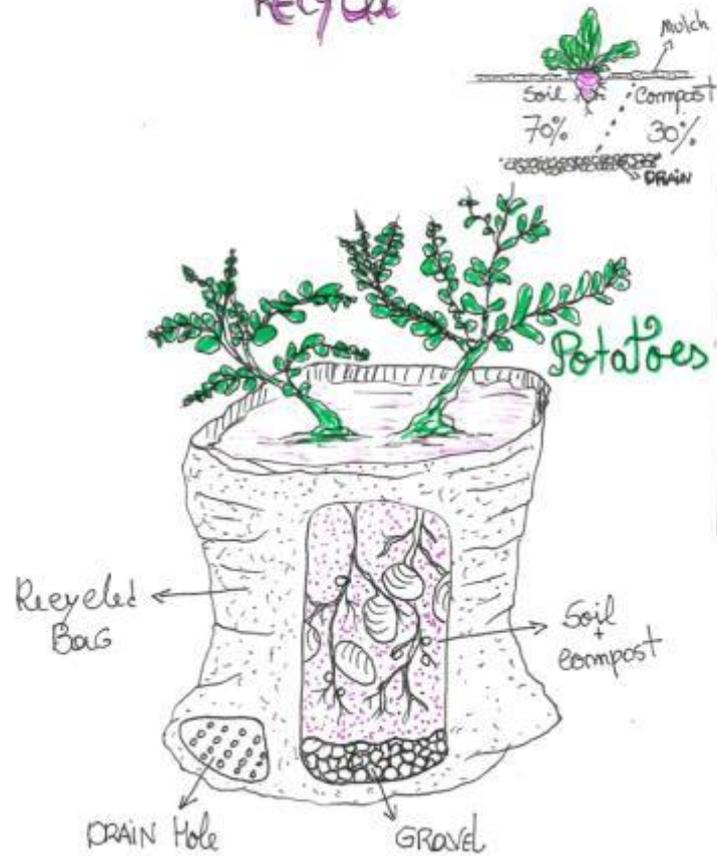
# LOW COST PALLET GARDEN FOR REFUGEES CAMPS

+  
Recycle

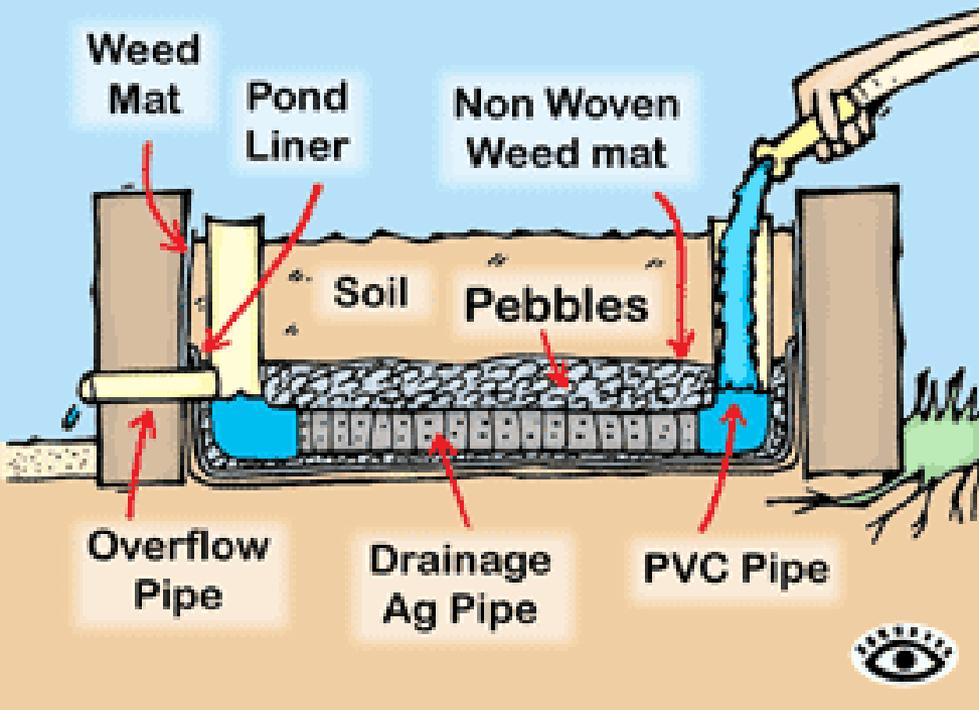


# LOW COST BAGS GARDEN FOR REFUGEES CAMPS

+  
Recycle







## Wicking Bed



# CROPS

*(water, open pollinated, vertical, multiple functions, 12/tent)*

## High Nutrition

Chard ,okra, purslane  
,spinach, roquette, chicory,  
pepper, parsley, coriander,  
squash (karaa), sunflowers,  
beans, strawberry

## Middle Nutrition / Requested by Refugees

Onions, radish, chilli, eggplants,  
armenian cucumber (me'te),  
tomato, lettuce , potato, corn

## Support species

Marigold, lavender, oregano/  
thyme, rosemary, basil, mint,  
tansy, nasturtium

# Coordination

Shawish → Municipalities → Landlord (*shawish*)

# Educational Material

## ILLUSTRATED MANUAL

- Gardening in small spaces
- Soil
- Water management
- Integrated Pest Management
- Harvesting / seed preservation



## M & E

- Baseline survey (nutrition)
- Change in diet
- Skills gained
- Health and production of crops

## Urban & Rural Gardening

**Improving access to nutritious and diverse  
fresh foods for vulnerable populations in  
Beirut and Mount Lebanon**

**&**

**Enhancing Food Security and Agricultural  
Livelihoods In Crisis Affected Areas of Akkar**

10 June, 2016



# Project Summary

**Project Title: Improving access to nutritious and diverse fresh foods for vulnerable populations in Beirut and Mount Lebanon**

**Duration: 12 months**

**Locations: Lower Metn & Dahiyeh**

**Direct Beneficiaries: 2,200 (1,118 men/1,082 women)**

**Indirect Beneficiaries: Approximately 225,000 beneficiaries in Lower Metn and 225,000 beneficiaries, in Dahiyeh**



# Beneficiary Selection

## Phase 1: Prioritization of neighbourhoods

- Demographics (presence of displaced population)
- Economics (Income/poverty)
- Access to basic services
- Social cohesion

## Phase 2: Identification of HHs

- Consultation with local stakeholders
- Referrals
- Female HHs/Negative coping strategies/Food security tools
- Drop-off cases from WFP food assistance with high vulnerability
- Availability of space within HH



# Activities

- 
1. 200 innovative HH-level vertical gardens
  2. Distribution of agricultural kits
  3. Workshops on agriculture & nutrition
  4. 8 community gardens
  5. 3 committee management mechanisms
  6. Food Safety study

# Project Summary

**Project Title: Enhancing Food Security and Agricultural Livelihoods in Crisis-Affected Areas of Akkar**

**Locations:** Akkar – Wadi Khaled (9 Villages) and Mesh Mesh

• **Project Partners:**

- Balamand University
- Akkar Network for Development

**Direct Beneficiaries:** 3,328

**Indirect Beneficiaries:** 15,000

- **HH level production systems:** 350 HHs (2520)

- **Training Hubs:** At least 100 farmers



# Beneficiary Selection

1. HH Survey covering: food security, skills, physical space at HH level etc. Participants to be selected through mapping of pre-identified plots, vulnerability, food security etc. more than 350 HHs
2. Value Chain analysis:
  - Mapping of existing agricultural species
  - Identification of the three most suitable products
  - Examination of the market trends in Lebanon with focus on Akkar
  - Supply and demand for the identified products
  - Production processes and economic value of the identified species



# Relevant Activities

1. Set-up Training Hubs/Nursery
2. Home-based gardening champions
3. Designs for home based production ex. Vertical garden stacks, rainwater harvesting, biogas systems, composting etc.
4. Agricultural inputs to HHs
5. Mentoring
6. Nutrition awareness sessions

