

Life-giving Faith | Defiant Hope | Generous Love

## Spring 2021 Update

## Israel and the occupied Palestinian Territory

## Supporting Communities in the West Bank

In the Jordan Valley, the Covid-19 pandemic has been intensified by movement restrictions, loss of household income, and increased violence towards Palestinians. This has highlighted the importance of community resilience and being able to rely on community resources, rather than on outside input.

The Agricultural Development Association (PARC) and Christian Aid are working with two communities to rehabilitate a groundwater well. This will give 3,200 residents access to a reliable water source that will be used in homes and on agricultural lands, doubling the existing capacity to cultivate land helping feed the two villages. Groundwater wells such as these ensure better drinking water. and also more water for maintaining hygiene and preventing the spread of Covid-19.

PARC has also been raising awareness in the community of Covid-19 and measures that can be taken to minimize its spread. **Community Protection Committees** will be established in both villages which will create a participatory space for residents to plan community-led initiatives to reduce the shocks that they face. These committees will also act as a mechanism of reporting the human rights violations the communities experience, stemming from the Israeli military and residents of the neighbouring settlement.



Local Community Protection Committee members spraying and sterilising their neighbourhood during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Olive trees have huge economic and cultural significance for Palestinians, but this harvest season has seen harassment by occupying forces and Israeli settler populations. Due to EAPPI being unable to send Ecumenical

The pandemic has been intensified by increased violence

Accompaniers, they have launched a campaign to highlight the constraints and injustices endured by Palestinians around the important olive harvest season.

Thank you for your support through Commitment for Life which is helping Palestinian communities to remain resilient.

## Act now for climate justice

While the world has focused on the Coronavirus pandemic, the climate crisis has not gone away.

The climate crisis has already arrived in the lives of millions of people around the world, hurting those who have done the least to cause it. Time is running out to limit the worst impacts of climate breakdown for millions more.

This year the UK government will host both the G7 and the crucial UN climate talks, COP26.

We must use these opportunities to make our voices heard. Sign our petition and join our prayer chain to act now for climate iustice.

Find out more: caid.org.uk/climate

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