Integrated & sustainable farming

In these three months of work, we have carried out two technical missions to Sahrawi refugee camps, one in February/March and the other at the turn of April and early May. In addition, the WFP informed us that they could extend the intervention by two months, bringing it to a conclusion in October 2024!

7th newsletter of Africa '70

In this newsletter we'll talk about

- Training
- MilkDistribution
- forage shortage
- Goats and sheep distribution





Training

Our expert consultants in gynaecology/ecography and animal nutrition, accompanied by the technical project manager, completed the training of local staff. Contacts and technical assistance will continue until the project's conclusion thanks to the internet connection.

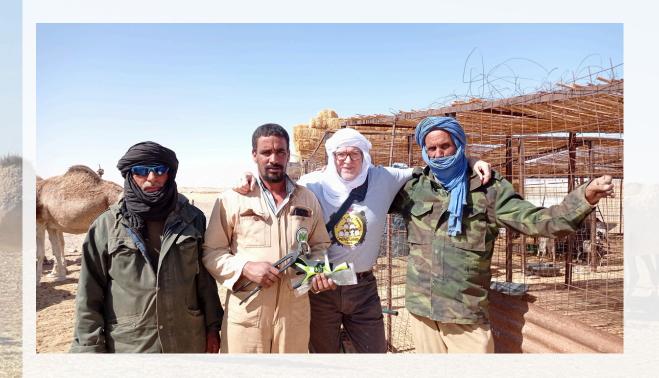
The trainings focused on: foot care, proper livestock management with individually adjusted feeding based on the productive status of the animals, management of sarcoptic mange and gastrointestinal parasitosis of young animals (pen hygiene and animal treatment).



Email: africa70@africa70.org
PEC: africa70@pec.it

Training

The time is approaching for us to evaluate the production yields of individual animals, which consists in deciding, on the basis of the milk produced, the number of diseases, the reproductive yield, and age, which animals to keep and which to give up.



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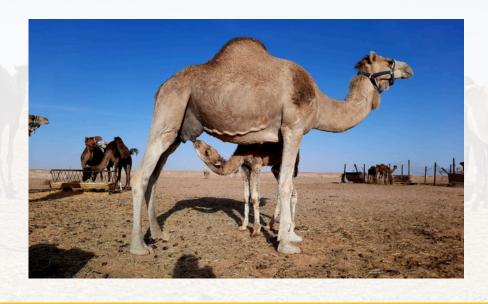


Email: africa70@africa70.org
PEC: africa70@pec.it

Milk Distribution

The camels have almost all given birth again and, after an initial phase of about a month during which they are left with their offspring, milking begins and, with it, the daily assessment of the milk produced.

On 23 March, the distribution of milk to 200 elderly women residents of the Wilaya of Aaiun began. The milk is collected, bottled and delivered every two days in glass bottles under the returnable-empty system.



Movimento Africa '70 Via Correggio 59, 20900 Monza.



Email: africa70@africa70.org
PEC: africa70@pec.it

Milk Distribution

Temperatures in Tindouf are starting to rise above 40 degrees for many hours a day, and therefore from the first of June milk distribution will again be suspended as we cannot guarantee an adequate cold chain. The milk produced will be sold and the proceeds of the sale earmarked for project management (payment of workers and feeding/care of animals) after the project is completed.



Movimento Africa '70 Via Correggio 59, 20900 Monza.



Email: africa70@africa70.org
PEC: africa70@pec.it

Forage Shortage

The start of milk production coincided with a severe shortage of good quality fodder throughout southern Algeria. Although our animals are partly fed with local fodder, the productions only cover a fraction of the needs of the animals, whose feed requirements increase during lactation.

With great difficulty we have procured fodder, but of poor quality. This is certainly the cause of a reduction in animal production compared to last year when we were able to produce and distribute 33% more milk than now.





Email: africa70@africa70.org
PEC: africa70@pec.it

Goats and Sheep Distribution

In March, we also distributed pregnant sheep and goats to families in need. Each delivery of animals is preceded by an inspection to check that the family has a suitable place to keep the animal and by training to explain how to manage the gradual change of feed.



Our animals, in fact, eat fodder and feed, while Sahrawi families usually feed their animals with scraps from the household diet. The time of readjustment to the new diet is very delicate and requires small steps to avoid excessive stress for the animals.

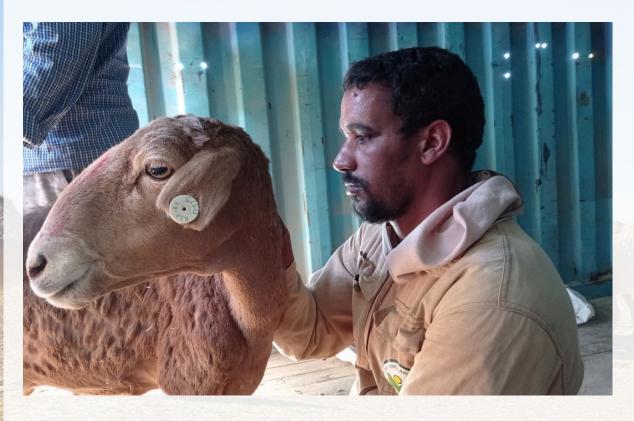
Movimento Africa '70 Via Correggio 59, 20900 Monza.



Email: africa70@africa70.org
PEC: africa70@pec.it
Codice Fisc.: 80150050153

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Movimento Africa '70 Via Correggio 59, 20900 Monza.



Email: africa70eafrica70.org PEC: africa70@pec.it Codice Fisc.: 80150050153