

ADVANCED RURAL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE (ARDI)

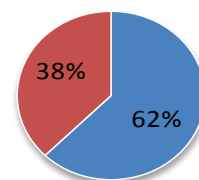
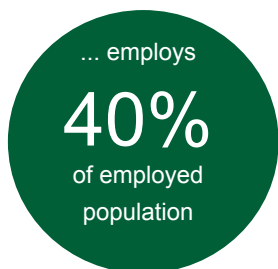
INCREASING RURAL EMPLOYMENT

The goal of ARDI program is to increase rural employment by tackling constraints to economic development of target communities in the Syunik, Vayots Dzor and Lori regions of Armenia.

Agricultural sector in Armenia...

Agricultural output

■ crops ■ livestock



ARDI operates in:

- 3 Regions
- 12 Clusters
- 51 Communities
- 12 Cooperatives



Support in Three Value Chains: Dairy, Fruit and Rural Tourism

Dairy Value Chain

Program support includes assessments, building animal watering places, milk collection and processing units, and creating linkages for suppliers and producers.

7 Milk Collection Centers were completed, each with 510 MT annual capacity.

53 Animal Watering Places were built in 16 communities, covering 16,315ha additional pastures.

1 Cheese Production was supported.

Fruit Value Chain

Program support includes assessments, renovating and building irrigation projects, building fruit cold storages and creating linkages for suppliers and producers.

4 Fruit Cold Storages were completed total of 904,7m³ space.

14 Irrigation Projects were completed covering total 773ha additional area.

1 Dried Fruit Production, **1** Framer Service Center and **1** Laboratory were established.

Rural Tourism Value Chain

Program support includes assessments, renovating and building Bed and Breakfast projects, providing ongoing technical assistance, training and forward linkages.

10 B&Bs are established in four communities of different regions with total of 49 beds capacity.

1 Tasting hall and **1** Camping were supported.

The Program Includes Seed Grants for Women and Youth



538

Youth and women participated in entrepreneurship training and technical capacity consultations.

64

Seed Grants were distributed to women and youth.

Types of grants include:

- Greenhouses,
- Cheese making,
- Animal husbandry,
- Beekeeping,
- Rabbit breeding,
- Tasting hall and more.