

MED TEST III Palestine

Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technologies

Food and beverage sector

Al'Ard Palestinian Agri-Products Ltd.

Company overview

Number of employees:
35 Full-time employees

Key products:
Olive oil, Zaatar

Main markets:
Japan, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates
(60 – 80% Export)

Standards & certifications before MED TEST III:
Fairtrade Certificate and Organic production methods (Organic EU)

Al'Ard Palestinian Agri-Products Ltd. is an innovative and dynamic company located in Beit Eiba industrial zone in Nablus. The company offers a wide range of high-quality agricultural products from Palestine. The MED TEST III project was implemented in the Al'Ard production facility in Nablus that focuses on filling and packaging high-quality olive oil and processing traditional dry products, including zaatar.

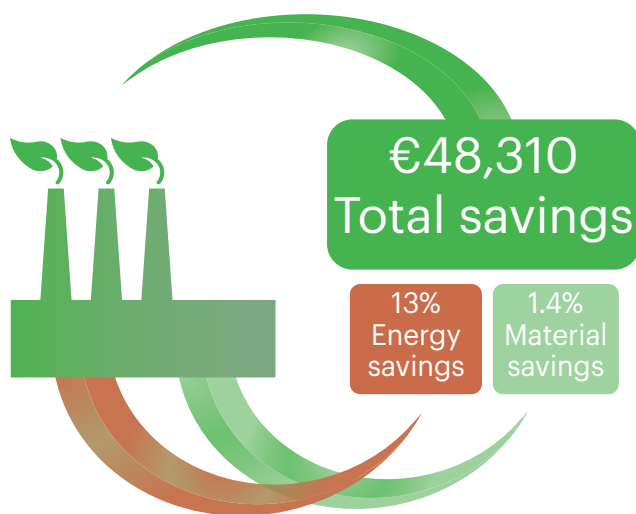
Established in 2008, Al'Ard believes in social investment principles, and the company is a member of the International Fairtrade Association. Al'Ard focuses on empowering, supporting, and encouraging Palestinian farmers in under-invested, developing communities to utilize the Palestinian agricultural potential. The company provides them with tools, training and knowledge to produce high-quality premium products that can compete in international markets.

Benefits

The MED TEST III project identified in Al'Ard resource efficiency measures with the potential to save 48,310 Euro* (178,266 NIS) in production costs annually. The measures would require an investment of 4,493 Euro* (16,578 NIS) with an average pay-back period of 0,1 years.

The identified measures have the potential to annually save 13% of energy consumption and save 1.4% of raw material consumption. In addition to the cost savings, the analysis of non-product output and its costs within the Material Flow Cost Accounting, which provides an information backbone of the TEST approach, resulted in new pricing of products within the olive oil production and the introduction of a new management system in warehouses. The elements of management systems built within TEST can be utilized by the company also for the introduction of a food safety management system.

Identified annual savings



Quality is one of the strongest features of our products; in addition, we are committed to supporting green and environmentally-friendly practices, and we expect the project's outcome to be a significant positive impact on improving and optimizing the resources and performance of the company, as well as shed light on some unknown gaps.

Ziad Anabtawi
Chairman of Anabtawi Group and Al'Ard General Manager

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As part of the EU-funded SwitchMed programme, UNIDO demonstrates in the MED TEST III project pathways for industries in the Southern Mediterranean to become more resource efficient and to generate savings for improved competitiveness and environmental performance.

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Saving opportunities**

Actions	Economic key figures			Resource savings & Environmental impacts		
	Investment Euro*	Savings Euro* per year	Payback period years	Water & Materials per year	Energy MWh per year	Environmental impact per year
Reduction of olive oil losses	0	29,512	0	4,7 tons	-	18 tons of CO ₂
Good warehouse practices to encounter packaging losses	0	15,948	0	2 tons	-	4,7 tons of organic water pollution
Energy conservation measures	4,493	2,850	1.6	-	20	
TOTAL	4,493	48,310	0.1	6,7 tons	20	2 tons of waste

*Exchange rate as 1 Euro = 3.69 NIS (New Israeli Shekel)

** Numbers based on production value from 2021

Reduction of olive oil losses

After careful analysis and data collection, it was discovered that there is a loss of olive oil during the manual filling process. To reduce this loss, it is important to train operators and closely monitor the flow of this valuable product. Monitoring provides operators with feedback and accountability for their performance in terms of resource efficiency.

Good warehouse practices to encounter packaging losses

Analysis of material flows quantified important losses of labels and packaging materials like glasses or cartons in the warehouses where space is limited. The excessive losses in packaging material were eliminated already during the project implementation through a complete reorganization of the warehouses and the introduction of good warehouse practices.

Energy conservation measures

The company operates three air compressors with varying loads and leakages within the distribution system. The energy conservation measures consist of repairing and preventing the existing leaks by introducing Standard Operation Procedures, which will include regular monitoring and maintenance. Another set of measures involves installing variable speed drives (VSD) for all three air compressors. VSDs will also be installed for oil pumps providing additional energy savings. The factory facilities are lighted by low-energy performing fluorescent lamps, and saving opportunities can be obtained by replacing these old lamps with more efficient LED lamps.

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Based on the report's results, some important issues that constitute pivotal points have been highlighted. For example, some areas or resources where savings are possible and certain places with losses we were unaware of have been highlighted. Despite the losses and gaps indicated in the report, controlling and eliminating them is simple and inexpensive for the company. Based on the report's recommendations, it was discovered that acquiring international certificates such as ISO 22000 or FSSC can be achieved if we apply the needed requirements

Ziad Anabtawi

Chairman of Anabtawi Group and Al'Ard General Manager

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