Executive Summary

Zahrat Al-Sahl Cooperative

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Since 2017, the 38 women of the Zahrat Al-Sahl Cooperative in Jenin have made maftoul and dried herbs that sell well in local markets. They cannot reach larger buyers. Supermarkets and export buyers require food-safety certification (HACCP), and the cooperative's kitchen does not meet the standard. As a result, members earn an average of 140 USD a month from the cooperative (our records, 2025), even though two supermarket chains have told us they would stock certified products.

Over twelve months, this project will upgrade the cooperative's kitchen with stainless steel work surfaces, cold storage and a drying room, train all 38 members in food safety and bookkeeping, and take the cooperative through HACCP certification. With certification in hand, we will sign supply contracts with the two supermarket chains.

We expect the cooperative to be certified by month 10, to hold two supply contracts, and to raise average member income from 140 to 220 USD a month by the end of the year. Six more women from surrounding villages will be able to join.

We request $64,000 towards a total budget of $78,000. The cooperative will contribute the remaining $14,000 in members' labour and the use of its premises.