

Rescuing the drowning Turqwah out of the swamp!

“After the 16-year rescue calls, the long-awaited life boat steered by the SFD relieved the Turqwah village (Al-Jarrahi, Al-Hudaidah) of the repeated drowning calamities,” describes Omar A. Faqir, Beneficiary Committee Head and of Local Council Member of the village. “The drowning village”, as dubbed by other vicinities, became a broad dark swamp blanketing the Turkwah’s streets and houses forcing some of its population to desert their homes and live with their relatives in higher places until they manually drain the rainwater out of their houses. After they returned to their houses, their 4,000-person population had been embargoed to go out except for emergency due to the stagnant swamp. Despite the water-draining canal adjacent to Zabid valley, the village center (150 meters away of the canal) was only 70 centimeters higher than the canal’s surface. Faqir says that during those years, two development institutions complied with our call, but they drew due to poor feasible solution to that low-surface area. “SFD started solving the problem only 8 months after the community had submitted their application to SFD’s Al-Hudaidah branch office,” continues Faqir. He added, “Then, the branch studied the problem well and decided to “bury” the area surface for some centimeters, pave the open-center area with stones inclining toward the center, establish a dual underground draining tank under the center point in order to drain down all rainwater. The first tank receives the waters mixed with mud and stone that settle down in its bottom, and when the tank is filled-up, the mud-free waters at the top drain to the adjacent tank and then to a 150-long wide pipe that moves the waters to the draining canal course. Water in the village disappears completely only 10 minutes after the rains stop. In addition, the SFD has built a dual stony line defining the waters course within the village alleys, where the villagers have successfully promised not to exceed when building their walls or houses in order to ensure smooth passage of the waters down from all parts of Turqwah. Such a solution was amazingly simple but inaccessible by others.”

One of the victims of the problem decided to desert his house and build a muddy two-room house for his 10-member family in a higher place as he could not bear seeing his children, especially the young ones, affected by Malaria or cold diseases in each rain season . Ali Ahmed Ahjaf indicates that the stagnant waters' level used to rise up to 80 cm inside his house and he, along with his family, had kept draining the waters out of their house for days, and then they became incapable to go out to the market, work or school for 10 days.

Chief of Turqwah, Salem A. Ahjaf, indicates that the team of Ministry of Health visited the village to spray anti-mosquito pesticides after the project was finished. He affirmed that 80% of the village’s 370 houses directly benefited from the project.

Faqir reiterates that villagers got various benefits in terms of health, environment, education and economy. “Because Turqwa is void of any development amenity,” he comments “and due to our strong confidence in the SFD, we applied for a mechanized drinking water project which was shortly approved to be scheduled in the 2010 action plan. This has encouraged all of us to participate to dig the water well and we successfully tested its feasibility and appropriateness as a sign of our seriousness to make the SFD upcoming project a success.”



Financing the second phase of paving the historical city of Zabid

An agreement was signed on the financing of the second phase of paving the historical city of Zabid funded by the Social Fund at a cost of \$1.7 million. The agreement finances the pavement of 25,000 m² of the city's area following the completion of the first phase, the cost of which reached \$650,000.

It is noteworthy that the SFD adopts the implementation and financing of several projects aiming to rehabilitate and maintain Zabid City and preserve the components of the historic city's cultural heritage at a total cost of \$11.18 million dollars.

The agreement was signed by the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs, Minister of Planning and International Cooperation, and SFD Managing Director, Abdulkarim Ismail Al-Arhabi, Minister of Culture, Dr. Mohammed Abu Bakr Al-Maflehi, and the Governor of Al-Hudaidah, Ahmed Salim Al-Gabali. The three officials reiterated the government's resolve to continue efforts to preserve the humanitarian, cultural and civilization heritage of the historical city of Zabid, and qualify the city to continue to be included in the of World Heritage list.

They stressed the need to exert all efforts to preserve the historical and cultural heritage of the city—thus implementing the directives of His Excellency Ali Abdullah Saleh, President of the Republic, in this regard.



YMN Holds Official Launch *(Continued from p. 1)*

Mr. Al-Arhabi delivered a speech, in which he noted that the official launch of the network is a continuation of efforts made by the Government (represented by SFD) in implementing the National Microfinance Strategy, adding that the Government seeks to promote and develop the sector in light of its role in the economic and social development of our country. He indicated the obstacles facing the expansion of financial services, including the great dispersion of Yemen population (with more than 130,000 population settlements and more than 3,600 urban settlements).

Ms. Pratibha Mehta, UNDP RR, expressed hope that the network establishment will contribute to the creation of employment opportunities for the poor, and to the overall economic growth of the country.

A speech was also given by Mr. Osama Al-Shami on behalf of SFD, in which he pointed out that credit culture was non-existent in Yemen 13 years ago, and that SFD since its inception has worked on laying the foundation of MF industry in the country. He indicated that it is remarkable for Yemen to have 12 existing MFIs, an MF banking law and the YMN.

YMN is an NGO, with Board of Directors consisting of representatives from MF institutions and banks. The network works in building the capacities of those working in MFIs, training, facilitating information exchange and increasing transparency—as a way to increase the number of poor and limited-income beneficiaries.

Faj Attan, P.O. Box 15485
Sana’a, Republic of Yemen
Tel: (967-1) 449 669/8, Fax: (967-1) 449 670
E-mail: sfd@sfd-yemen.org, Website: www.sfd-yemen.org

Social Fund for Development

Editorial

An evaluation study conducted by the Economic Intelligence Unit of the Economist Group, publisher of the Economist, revealed that Yemen has ranked the first in the Arab countries and the 27th globally (out of 55 countries covered by the study) in the overall microfinance (MF) business environment for the year 2010.

Such a high rank assumed by Yemen in providing appropriate environment for microfinance, comes as a practical translation and clear reflection of the intensive efforts made by the SFD in order to develop microfinance industry as one of the largest economic sectors in Yemen. Indeed, the SFD is the first institution that has ever been engaged in the sector growth and progress, and has had the lead in the formation of the National Microfinance Steering Committee for this vital sector as well as in the development and implementation of the National Microfinance Strategy—with partners' contribution.

This involvement has much contributed to the creation of the appropriate legislative, investment and institutional environment for the expansion and prosperity of the industry—consequently contributing to reducing poverty, creating employment opportunities for the poor and improving the living conditions of small and micro-entrepreneurs.

Additionally, as a national institution deeply involved in developing the microfinance industry, the SFD has established and supported 14 programs & institutions supporting and financing small and micro-enterprises in most governorates of Yemen.

Moreover, the SFD was the lead in the establishment of the first MF bank in MENA, Al-Amal Microfinance Bank in 2009, and financed 45% of the bank's capital in addition to SFD's role as a main partner in establishing the Yemen Microfinance Network in 2010 to be a national provider for MF information and capacity building.

Launch of CSOs Electronic Directory

HE the Minister of Social Affairs and Labor, Dr. Amat Al-Razzaq Hummad, inaugurated the Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) Electronic Directory Project, funded by the SFD and implemented by the Youth Leadership Development Foundation in cooperation with the ministry. Objectives of the directory are to provide constantly updated data on organizations—benefiting partners, donors and the government—and eventually motivate cooperation and coordination initiatives among partners as well as promote transparency principle in the NGOs sector. The Minister asserted that this project is an essential step towards the institutionalization of the sector, an additional database and a new communication mechanism among development partners in the country.

YMN Holds Official Launch



Mr. Abdulkarim Al-Arhabi, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Planning and International Cooperation and SFD Managing Director, officially launched on 1 August 2010 the Yemen Microfinance Network (YMN).

The network is co-funded in partnership between SFD and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Representatives from all microfinance institutions as well as local, regional and international organizations working in the field participated in the event. Attendees included also Ms. Pratibha Mehta, UNDP Resident Representative, Ms. Rania Abdul-Baki, Regional Director of the Microfinance Network of Arab Counties (Sanabel). *(Continued on p. 12)*

SFD and the Arab Fund sign a \$100-mln agreement

The Republic of Yemen and the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development initially signed on 14 July 2010 a financing agreement to support SFD Phase IV (2011–15). Under the agreement, the Arab Fund provides KD30 million (about \$100 million) to finance the operations of SFD's new phase.

The agreement was signed by Mr. Abdulkarim Al-Arhabi, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Planning and International Cooperation / SFD Managing Director, and Al-Fateh Al-Shatheli, the Arab Fund's Legal Advisor.

Following the agreement signing, Al-Arhabi valued the Arab Fund's continuous support to enhance development in Yemen, affirming that the Fund is one of Yemen's major partners in development. Al-Shatheli asserted the Fund's readiness to provide all kinds of aid to Yemen's development, commend the level of cooperation between Yemen and the Arab Fund.

Emergency SSN Enhancement Project workshop

An inaugural Emergency Social Safety Net (SSN) Enhancement Project workshop was held on 26 July 2010 in Sana'a. The project is financed by €17.5 million provided by the European Union (EU) and administered by the World Bank (WB). The project, implemented by SFD's Labor Intensive Works Program to respond to food-price hikes, is designed to contribute to protecting the neediest families affected by drought and climate change, supporting the productive assets of affected families and building the capacity of beneficiary communities to cope with future shocks. The project seeks to achieve several goals, including improving women's participation, increasing local communities' protected productive assets and increasing access of the targeted communities to temporary employment estimated to reach 800,000 days of work in addition to providing one-year direct cash assistance to 41,000 of the neediest families.

The EU Mission Head in Sana'a, Ambassador Michele Cervone d'Urso, re-affirmed—during the workshop opening—EU's support for the efforts of the Yemeni government to combat poverty, noting that €10.1 million of the total grant's amount will be allocated to support relevant SFD's activities.

For his part, the WB Director in Sana'a, Mr. Benson Ateng, indicated that the WB would undertake the task of managing the emergency project to strengthen Yemen's SSN.

SFD's plan includes the financing of 100 diverse labor-intensive projects, benefiting more than 12,000 families.



UNIT NEWS

Education

During the third quarter, 30 projects were approved, at an estimated cost of approximately \$6.6 million, benefiting directly 13,616 students. Thus, the cumulative number of projects mount to 4,250 worth about \$542.5 million.

Expanding basic and secondary education infrastructure

This program contributes to the establishment of new school buildings, rehabilitation of some educational establishments, improvement of the educational environment and adding classrooms and service facilities as well as furnishing and equipping school buildings so that they can fulfill their role and attain stability of the educational process. The program occupies the top rank in terms of the sector's number of projects and investment, with 22 projects developed at an estimated cost of approximately \$6.2 million, benefiting about 12,932 people directly. Thus, the number of the program's projects cumulatively (since SFD inception in 1997 and until the end of September 2010) reached the 3,849 projects at an estimated cost of about \$493.5 million, benefiting directly some two million people.

Rural Girls Education Program

This program benefits 7 sub-districts in five governorates, where girls' enrollment rates are low. These sub-districts are Bani Outaifah (Al-Souda District/ Amran governorate), Weld Ayyash (Haidan/ Sa'adah), Al-Ramia Al-Ulia (Al-Sukhna / Al-Hudaidah), Al-Mihrabi (Al-Azareq/ Al-Dhale'), and Al-Maja'asha, Okhdo' Al-A'ala and Brasha (Maqbanah/ Taiz). The SFD works – in partnership with the Ministry of Education – to increase the rates of enrollment of girls in the targeted areas by 20%, seeking to promote community participation in supporting the education of girls and advocate for their right to education. The components of the program are infrastructure, community structures, capacity building, awareness-raising and community mobilization.

As of the end of the quarter, 19 projects have been completed.

The quarter witnessed the printing of 500 copies of the school activities book in schools targeted by the program.

Non-formal education (Community Education and Adult Literacy)

The SFD works in close association with the Illiteracy Eradication and Adult Education "IEAE" organization (an independent government body) in order to reduce illiteracy rate among Yemenis aged 10 and above.

During the quarter, a field study was conducted to determine the requirements to support women's training centers affiliated to the IEAE in the Capital City and the governorates of Sana'a,

Al-Hudaidah and Taiz. In addition, a field study was carried out to assess the impact of training male and female adult-literacy teachers in 22 districts in Al-Hudaidah governorate.



Training for adult literacy teachers (Al-Zaidiyah, Al-Hudaidah)

Also, a training course was implemented during the period 24–29 July 2010 on Strategic Planning and Preparation of Operational Plans for the IEAE adult-literacy general directors at the central level and in 22 governorates, with the attendance of 30 participants of both sexes from all governorates of the Republic.

Moreover, within efforts to qualify female non-formal education facilitators, training was provided (second stage) on July 1–August 2, 2010 to 115 female facilitators in 7 (out of a total of 11 targeted) governorates: Dhamar, Al-Baidha, Shabwah, Ibb, Lahej, Raimah and Taiz. Training, which included theoretical and practical aspects, focused on the use of the rural-women life skills manual.

Education Quality

This program focuses on quality education (including during the pre-school stage and in kindergartens), gifted and talented students' programs and innovative methods for the introduction of new technologies in education as well as supporting instructors' professional development.

During the quarter, Douroub network managers (webmasters) were trained on how to create pages on the Internet to enable teachers and students to work on projects, create pages for schools for archiving activities. In addition, technology coordinators were trained on the manual relating to work coordination on the network, computer lab management and coordinating logistics.

The third quarter also witnessed the accession of four schools to the regional study seminars; thus, representing Yemen with four seats.

Third phase indicators - Education Sector*

Indicators	Target 2004-2010	Actual							
		2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Total
Classrooms built & equipped	10,080	1,940	2,541	1,867	1,238	2,597	2,311	1,214	13,708
Classrooms rehabilitated	1,500	295	352	263	145	299	213	111	1,678
Completed classrooms (according to the project completion year)	15,124	0	636	2,641	2,402	1,786	1,626	1,683	10,774
Children enrolled	403,200	116,764	195,212	110,498	7,0293	148,901	136,544	66,238	844,450
Preschool teachers trained	800		542						542
Kindergartens established	38	4	11	9	2	4	4	6	40
Workshops in education, planning, programming and evaluation	36	8	12	16	48	29	40	23	176

* Includes only under-implementation and completed projects as of 30/9/2010

Cumulative number of projects, commitment, contractual amounts, beneficiaries and temporary employment as of 30/9/2010

Sector	No. of projects	Commitments (USD)	Contracted amount(USD)	direct beneficiaries*		Indirect beneficiaries*		Temporary Job Opportunities
				Male	Female	Male	Female	
Environment	242	42,154,816	25,734,518	1,339,108	1,303,017	205,734	205,983	1,295,392
Integrated Interventions	182	11,592,099	10,206,556	130,767	89,501	42,545	44,843	378,001
Training	719	15,812,083	11,673,513	70,274	44,080	412,973	449,615	251,852
Education	4,250	542,490,752	424,800,208	1,333,602	1,086,289	1,797,153	1,532,394	19,439,708
Organizational Support	525	24,831,874	20,283,810	340,270	300,344	318,669	282,399	652,126
Agriculture	214	15,132,505	5,085,484	126,352	124,897	293,630	275,941	348,784
Health	952	80,258,509	59,810,056	2,527,894	4,180,182	1,924,441	2,632,992	1,956,764
Rural Roads	673	132,822,085	105,051,291	1,920,606	1,890,906	864,275	844,700	7,266,028
Special Needs Groups	562	30,573,482	24,290,664	107,880	69,339	68,449	52,389	772,095
Micro Enterprises Dev.	146	17,966,918	14,226,785	38,771	153,542	267,968	520,947	43,680
Small Enterprise	31	7,852,031	5,806,336	16,534	21,671	48,729	42,286	17,716
Cultural Heritage	246	48,327,250	37,852,980	185,143	161,030	60,261	68,741	2,028,948
Water	1,608	180,525,593	98,228,652	1,470,835	1,476,953	115,382	96,255	5,306,861
Business Development	45	4,089,603	3,915,915	30,280	16,600	61,896	38,288	1,979
Food Price Crisis Response	235	25,759,905	22,662,133	621,657	628,699	82,913	62,437	2,298,514
Total	10,630	1,180,189,505	869,628,901	10,259,973	11,547,050	6,565,018	7,150,210	42,058,448

*The same beneficiaries might repeatedly benefit from more than one sector

SFD cumulative commitments and contracted amounts as of 30/09/2010, by governorate

Governorates	No. of projects	Commitments (\$)	Contracted amounts (\$)
Ibb	1,021	115,228,140	85,590,673
Abyan	205	26,018,140	20,488,313
Sana'a	594	79,803,092	65,562,924
Al-Baidha	248	27,831,810	21,289,983
Al-Jawf	143	14,945,231	9,770,343
Al-Hudaidah	900	118,156,099	85,856,567
Al-Dhale'	206	30,515,593	20,089,390
Al-Mahweet	298	35,245,711	26,615,630
Al-Maharah	80	4,949,664	3,817,657
Several Governorate	1,060	60,714,784	47,940,632
Taiz	1,277	152,155,848	111,199,839
Hajjah	737	89,445,026	59,788,166
Hadhramaut	563	59,715,106	39,914,430
Dhamar	683	67,824,106	55,791,012
Raimah	253	35,885,732	22,447,067
Shabwah	245	22,127,254	18,308,153
Sa'adah	230	29,367,237	23,191,450
Sana'a	420	41,248,066	30,446,366
Aden	253	36,427,689	24,694,308
Amran	652	70,001,622	53,390,164
Lahj	459	53,629,874	36,085,355
Mareb	103	8,953,682	7,350,481
Total	10,630	1,180,189,505	869,628,901

Completed projects as of 30/09/2010, by sector

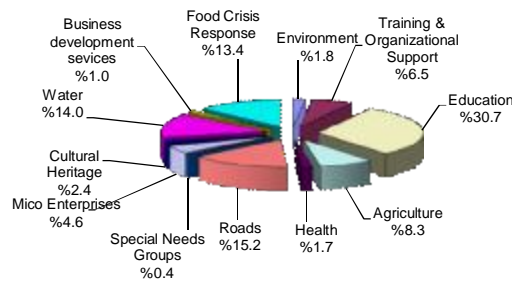
Sector	No. of projects	Investment (\$)
Environment	179	15,802,708
Integrated Intervention	106	7,434,570
Training	596	9,177,972
Education	3,423	342,850,339
Organizational Support	443	13,549,723
Agriculture	60	1,723,160
Health	719	44,405,094
Rural Roads	443	74,221,307
Special Needs Groups	415	19,751,796
Micro Enterprises Dev.	122	11,035,076
Small Enterprises Dev.	29	5,768,901
Cultural Heritage	162	24,962,079
Water	1,067	68,816,359
Business development	12	1,031,789
Food Price Crisis Response	93	8,468,730
Total	7,869	648,999,603

Microfinance Programs Supported by SFD as of 30-09-2010

Program	Active number of clients			Outstanding loan portfolio (Thousand YR)	PAR (%)	Cumulative numbers		Area of Operation
	Borrowers		Savers			Number of loans	Loan amounts (Million YR)	
	Total	Women (%)	Total					
1 National MF Foundation	12,220	96	16,907	359	2.35	72,582	2,680	Capital City, Taiz, Qa'edah and Yarim in Ibb and Dharmar, Al-Hudaidah
2 Alamal Microfinance Bank	10,848	61	14,301	362	0	16,764	831	Sana'a, Taiz, Ibb, Thamar
3 MF Development Program (Nama')	6,498	40	1,717	247	2.3	39,157	1,900	Capital City, Taiz, Aden
4 Abyan S & C	5,315	100	6,120	156	0	21,559	845	Abyan
5 Aden MF Foundation	5,129	98	8,079	106	0	29,910	1,038	Dar Sa'ad, Al-Buraikah, Al-Mu'alla, Al-Tawwahi, Crater, Khormaksar, Sheikh Othman – Aden, Lahej
6 Altadhamon Bank	4,687	54	0	583	4.25	12,049	2,134	Capital City
7 Al-Awa'el MF Company	3,721	96	0	95	0.78	40,188	814	Taiz
8 Sana'a MF – Azal	3,469	66	2,286	141	0.58	23,725	243	Capital City
9 Small Enterprise Development Fund (SEDF)	2,584	5	0	1571	4.0	8,999	8,768	Capital City
10 Social Institution for Sustainable Development (SIFSD)	2,562	90	0	113	0.23	2,512	200	Capital City
11 Wadi Hadhramaut	1,303	32	2,187	61	7.1	8,356	507	Seyun – Hadhramaut governorate
12 Alkuraimi Islamic Microfinance Bank	83	0	149	329	0	86	40	Capital City
13 Other Activities & IGPs	0		0	0	0	67,495	1,690	Several areas
Total	58,419		51,746	4,123		343,382	21,690	

NA= Not available/Not applicable, MC = Micro Credit, S&C = Saving and Credit, MF= Micro-finance, IGPs =Income generating projects

Commitments by sector, third quarter 2010



Commitments by governorate, third quarter 2010

Governorate	No. of projects	Commitments (\$)	Distribution (%)
Ibb	17	2,560,291	11.9
Abyan	4	314,715	1.5
Capital City	7	1,530,906	7.1
Al-Baidha	6	1,867,489	8.7
Al-Jawf	5	885,000	4.1
Al-Hudaidah	3	171,480	0.8
Al-Dhale'	5	46,150	0.2
Al-Mahweet	3	570,380	2.6
Several Govs.	16	2,090,857	9.7
Taiz	17	2,131,249	9.9
Hajjah	14	2,342,403	10.9
Hadhramaut	7	1,290,982	6.0
Dharmar	2	62,850	0.3
Raimah	1	22,636	0.1
Sa'adah	6	1,304,665	6.0
Sana'a	5	987,175	4.6
Aden	1	367,000	1.7
Amran	13	2,812,121	13.0
Lahj	1	6,379	0.03
Mareb	1	200,000	0.9
Total	134	21,564,728	100.0

Number of beneficiaries and job opportunities, Third quarter 2010, by sector

Sector	Beneficiaries		Temporary job opportunities
	Direct	Indirect	
Environment	85,930	33,774	12,441
Training	1,306	0	10,171
Education	13,616	20,338	201,622
Organizational Support	389	95	12,618
Agriculture	9,838	3,760	66,814
Health	1,227	0	8,082
Rural Roads	41,111	1,923	133,068
Special Needs Groups	530	0	1,340
Micro-enterprises projects	900	5,400	26
Cultural Heritage	3,508	0	19,685
Water	39,402	0	71,361
Business Development Services	64	90	5
Food crisis response program	1,005,572	8,061	267,062
Total	1,203,393	73,441	804,295

In addition, activities continued under the Educational Excellence (Talented and Excelled Students) Program, which aims to support the Ministry of Education (MoE) to develop an institutional system for the care of talented and ingenious students throughout the Republic. In this regard, the SFD had contributed to the program's proposal and institutional structure as well as clarifying the role and functions of the MoE and other partners during the various stages of the program implementation was completed.

In July 2010, the Program's technical team participated in the Seventh Scientific Conference for the Care of the Gifted and Excelled, where the experience of Yemen presented. In August, the first group of the talented students' teachers in the Capital City and Taiz governorate were trained on the basics and how to prepare enrichment materials for talented students (under the program), and review what has been submitted.

Cultural Heritage

During the quarter, 5 projects were approved at an estimated cost of more than \$0.5 million, bringing the cumulative number of projects (since SFD inception in 1997 until the end of September 2010) to 246 projects, with investments approaching \$48.3 million.

Restoration of Al-Ashrafiyah Mosque and Madrasah (Taiz)

In accordance with the approved plan of the fourth phase of the restoration project, the quarter witnessed continuation of restoration of the architectural and structural elements to address some parts of the foundation, walls and facades as well as the *Qadad* works inside and outside domes. Also, rehabilitation of the ground floor to be re-used to serve the local community as a traditional crafts exhibit in Taiz was initiated, according to the agreement with the community's members and other beneficiaries, which came as a conclusion of continuous meetings and consultation with them.

Moreover, work continued in the restoration of mural paintings and gypsum ornaments in the prayer hall and shrines. It should be noted that fine restoration works are carried out by a local trained conservators assisted by Italian specialists.

Reviewing and modifying the electricity and lighting network schemes have been completed for all parts of the building, and the bill of quantities and specifications have been prepared as well.

Training in architectural heritage preservation

The high-level training program targeting 80 people, which was held during the period June 12–July 17, 2010, was completed. Participants included staff of the relevant authorities and ministries in addition to Sana'a University teachers and students and the cultural-heritage project officers in SFD branches. The training was concluded with a roundtable meeting that included international experts from UNESCO, the International Center for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM), national concerned authorities and a number of local consultants.

It should be noted that this training, funded by the SFD and the Dutch Fund of UNESCO, included the latest trends on architectural preservation at international standards.

Translation and printing of a book about Yemen

Renzo Manzoni's book "*Yemen: A Journey to Sana'a 1877-1878*" is one of travel-literature books, which impartially gives a general idea of Yemen (in general) and Sana'a, in particular.

The book documents many aspects of social and political life in Yemen in that period, in addition to many plants and crops as well as tools used in daily life in that time. The book's translation has been revised and verified; layout & printing specifications have been set as well. It is expected to be published and disseminated in early 2011.

Printing Rock Drawings Art book

The final version of the Prehistoric Yemen Rock Paintings Art book has been prepared to be printed in October 2010, with copies to be distributed to the relevant agencies (libraries and educational bodies & institutions).

Preparing curricula on preservation of urban & architectural heritage

In order to integrate urban and architectural preservation curricula into university education, consultations have been carried out with the Ministries of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Culture, the General Organization for the Preservation of Historic Cities and a number of Yemeni universities through holding an experts meeting, with the participation of international experts in this field. In the light of this meeting, an agreement and a memorandum of understanding is now being prepared between the concerned parties to proceed with the implementation of the project's activities in collaboration with UNESCO and ICCROM.

Manuscripts documentation

Support has been provided to the second phase of training on manuscripts documentation and preservation in Dar al-Makhtootaat, the Manuscripts House (MH) in Sana'a. Documentation, carried out by a team of specialists, includes, photographing, labeling and collecting data about the manuscripts. This is followed by saving the processed manuscripts in a database at MH. During August and September 2010, 600 manuscripts have been documented.

Restoration of Ghail Al-Awar

The quarter witnessed the inception of the second phase of the restoration of archeological tunnel of Ghail Al-Awar in Shibam / Kawkaban through the restoration of the spring's ponds and water-runs. The spring has now resumed flowing and irrigating the neighboring orchards for the first time ever in more than a quarter of a century.

Training and Organizational Support

Interventions in the two sectors (Training and Organizational Support) aim at providing services through training and building the human and institutional capacities of SFD staff & project officers, consultants, beneficiary committees, small contractors, technicians, local authorities, NGOs and governmental organs, who contribute to providing productive services, realizing community development, illiteracy eradication, dissemination of culture and supporting the educational process.

Third phase indicators – Cultural Heritage Sector*

Indicators	Target 2004-2010	Actual							
		2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Total
Projects financed	135	23	31	22	17	23	34	16	166
Consultants trained	350	19	53	33	5	32	150	89	381
Laborers trained	1,000	141	113	139	81	141	187	653	1,455

* Includes only under-implementation and completed projects as of 30/9/2010

These partners also acquire training in some fields mentioned under the Training Sector. Support also includes providing some necessary equipment, databases and management systems. The purpose of the over-all support is to ensure and reinforce the organizational, financial and administrative sustainability for these partners.

During the Third Quarter, the number of projects in both the Training & Organizational Support sectors reached 29, with an estimated cost of \$ 1.4 Million. They target the following:

Government organizations

Interventions comprise of five projects: One in training and four in organizational support. The projects target several topics, including dealing with conflicts, administrative skills, filing and documentation, quality control, GIS, procurement and contracting in addition to providing equipment, books, civil works and preparation of regulations and organizational frames.

Beneficiaries from these interventions include, SFD, the Public Library in Ghail Ba-Wazir , Hadramout governorate, the General Library for Books and Manuscripts in Jiblah – Ibb governorate , the departments of training girls in the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training , engineers from the Ministry of Public Works and Roads.

Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)

Targeting consisted of training and organizational support by means of 12 projects, of which one project for training in administrative organization, simplified accounting system, project management, fund raising, training trainers in sewing and handicrafts. The other eleven projects concerned providing necessary equipment.

Beneficiaries from these interventions include associations targeted either individually or collectively. These are six associations in Hadhramaut , Shabwah and Al-Maharah governorates, Saken & Eis in Ja'ar, Sabhan Al-Jawl in Khanfar (Abyan), Al-Aounaira in Lahej, and Bani Mussalam, Al-Azareq, Al-Haljoun and Al-Mahjer in Al-Dhale' as well as the Women Union in Sahel Hadhramaut in addition to public libraries in some governorates.

Local communities

One training project targeted about one hundred areas in some districts of Ibb governorate. Components of this project consist of needs assessments' identification and prioritization for the year 2011, and training consultants in P.R.A.

Local Authority

Three projects have been developed, two for training the local authority in Hazm Al-Oudain district (Ibb governorate) in Empowerment and Participatory Planning, and the third for providing organizational support to Raimah governorate main office. Its components include training in revising internal regulations, job description, mechanisms and plans of administrative work, filing and documentation, computer applications.

Private Sector (Individuals)

Interventions included seven projects, divided between training and qualifying engineers, technicians and contractors on the mechanism and methods of implementation , contracting , and quality control for the branches of Hodeida, Aden , and Ibb, and training consultants for Sana'a branch on community participation . This is in addition to training consultants for Amran branch on the simplified accounting system for NGOs.

University Graduates

One project was developed for training and qualifying about 350 rural university graduates on development advocacy issues, by means of 12 training courses in foundational topics related to development issues. This is beside training them in fundamental computer applications.

Health and Social Protection

The unit includes the two sectors of Health and Social Protection.

Health sector

During the third quarter, 10 projects were developed at an estimated cost of \$1.2 million, with the estimated number of direct beneficiaries reaching 92,337 people (78% female). Cumulatively, 952 projects have been developed, worth nearly \$80.3 million, benefiting more than 6.7 million people (62% female).

Strengthening partnership

The SFD participated in the preparation of the National Midwives Strategy, which will be included as a key component in the Reproductive Health National Strategy (2011–15).

Institutional building

In the framework of cooperation between the SFD and the Ministry of Public Health and Population "MoPHP" (represented by Planning and Health Development Sector), 4 projects were developed to strengthen priority health systems pursuant to the National Health Strategy and health sector reform review.

These include the District Health System (DHS), Continuous Professional Development (CPD), the health map and expanding the application of the human health resources system.

Expand and improve access to primary healthcare services

Focus was given to enhancing access to PHC facilities and reducing maternal and neonatal mortality.

Increasing access to primary healthcare facilities

This component aims to increase coverage of primary healthcare (PHC) services through the rehabilitation of the existing health units and centers and furnishing & equipping health facilities in addition to the formation and training of health committees.

In addition, Al-Awael Microfinance was financed with 33 million Riyals. As a result of this funding, the number of active customers for all the programs and institutions has risen to more than 58,000 active clients as of September 2010.

Technical support

The unit provided technical support for Wadi Hadramout MF program (a program co-founded by SFD in partnership with Al-Nahdha NGO), in which a consultant was hired for two weeks to provide on-the-job training and technical support. The aim was to help the program improve performance and spread its services in the rural and urban areas of the districts of Tarim, Seyoun, Al-Qatn – with a focus on loan portfolio quality.

The unit has been involved in developing a computerized accounting system based on the principles of international accounting standards. A consultant specialized in accounting was contracted and a specialized committee formed to evaluate the system first hand, which is expected to be applied, as a first stage, in the National MF Foundation and Sana'a MF program.

A human resources management system has been developed to keep track of salaries and wages, as an initial step to the full development of a comprehensive and integrated human resources system that will serve microfinance programs and institutions.

Graduation of the Social Welfare Fund beneficiaries out of poverty

The project is implementing 33 training courses targeting more than 600 beneficiaries living in the target areas, namely Aden, Taiz and Lahj, all working in activities such as animal husbandry, marketing and hairdressing. The project has already begun the process of buying working assets for all of its beneficiaries who had been trained to manage income-generating activities.

Product development for young people

Within the framework of the partnership established between the SFD, the U.S. Agency for Development (USAID) and Aden MF Foundation, USAID has provided funds to SMEPS to develop a new financial product that meets the needs of youth in Aden governorate, where the funds will be used to finance youth economic activities.

Bidaya program

The program was conceived as a training path for loan officers working in MFIs, aiming to design a training manual that would cover all the main subjects and skills a loan officer needs to know in his/her profession.

Studying merging MFIs

In accordance with its strategic vision and mission, SMED signed an agreement with Grameen-Jameel Foundation, in which the latter would finance a feasibility study to assess the possibility of merging 2–4 MF institutions in Yemen into a larger and stronger institution. These include the National MF Foundation, Aden MF Foundation, Abyan MF Program and Al-Awael MF Company. A field study was conducted in September by a foreign expert to evaluate the four financial schemes, find prospects for integration and produce an action plan on how best implement the merger.

The "Toomoohi" Program event

The program, supported by US-AID, aims at developing the skills of young people and entrepreneurs in a range of sectors to enable them to use modern techniques. According to the recommendations of a field study carried out to determine the sectors to be developed, the Agency coordinated the implementation of some courses—in collaboration with technical & vocational institutes and the private-sector training providers—on Programming Logic Control (PLC) and mobile engineering. The agency also coordinated a field visit for the PLC trainees to a factory in Lahej.

SMED Unit strategy

As part of the framework of cooperation between the SFD and the German Development Bank (KfW), the bank funded a consultant specialized in strategy development to help the SMED unit develop its strategy. The consultant held numerous meetings with SMED's staff and SFD partners and finalized a comprehensive strategy covering the period from 2011–15, with an action plan included.

Activities of the Small and Micro Enterprises Development agency (SMEPS)

SMEPS carried out several activities including the following:

"Meet the business world" (KAB) Program

SMEPS carried out two workshops focusing on the program content, definition and methodology of training, targeting all office managers and professional and technical institutes working with the agency in Sana'a and Taiz cities. The second batch of 58 trainees graduated as part of Khadija training program using the KAB training modules completed the second phase of training, which included several advanced programs in management, marketing and accounting.

"Business Edge" ToT program

In coordination with the International Finance Corporation (IFC), SMEPS held a "Business Edge" training of trainers (ToT) course attended by 11 trainees from Sana'a, Taiz, Hadhramaut and Al-Hudaidah. SMEPS had implemented several courses under the program aimed at developing the administrative capacity of young people, in collaboration with the "Muthabrun Center", a "Business Edge" training center in Aden, with 40 trainees coming from various colleges and aspiring to establish their own business in marketing, management and project funding trained.

Skills acquisition in using GPS

In continuation with the training program, targeting 200 fishermen belonging to cooperatives located in the coasts of Hadhramaut, Al-Maharah and Shabwah, SMEPS implemented in cooperation with Garmin Yemen Company the 2nd and 3rd courses in using the Geographical Positioning System (GPS). The event included 35 traditional fishermen from various cooperatives in Al-Sheher City, aiming at providing the trainees with the professional skills in using the device in locating fish accurately. In addition, the 4th and 5th training courses in the same specialty were held in East Al-Deis (Al-Mukalla) and Al-Reida and Keseir (Hadhramaut) in coordination with Al-Bandar fishermen Cooperative, with 45 fishermen trained.

Introducing mobile & branchless banking in Yemen

On behalf of the Yemen Public Savings and Postal Corporation - PSPC, SMED has formulated a proposal to introduce mobile and branchless banking in Yemen with the financial and technical help of the Consultative Group to Assist the Poor (CGAP). The aim is to reduce costs of financial services for MFIs when trying to reach people in small towns and sparsely populated areas.



Workshop on harnessing mobile phone technology in financial operations

Third phase indicators – Training and Organizational Support Sectors*

Indicators	Target 2004-2010	Actual							
		2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Total
Workshops for NGOs	175	43	86	80	101	27	37	42	416
Support to NGOs and cooperatives	200	42	28	28	31	28	13	25	195
Support to user groups, communities and CBOs (in various forms)	1,900	64	233	268	348	430	590	159	2,092
Organizational support to local councils and authority	70	0	10	15	13	22	20	7	87
Councilors and local authority members trained **	-	1,875	5,845	260	737	505			9,222

* Includes only under-implementation and completed projects as of 30/9/2010

** Includes almost all local councils (330) in the country

Integrated intervention

The cumulative number of the sector's projects (since 1997 until the end of September 2010), reached to 182 projects at an estimated cost of approximately \$11.6 million, benefiting directly more than 220 thousand people.

The quarter's activities focused on the following areas:

Interventions in education

Two training courses were carried out in June and July 2010 to build the capacity of teachers from all relevant schools on learning resources and on how to create learning-resource rooms or centers in those schools.

Interventions in infrastructure

The quarter witnessed the completion of implementation of Uthman Bin Affan Basic School in Mahniyah (Bani Ma'anes sub-district, Wisab Al-Safel district / Dhamar governorate) as well as the implementation of Osama Bin Zaid Basic School in Najd and Amerah (Asawedah, Maoiyah / Taiz) in addition to the establishment and furnishing of three health units in Al-Zaila'iyah and Al-Maqarenah (Al-Luhaiyyah, Al-Hudaidah) and Bani Mabarez (Al-Qafr, Ibb).

Interventions in agriculture and economic empowerment

Two training courses were carried out in Asawedah sub-district (Taiz): The first, in management and accounting, targeted 14 female administrators of community weaving centers; and the second for the members of the operation and maintenance management committee in the sub-district's water projects.

Moreover, two students from Bani Mabarez were graduated from Al-Udain Agricultural Institute (in Ibb), with three-year agricultural technician diploma. They will work to contribute to improving the agricultural situation in their areas.

Finally, the selection of eight of the poorest sub-districts targeted by the program through SFD branches for the next phase was completed. Needs assessment and formation of development committees in these areas is being carried out.

Labor Intensive Works Program

The program includes the rural-access roads and cash-for-work approach.

Rural Roads

During the quarter, 15 projects were approved at an estimated cost of approximately \$3.3 million distributed between the construction and rehabilitation of rural roads, paving streets in the cities and training. These projects benefit directly more than 41 thousand people, and generate more than 133 thousand employment opportunities. Thus, the projects

developed cumulatively of all sub-sectors of the rural roads mount to 673 projects worth approximately \$134.8 million, benefiting directly about 3.8 million people and generating nearly 7.3 million job opportunities. The total length of roads is about 2,825 km, while the paved area is around 2.34 million square meters.

Field follow-up visits were conducted to 20 projects during the quarter, with the total number of projects visited reaching 101 distributed between ongoing projects (for assessing the work quality) and completed (for evaluation). In addition, visits were implemented to 2010 plan projects to verify the targeting quality.

On the other hand, a workshop held in SFD Hajjah branch, targeting 24 engineers, discussed the mechanism for implementing rural-access-road projects by community contracting and the concept of quality in the sector.

Food Price Crisis Response Program (Cash for Work)

Under the program's 2nd phase, 21 projects funded by the British Government grant were approved worth nearly \$2.9 million. These projects are distributed over 6 sub-sectors: diversified intervention "food" (15 projects), roads "food" and preliminary studies (two, each) and environment "food" & shallow wells "food" (one project, each). About 13,280 people benefit directly from these projects, which generate more than 267 thousand job opportunities.

This brings the cumulative number of projects addressing the food crisis (phase II) to 128 projects at a total cost of \$15.1 million and the number of beneficiaries to about 1.1 million people, with job opportunities generated reaching 1.55 million working days, of which 15% for women.

During the quarter, a workshop was held for SFD branches' office accountants to provide them with practical training on the use of the automated accounting system. During the workshop, a visit was conducted to a sample of relevant projects in Sana'a and Al-Hudaidah branches with the participation of the World Bank and European Union mission to be acquainted with the functioning of the program activities and living conditions of communities and households targeted by the program.

Small and Micro Enterprises Development

Financial services

The SMED unit continued to support the development of small and microfinance financing institutions and programs, and has signed a number of financing agreements with their umbrella organizations. The total amount of those funds reached 110 million Riyals (approximately \$ 500,000). Abyan MF was funded with 50 million riyals (representing the third and fourth installment of a financing agreement amounting to SR 100 million), and Nama MF was funded with 27 million Riyals (representing the second installment of an agreement valued at 67 million Riyals).

Reducing maternal and neonatal mortality

This component is designed to expand and improve reproductive health services by building and equipping basic & comprehensive obstetric emergency departments and mother & child centers as well as equipping premature infants and newborn sections.



Equipping sections of the premature and newborn infants

A project was developed during the quarter to build and equip a maternity and childhood center in Seyoun Hospital (Seyoun, Hadhramaut).

Improve the Medium-level Health Education

This included increasing the health institutes' absorptive capacity.

Increase the absorptive capacity of Health Institutes

A project was developed for building and equipping of the National Centre for Training Midwives and Nurses in the Al-Ma'alla (Aden), which was approved following the decision to operate Al-Ma'alla-based Health Institute as a national center for providing training to midwives and nurses—based on the resolution of the Minister of Public Health and Population.

Enhance the skills of healthcare providers

During the quarter, focus was given to increase the PHC providers' number and medically supervised births.

Increase the number of primary healthcare providers

This component aims to train mid-level health staff in the various disciplines associated with PHC (assistant physicians, assistant dentists, nurses, laboratory technicians) as well as secondary healthcare (technicians in radiation, operations and anesthesia).

Third phase indicators – Health and Special Need Groups Sectors

Indicators	Target 2004-2010	Actual							
		2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Total
Health Sector									
Projects to support health facilities providing quality services	310	15	33	21	125	81	52	17	344
Health institutes (HIs) supported to enhance health education quality	21	2	7	2	12	6		1	30
HIs' Staff trained	400	120	21	120	40			0	301
Health education curriculum upgraded for the HIs	5			10				1	11
Libraries equipped and supplied with books for HIs	12	0	5	1	10	1	0	0	17
Teaching laboratories equipped with learning materials	21	1	0	4	9	6	0	0	20
Psychiatric hospitals and care centers staff trained	125	20			36	156	75	150	437
Districts which received support in applying the DHS	4		3						3
Number of trained health service providers*	1,500	683	519	335	40	158	257	547	2,539
Special Need Group									
Public schools supported with inclusive education	148	62	45	11	27	71	54	58	328
Disadvantaged children in SFD-supported schools	8,000	3,47	1,473	2,816	1,477	1,299	962	0	1,1499
NGOs supported by technical training to serve special needs groups	80	7	24	60	11	51	17	25	195
Communities made aware of inclusive-education importance & accessibility	210	56	92	42	62	55	56	59	422
Faculty of Special Education	2			1					1
Staff members qualified in the field of disability	140	14	46	0	56	3	18	20	157
Pre-school rehabilitation and education centers for preschoolers with disability	35	2		1	5	6	2	3	19
street children centers and Juvenile delinquent centers	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

*Includes only under-implementation and completed projects as of 30/9/2010

Third phase indicators – Feeder Roads Sector*

Indicators	Target 2004-2010	Actual							
		2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Total
Projects financed**	400	20	33	44	62	74	46	16	295
Beneficiaries	1,320,000	101,924	219,342	280,096	268,421	230,279	132,836	44,417	1,277,315

*Includes only under-implementation and completed projects as of 30/9/2010

** Doesn't include street pavements

Approved also was another project, aimed to support the Inclusive Education Directorate in Sa'adah governorate in integrating 45 blind children in 3 schools in the governorate through building the capacity of 14 teachers and administrators of these schools on the concepts of integration and means of education for blind children as well as supplying the resources room (in one of these schools), with the relevant educational aids.

Early Childhood Development

This program provides support to early childhood development programs, early detection & intervention and national policies and strategies geared for the age group (0-8) years. In this framework, a training course was implemented in Aden governorate targeting 20 pediatricians and general physicians working in health centers targeted by the program in the Capital City and the Taiz, Aden and Dhamar governorates. The training focused on providing the participants with information and skills on the latest developments in early detection of children with growth retardation, and children at risk in early childhood.

On the other hand, educational early-intervention services were established at the CBR Center in Ma'aber City.

Community-based rehabilitation (CBR)

In order to facilitate the access of the rural disabled to services, the SFD has adopted the CBR program. In this context, support was provided to the CBR Committee in Ma'aber City through building the capacity of its members and employees in CBR, strategic planning and financial & administrative systems as well as by equipping and furnishing of the CBR room at the Committee's premises.

Protection

The program aims to improve the services provided by correctional prisons & social-welfare centers and develop the services of safe childhood centers in addition to supporting policies, strategies and programs geared for violent-prone and trafficked children.

A project was approved to improve and enhance services provided to female prisoner and their children in the central prison of Ibb governorate, targeting 20 female prisoners and 15 policemen and women working in the prison as well as 10 children. This was done through training these individuals in human rights as well as by furnishing women prison rooms and providing the prison's backyard with entertainment games for female prisoners' children.

Supporting policies and strategies

The SFD continues supporting the two projects of developing the Disabled Care and Rehabilitation Fund Strategy (Phase II) and the vision of the National Union of the Yemeni Disabled Societies both aiming to achieve organizational development of the two institutions as instruments of the implementation of the National Disability Strategy. In this regard, the Social Fund seconded experts from the British Oxford Institute to take over the mission of these two projects.

Third phase indicators – Water and Environment Sectors*

Indicators	Target 2004-2010	Actual							
		2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Total
Water-harvesting projects	400	61	49	53	67	99	319	81	729
Water stored in reservoirs (m ³)	3,000,000	1,243,542	1,113,250	1,260,257	355,230	807,326	434,028	57,8670	5,792,303
Piped systems	140	22	13	20	10	17	27	4	113
Reservoirs	60	14	13	11	5	8	7	5	63
Hygiene and environment awareness	210	54	15	20	5	3	16	86	199
Wastewater management	21	10	4	3	7	15	6		45
Solid waste management	16	9	3	2	2	2	4		22
Soil & water conservation	10	4	2	3	6	4	4	1	24

* Includes only under-implementation and completed projects as of 30/9/2010

And, during July and August 2010, the first phase of the task of conducting in-depth analysis of the institutional and financial status of the two institutions has been implemented to develop appropriate systems in the two mentioned areas.

Water and Environment

The unit's activity includes the Water and Environment Sectors.

The number of approved projects in both sectors during the quarter reached 16 projects estimated at nearly \$3.4 million, benefiting about 125,332 people. This brings the cumulative number of projects (since the SFD was established in 1997 and until the end of September 2010) to 1,850 projects at an estimated cost of approximately \$222.7 million, with 5.6 million people expected to benefit from these projects.

Water Sector

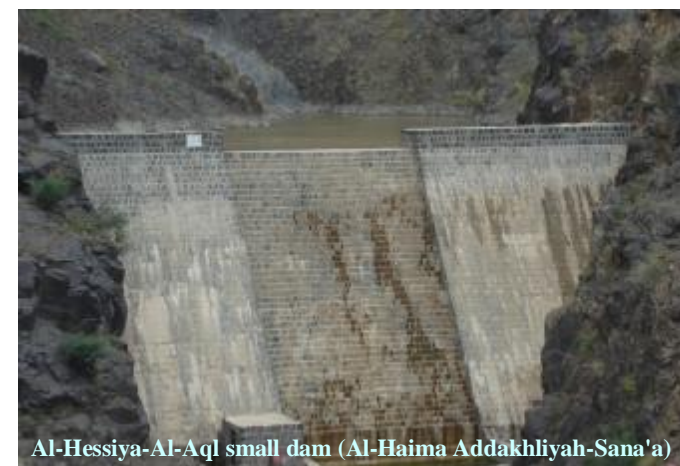
The sector aims to provide improved and adequate water for poor communities as well as raise hygienic and environmental awareness of the beneficiaries.

During the quarter, 10 projects were developed, including public rainwater harvesting tanks, private rooftop water harvesting, improving water springs and small dams—with a total capacity of these facilities mounting to about 293,770 m³ to serve 54,324 people.

It is worth noting the onset of large-scale projects that provide water for a number of sub-districts, depending on small dams as a source of water—such as the water project of Al-Manqate' and Al-Rabat sub-districts (Dhi-Na'em, Al-Baidha), which covers fully the two areas and benefits 20,000 people. The new mechanized-water projects policy has led to make advantage of a number of small dams that have been successfully implemented in Al-Baidha governorate in providing water to residents after they remained for years dreaming of having a drop of water in their homes.

In the context of qualifying consultants (of both sexes), each of SFD's branch office in Al-Hudaidah, Taiz and Ibb implemented a six-day course for training consultants in the design and supervision of mechanized water projects. The courses were attended by 55 trainees (of whom 52 qualified). Amran branch has also provided training to 20 technicians on on-site overseeing of rainwater harvesting projects.

The Unit, accompanied by branch-offices' relevant officers, also visited many projects in order to follow up with the projects and accelerate their completion. During this visit, two workshops were held in Aden and Taiz branches, targeting consultants overseeing rooftop rainwater-harvesting projects in the areas falling within the jurisdiction of the two branches in order to exchange experience between the consultants and resolve any constraints.



Al-Hessiya-Al-Aql small dam (Al-Haima Addakhliyah-Sana'a)

Environment Sector

The quarter witnessed the development of 6 projects in the sector, including 83 health- and environment-awareness campaigns using the Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) approach and a sanitation project in Harathah (in Ibb City) as well as a slaughter house in Raidah City (Amran) and a project to train all project officers in different sectors on SFD's updated Environmental Management Plan. Two-day training on the same was also provided to 16 officers from the Agriculture & Rural Development and Water & Environment Units, in addition to four consultants from SFD Sana'a Branch Office.

In addition, a training course was carried out by Sana'a University's Water and Environment Center for 20 male and female trainees (with 16 qualified) to qualify consultants for Sana'a branch in the design and supervision of sanitation systems.

Among the activities carried out under the CLTS approach, the villages of Al-Dhale', Al-Qudami and Al-Me'azab (in Al-Sawd district, Amran governorate) have been announced exemplary in sanitation. Announcement was declared at a unpretentious celebration attended by members of the district's local authority.

On the other hand, work continued in the infrastructure project of Shibam City (Hadhramaut), which includes water & sewage network, electricity, telephone, lighting, paving and rainwater drainage—with achievement in all components of the project (by the quarter end) reaching 12.3%.

Agriculture and Rural Development

During the third quarter, 11 projects were approved at an estimated cost of approximately \$1.8 million (benefiting directly about 10,000 people and providing about 67,000 job opportunities), bringing the cumulative number of the sector's projects to 214, with investments exceeding \$15 million and direct beneficiaries exceeding 250,000 people and creating 350,000 temporary job opportunities).

Capacity building

Two six-day training courses were carried out in Ibb and Al-Mahweet governorates for building the capacities of 60 farmers and extension workers. The first focused on enabling farmers and extensionists to acquire modern knowledge and skills in veterinary, while the second educated them on the principles and skills of mango budding & grafting.

Forming and financing producer groups

In the context of completing rural producer (male & female) groups' formation phase of the rain-fed agriculture project cycle in the five governorates (Al-Mahweet, Hajjah, Al-Hudaidah, Lahej and Sana'a), the groups formed during the quarter in Al-Mahweet reached 258 group. Consequently, the total number of groups and committees established during the period January–September 2010 in 12 districts of the 5 governorates mount to 1,577 groups and 165 committees in 165 local communities.



Training for vet. Specialist from Al-Mahwit

In addition, two productive groups in Riqab and Bani Batal communities (Bara' district) were supported with two coffee drying and grinding machines and 23 animal food and watering containers were introduced and disseminated to 23 groups involved in livestock activity as well as head masks and gloves to other six groups engrossed in beekeeping and honey production. Also, in Al-Hudaidah Governorate's Gabal Ras & Al-Hujailah districts, support provided to 34 & 72 groups (respectively) was completed.

Moreover, funding approval notices on projects of small producers' groups in the communities of Al-Mansouriyah and Al-Luhaiyyah districts (Al-Hudaidah), Khairan Al-Mahraq (Hajjah), and Al-Maghrebah were handed over, with 104 & 75 project proposals to be implemented in Al-Maghrebah & Khairan Al-Mahraq (respectively) reviewed and approved.

Additionally, 230 agreements between SFD and groups were reviewed and signed, and funding in Hamdan (Sana'a) and Bani Sa'ad (Al-Mahweet) prepared. Moreover, six new groups have been funded in Al-Rajem (Al-Mahweet) and Arhab (Sana'a).

Finally, training and organizational & technical capacity building of 72 groups was completed in 9 communities of Al-Hujailah and 34 groups in Gabal Ras, with funding and capacity building continued to 46 groups in Aslam district (Hajjah) and 105 groups in Al-Rajem & Arhab.

On the other hand, 125 female and male consultants were contracted in SFD's branch offices in Sana'a, Al-Hudaidah, Aden and Hajjah to provide training, verify contributions preparation, distribute funding-approval notices and purchase projects' production inputs as well as to carry out preliminary and technical studies.

Finally, and with regard to the coordination between the project's three components and relevant agencies, several technical meetings were held, followed by joint field visits to a number of groups in some governorates. In addition, SFD participated in the Steering Committee meetings and coordinated with the local authority in the relevant districts as well as with the project's first and second components. As a result, an SFD-financed vaccination campaign is being implemented against two serious diseases that have spread recently in some districts of Al-Hudaidah governorate.