

EC Partners

Yemenite Social Fund
for Development (SFD)

World Bank

Facts and Figures

- EC Contribution:
€ 10 Million (100% of
the total)
- Duration: 2010 - 2012



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Rural development

Work Programme to improve job opportunities and food security in Yemen

"The Programme will provide several short and long term benefits. It is already increasing local job opportunities and providing direct income to workers that are facing food insecurity due to the increase of food prices. In the long term, the community will benefit from the infrastructure built".

Manfred Fernholz, Task manager



Context

Drought conditions, combined with energy, fertilizer and food price increases, are imposing great hardship on the Yemeni population, particularly in rural areas. Domestic cereal production covers only 18% of the country's cereal consumption, so the country is very dependent on imports.

The increase in wheat prices from US\$196 per ton in June 2007 to more than US\$440 is seriously affecting the poorest Yemenites. 73% of the population lives in rural areas and 90% are farmers and the net buyers of cereals, which makes them very vulnerable to unstable food prices. As a consequence, the Yemenite social safety net needs to support the poorest farmers living in rural areas, providing a source of income to mitigate the impact of high food prices.

Objectives

- Increase temporary job opportunities and increase access to food.
- Improve access to water harvesting schemes, environmental and soil conservation activities, and rehabilitate roads.

Impact

- 16 000 workers benefit from increased job opportunities, each of them works for a period of 9 to 12 months, receiving 400-600 USD depending on the size of their household.
- Targeted communities benefit from improved access to water harvesting schemes, environmental and soil conservation activities, and reconstructed roads.

Rural development

Work Programme to improve job opportunities and food security in Yemen

"Before the project started all of us were unemployed. We relied on going to other countries for one or two years to get money. Now we are very happy, we have a job in our own place and all the community works here. All of us are poor, but with this project we are happy, because we have a local job and income.

"We thank the European Commission very much, because they are providing us with good benefits. We are building a water storage system, and a water tank to harvest rain water. Before the project started our women needed to go to far away areas, even to other Governorates, to look for water and bring it home by donkey. Now, we have water which we can drink in our homes."

Mohammed, programme beneficiary



Building a water harvesting system, Al Hodeida Governorate