



ENHANCED RURAL RESILIENCE IN
YEMEN JOINT PROGRAMME

Annual Progress Report -2018

APRIL 2019

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Table of Contents

List of Acronyms	2
1. Programme's Description	3
1.1 Programme's Details	3
2. Summary of the Progress and Context of the action	4
2.1 Introduction	4
2.2 ERRY Operating Context - Year III	4
3. Results: Progress of implementation in year III:.....	9
4. Communication, Visibility, and M&E.....	60
4.1 Communication:.....	60
4.2 Visibility of EU:.....	61
4.3 ERRY Monitoring	61
5. Challenges and Risks	64
6. Financial Delivery – Year III.....	66

List of Acronyms

CBT	Competency-Based Training
CFW	Cash for Work
ERRY JP	Enhanced Resilience of Rural - Joint Programme
EU	European Union
FAF	For All Foundation
FAO	Food & Agriculture Organization
FFS	Farmers' Field School
FFA	Food assistance For Assets (also known as cash for work)
ILO	International Labor Organization
IP	Implementing Partner
IPC	Integrated Phase Classification
IRY	Islamic Relief Yemen
JCU	Joint-Coordination Unit
MoAI	Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation
MoPIC	Ministry of Planning & International Cooperation
MTR	Mid-Term Review
OCHA	(UN) Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OSH	Occupational Safety and Health
PUNO	Partnering United Nations Agencies
PY	Partners Yemen
SCG	Search for Common Ground
SDF	Social Fund for Development
SFD	Sustainable Development Foundation
ToT	Training of Trainers
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
VAPG's	Village Agricultural Producers' Groups
VCC	Village Cooperation Council
VHI	Vision Hope International
WFP	World Food Programme
WUA	Water-Users Association
YLDF	Youth Leadership Development Foundation

1. Programme's Description

1.1 Programme's Details

Project Title	Enhanced Rural Resilience in Yemen (ERRY)
Contract No.	DCI-MED/2015/368-334
Implementation Period	1 March 2016 to 28 Feb 2019
Total Contracted amount	Euro 34,799,329
Donor	European Union
Participating UN Organization (PUNO)	UNDP WFP FAO ILO
Administrative Agent (AA)	Multi Partners Trust Fund (MPTF)
Convening Agent	UNDP
Programme Implementing Partners for PUNOs	For All Foundation (FAF) Search for Common Ground (SCG) Social fund for Development (SFD) Partners Yemen (PY) Sustainable Development Foundation (SDF) Vision Hope (VHI) Islamic Relief Yemen (IRY) CARE Ministry of Agriculture Tahama Development Authority Youth Leadership Development Foundation (YLDF) (SOS)
National Counterpart	Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC), Yemen

2. Summary of the Progress and Context of the Action

2.1 Introduction

The EU-funded Enhanced Rural Resilience in Yemen (ERRY) is a UN Joint Programme implemented by FAO, ILO, UNDP and WFP in four governorates in Yemen: Hajjah, Hudaydah, Lahj and Abyan. The three-year programme aims to enhance the self-reliance of rural people and communities in Yemen to better cope with crises, risks and shocks through support to livelihoods stabilization and recovery, local governance and improved access to sustainable energy. ERRY focuses on the most vulnerable such as women, the unemployed, youth, the Muhamasheen (marginalized), internally displaced persons (IDPs) and stressed host communities, using inclusive, participatory and conflict-sensitive tools to mobilize and involve them in the proposed activities. Active partnership with local authorities, the private sector, communities, the Social Fund for Development (SFD) and NGOs is sought for the successful implementation of the programme.

To contribute to the achievement of the overall objective, the ERRY joint programme has two expected outcomes to contribute to:

- **Outcome 1:** Communities are better able to manage local risks and shocks for increased economic self-reliance and enhanced social cohesion.
- **Outcome 2:** Institutions are responsive, accountable and effective to deliver services, build the social contract and meet community identified needs.

This Progress Report outlines the key activities implemented in the period from January 2018 through the end of December 2018, as well as the progress towards achieving the programme's cumulative targets with regards to its planned outputs. The progress report also identifies major achievements of the project based on the Year III annual work plan and against objectively verifiable indicators (OVIs) of the log-frame, as well as risks & challenges and lessons learned during the reporting period. Detailed impact assessments have been conducted in 2018 to measure the contributions made to the outcome statements.

2.2 ERRY Operating Context - Year III

The ongoing conflict in Yemen has resulted in a catastrophic humanitarian emergency with an increasing toll of civilian deaths and casualties across the country. Over 80 percent of Yemen's population is estimated to be in need for humanitarian assistance, and more than 2.5 million Yemenis have become IDPs. The ongoing conflict has destroyed much of the institutional ability of key ministries, governorates and local authorities to deliver essential social services to citizens. The year 2018 witnessed turmoil, aggressive advancement and a peace talk process in Sweden. Between April and June 2018, the situation in Hudaydah city was extremely volatile with the assault and change of frontlines. The Saudi- and UAE-led Coalition assault on Hudaydah – where Yemen's lifeline port for around 20 million people is located - threatened hundreds of thousands of civilians in that city, and millions more who rely on its imports of food, fuel, and other supplies. On the 14th of June, the UN Security Council demanded an immediate ceasefire but failed. The strategy to prevent this assault through quiet diplomacy by the Coalition's international partners including the US, UK, and France fetched no results. Some 56,700 people reported displaced by 26 June, according to IOM which later increased up to half a million. These figures also represented a small percentage of the population, as most people remained unwilling or unable to leave their homes.

It was also reported that civilians are stopped from leaving Hudaydah city. While roads to Sana'a and Hajjah were intermittently open, there had been reports that people had at times not been allowed to use them outward bound from Hudaydah. The project management team of ERRY communicated with the implementing partners to have preparedness measures such as activation of the business continuity plan in case the assault ceases. Majority of the implementing partners based in Hudaydah city and forward were affected by the heavy fights there, which resulted in the change of field office locations to Bajil district. Comparatively, Hajjah remained calm during the second quarter. However, off late in 2018, the fights in Hajjah governorate extended from the cities of Haradh and Midi to the cities of Hyran and Mustaba in Hajjah governorate. In the south, the continuing conflict between the Southern Transitional Council (STC) and the government caused renewed clashes, forces movements, and threatening announcements. In the third quarter, the coalition forces advanced to Hudaydah to the east of the city and cut off major overland routes between Hudaydah and Sana'a. Food and supplies were forced to be diverted to travel greater distances and led to an increase in food commodity prices.

Fighting continued around Hudaydah city and took on a new dimension with the advancement of Saudi-led coalition forces to the east of the city, cutting off major overland routes between Hudaydah and Sana'a. As food and fuel diverted by way of the last open route to Sana'a, they were forced to travel greater distances at greater expense to suppliers, contributing to inflated prices for essential commodities that mean more civilians cannot afford food and water. Heavy ground clashes continued in the district south and east of Hudaydah city while shelling and airstrikes continued across large parts of Sada'a, Hajjah, and Ibb and Taiz governorates. As fighting continued at critical junctions immediately outside Hudaydah city, residents reported a fear that protracted conflict in the area would bring sustained airstrikes and shelling to their neighborhoods. Hudaydah city emptied of tens of thousands of people, but hundreds of thousands remained inside the city as fighting closed in. Humanitarian organizations documented over half a million people that had fled homes in Hudaydah since the escalation in violence along Yemen's west coast in early June. Humanitarian agencies have been working to reach displaced families with food, water, shelter, and basic supplies, but they are concerned that ongoing displacements will see needs outstrip available humanitarian resources. People in Hudaydah reported an exchange rate of YER700 to the dollar in the last week of September, the lowest in the quarter. As economic collapse interacts with shortfalls on essential commodities, inflation is leaving more and more Yemenis with no means by which to pay for food, transport or medicine. A lack of affordable food and water risks tipping millions into famine. While food supplies continued through Hudaydah port through September, the amount of fuel discharged reflects on 21 per cent of the amount required, causing shortages that threaten transport, water pumps and hospital generators. Fuel shortages across Yemen have pushed prices up by as much as 300% over the last year in some parts of the country.

Overall, the situation in the target location remains unchanged, and peace talks do not have much influence in other governorates. It will be important to observe how the peace talks in Hudaydah governorate would be realized to benefit the dividends from it as a ripple effect. The recent integrated food security phase classification (IPC) has now identified pockets of IPC5 (famine status), and all targeted governorates have those pockets visible. There are more than 195 districts (out of 333) falling under IPC 3, IPC 4 and IPC 5 which is a 300% jump from 2016. The unemployment continues to soar high and lack of income is further pushing affected communities to become more vulnerable and hand-to-mouth. Despite the massive humanitarian investment, the vulnerability level of the individual keeps rising and thus, there is a greater need of building humanitarian-development-peace nexus to support affected communities not to fall into the trap of vicious cycle of a protracted crisis. Probably, there is also a need for priorities such as nexus intervention in those pockets of famine where people need multiple interventions and not just humanitarian. ERRY has that capacity to support and inject interventions to help humanitarian aid agencies.

Contribution towards the outcomes:

The various impact assessments conducted under the different components of the joint Enhanced Rural Resilience Programme (ERRY) showed the significance contribution that ERRY has made to enhance the resilience and capacity of the targeted communities, households and individuals. ERRY has also contributed towards creating opportunities for livelihoods, income generation, food security, access to solar energy, and promoting social cohesion in local communities.

Summary of the programme's progress towards the outputs:

The following table provides a high-level summary of the programme's progress towards achieving its annual and overall delivery targets towards outputs in its third year of implementation.

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Progress against targets		% of achievement	Explanation
			Reporting period	Cumulative total		
Outcome 1: Communities are better able to manage local risks and shocks for increased economic self-reliance and enhanced social cohesion						
Output 1.1: Community livelihoods and productive assets are improved to strengthen resilience and economic self-reliance						
# of small-scale community-based initiatives implemented to improve basic services	No community resilience plans exist	210 VVCs	37	223	106%	In terms of VCCs formation, a total of 223 VCCs were re-established, thus reaching, and even exceeding, the project total target. Similarly, 10 resilience plans were developed in the 4 th Q, based on which 43 compact initiatives were implemented. All took place in all targeted governorates. With these, the total compact initiatives launched has reached 289.
		210 plans	27	213	101%	
		300 compact initiatives	108	289	96%	
# of vulnerable and food insecure households benefiting from food assistance for asset creation	Emergency employment and Income generation options are limited.	3,426	1,200	3,426	100%	
# of vulnerable and food insecure individuals benefiting from food assistance for asset creation (disaggregated by age and sex)		20,500	7,200	20,500	100%	
Total amount of cash transferred to targeted beneficiaries		5,876,640	777,316	5,903,359	100.5%	
Number of assets built, restored or maintained, by type		280	103	371	133%	
# individuals directly benefiting from improved skills to establish community-oriented social businesses for self-reliance	Limited entrepreneurial pathways available in rural areas for affected/vulnerable groups.	3,000 trainees	528	3,629	121%	As part of the 3x6 approach, additional 228 microbusinesses were created in Q4 due to exchange rate gain. Locations: 109 in Bani Qais district and 119 in Abs district
		1,500 micro businesses	528	2,152	143%	
# Village Agricultural Producers' Groups (VAPG's) are established to empower and provide services to farmers	Lack of community institutions to support farmers with value chain development services	85	5	90	106%	The established VAPG's are representing 569 neighbouring villages with members of 8000 farmers in the 4 targeted governorates
# farmers, 25% female, attended training sessions on livestock / crop value chain productivity	Technical and operational capacities of communities to engage in viable value chain opportunities are inadequate	20,000	8000	22,950	114%	22,949 farmers, 8400 women attended training sessions on livestock and crop value chain productivity. The training session focused on the animal feeding, health, milk production and crop value chain.
# food insecure HHs (#individuals) benefited from agricultural inputs distributed	Farmers opportunities and access to agricultural inputs are limited	14,000 HHs (84,000) individuals	15,743	15,813 (119,000) individuals	113%	15,813 livestock producers supported with feed blocks and sugar molasses; 2121 HHs received stainless steel dairy equipment; 9800 farmers supported with seeds; 2000 farmers supported with tomato seeds and 1600 farmers supported with fertilizer. The total of individuals of

						beneficiaries was 119,000 (average number of family members was about 7.56 according to the impact assessment conducted in the project areas).
# sheep and goats vaccinated against diseases	Frequent animal diseases with absence of regular vaccination programme	590,000 sheep/ goats benefiting	775,371	775,371	131%	
		24,000 HHS	30,825	30,825	121%	
Output 1.2: Communities benefit from solar energy for sustainable livelihoods opportunities						
# of individuals have access to portable solar lantern	No programme framework to promote solar energy resilience building in Yemen is in place	5600	2400	5600	100%	
# public service institutions have access to solar energy	Limited applications of solar energy for productive uses	212	0	176	83%	176 Schools and health centres supplied with solar systems to help reopen, benefiting 101,983 individuals; 70 solar systems to be distributed to public facilities in Q1 2019 in Abyan, Lahj, Hajjah and Hudaydah. shifting this goal is due to procurement process. 12 solar vaccination refrigerators (VCRs) distribution was implemented in the four targeted governorates, bringing to a total of 72 vaccine solar refrigerators.
# Drinking water system will have rehabilitated with solar energy	0	4	4	4	100%	4 drinking water systems were installed in Q2 2018. 2 systems were in Tuban district (Lahj Gov.), 1 in Khanfer district (Abyan Gov.), and 1 in Lawder district (Abyan)
# irrigation facilities will have rehabilitated with solar energy	0	4	0	4	100%	1 irrigation water systems was installed in Q4 taking place in Almarawah (Hudaydah).
# micro businesses through solar livelihood intervention	0	200	210	210	105%	110 micro businesses were created in Tuban district (Lahj Gov.) in Q4 2018.
# productive assets have access to solar energy	0	19	8	20	105%	8 productive assets were distributed: 2 in Bajil, 1 Hudaydah city, 1 Alhawak, 2 Aslam, 1 Lawder, and Tuban. The assets are used for dairy producing and sewing.
# market centers are equipped with solar energy	0	4	2	2	50%	The solar systems were distributed to 2 market centers: 1 Alsomoud Bajil market in Hudaydah and 1 Aslam market in Hajjah.
Output 1.3 Informal networks promote social cohesion through community dialogue and delivery of services						
# communities where WUA developed a mechanism to facilitate dialogues for water resource management, agriculture production system, and crop production system	WUAs are either not existent or are not fully operational in the targeted governorates	30	14	29	103%	63 participants from 21 WUAs acquainted with operating and maintenance of spate irrigation structures. 36,200 length meter of main and branch canals have been cleaned and cleared. 6203 farm hectares irrigated benefitting 1,922 farmers. 14 WUGs were established for a total membership of 113 farmers 4 WUGs supported by 4 solar pump system in cooperation with UNDP, benefiting 150 farmers.

Targeted communities have improved self-referral mechanism to resolve local level conflicts	No significant evidence of efforts to build consensus, dialogue or resolve disputes peacefully	60 dialogues	0	65	108%	Search for Common Ground has concluded their activities and final report is due, whereas PGI has submitted the cost extension request as they were unable to implement activities in the first quarter. Out of 15 small scale grants, PGI implemented 11 benefitting 3850 individuals.
		46 small-scale initiatives	45	48	104%	
Outcome 2: Institutions are responsive, accountable and effective to deliver services, build the social contract and meet community identified needs.						
Output 2.1: Functions, financing and capacity of local authorities enabled to deliver improved basic services and respond to public priorities						
# of local authorities have improved their ability of recovery planning, budgeting and monitoring basic service delivery	No capacity of local authorities for planning, budgeting, and monitoring basic services delivery	8 districts recovery plans	2	8	100%	Majority of the prioritized projects are focused on education, health and water. 4 recovery projects were accomplished in Q 4 in Khanfar, Alzuhra, Bani Qais, and Kuaydinah districts. Whereas, 4 recovery projects are in process with a 90% achievement and will have been fully accomplished by February 2019 in Tuban, Habil Jaber, Lawder and Bajil districts.
		8 projects	8	8	90%	
# of targeted governorates have developed citizen monitoring framework to monitor basic service delivery	No framework of private sector and citizen engagement in target govt's	8 frameworks	8	8	100%	
Output 2.2: Increased capacity of local actors and strengthened partnership of private sector to enhance economic recovery						
# of community members who indirectly benefit from informal upgrading apprenticeship schemes and business development services	0	3,000		4,133	138%	Training of 53 trainers has been achieved. The trainers successfully delivered the training to 2,693 trainees (35% female)
80% of vulnerable youth/women trained in upgraded informal apprenticeship engaged in sustainable self-employment at least 3 months after completion of the training		80%		80%	100%	80% indicated that they are currently working. Around 10% are self-employed. Most women in the cloth design are self-employed.
40% of cash-for-work beneficiaries receive post cash-for-work training support to ease their transition to long-term sustainable employment opportunities	Dependency on short term employment schemes is high with limited graduation strategies					Due to a limited budget, the assessment to measure the percentage was not conducted.
# business associations /economic institutions with governorate coverage have their capacity needs assessed and addressed for greater enterprise recovery engagement	Business associations /economic institutions have a limited technical and operational engagement in enterprise recovery	2	1	1	50%	1 business association was created in Khanfar (Abyan Gov.). Due to bureaucratic process in north, creation of association in Abs has not been completed. However, it is expected to be created in Q1 of 2019

3. Results: Progress of Implementation in Year III:

The following sub-section provides a detailed narration on how the conducted programme's activities contributed to their respective expected outcomes, outputs and targets during the third year of the programme; and how, therefore, they potentially contribute towards impacting the livelihoods and resilience of the targeted communities.

Outcome 1: Communities are better able to manage local risks and shocks for increased economic self-reliance and enhanced social cohesion:

Output 1: Community livelihoods and productive assets are improved to strengthen resilience and economic self-reliance

Output1.1 Summary of Achievements:

- 223 VCCs were re-established in the targeted communities including 2,178 members, 46% women.
- 213 community resilience plans were developed by VCCs, including the priorities of communities on basic services, employment, income generation, etc.
- 108 community compact initiatives (matching grants by ERRY I) were implemented by VCCs, which brings to the total of 289 initiatives. The number of direct beneficiaries from compact initiatives has reached 56,175 individuals.
- 441 self-help initiatives were implemented without any external support.
- About 3,426 households received monthly cash incentives for their participation in community asset creation activities, benefitting 20,500 vulnerable individuals.
- 103 communal assets were rehabilitated/created during 2018, bringing the total number of community assets that were rehabilitated or created during the project to 371 community assets.
- 100 km of feeder roads connecting villages to markets and other social services were maintained;
- 129 water points, including wells, water gateways, water harvesting tanks and irrigation canals, were rehabilitated or built.
- 72 activities to reclaim 22 hectares of agricultural and grazing lands, by removing harmful bushes and trees and building protective walls for natural pastures.
- 6 schools were refurbished, expanded and better equipped to support education outcomes.
- 63 Hygiene and sanitation assets were renovated or constructed to provide functioning sanitation networks.
- 5 solid waste piles were cleaned contributing to healthier community environment.
- 20 handicraft workshops for women were established.
- 2 workshop buildings were built for women to practice productive handicrafts and diversify their livelihoods and income sources.
- Under the livelihood component, 528 micro businesses were created in 2018 exceeding the annual target by 228 due to exchange rate gain, which brings to a total number of 2,152 micro businesses.
- 3,629 individuals received basic and advanced training on business skills development. The training course was developed in collaboration with ILO.
- 15,743 livestock producers (woman) were supported with 21,051 Units of Feed Blocks, as emergency feed supplement, to alleviate the austere feeding crisis due to shortage / high prices of feeds.
- 9,433 farmers including 7,451 livestock women (79%) received training on improved animal feeding and milking practices. Also, 1,275 rural women were guided by the project trained extension women through livestock exercises and stimulate numerous FFS sessions on livestock / dairy / fattening and feeding value chains.
- Distribution of food grade stainless steel small dairy equipment to support 1,221 smallholder beneficiaries, 75% women headed-households, in Hudaydah and Hajja and 900 individual women and 25 women groups (with 369 members) in Lahj and Abyan for improving milk hygiene, handling and processing at home.
- 3,000 farmers were supported with improved seeds of sorghum and millet for cereal crop value chain improvement. And 1,597 tomato crop producers were supported with 1,997 cans of tomato improved seeds.
- 732 displaced dairy farmers affected by the conflict in (Al Hudaydah Governorate), AL-Marawiah and Bajel districts, were supported with an emergency distribution of animal feeds to 6000 cows.
- 775,371 animal heads of 30,825 households have been vaccinated and treated against internal-external parasites by the regional veterinary services.

Activity Result 1.1: Inclusive community-based governance systems are strengthened to develop community resilience plans and identify community priority actions (UNDP)

UNDP focused on two key activities that contribute to achieving output 1.1. The first one is building inclusive community-based governance systems, and the second is improving livelihood. These two specific interventions were also the key to the entry point to the targeted communities to begin the dialogue process to understand the impacts of the ongoing crisis on the socio-economic situation. Activities, such as community organization, priority-based resilience plan preparation and implementation, providing immediate support through emergency employment and skill-based training, seed grant and advisory support for the entrepreneurship development, were the key for the above output. This section captures the impacts on community governance as well as on economic self-reliance. Quantitative analysis as well as qualitative evidence are presented to support the overall effect created through the interventions in the year of 2018.

Inclusive community-based governance:

The community governance to strengthen resilience building is driven by planning, institution building, and service delivery. Since the crisis started in Yemen, the local financing of district administration has stopped and so has the revenue collection through direct taxes. Apart from the above, the salary and incentive on which the local authorities were entirely dependent, did not continue after March 2015. Bureaucrats and technocrats could not continue to work with executive organs (local council) due to their lack of willingness. The crisis continued to widen the gap between local authority and affected communities and brought both in a helpless situation to support each other. The intervention of ERRY local governance component has underscored the above bottleneck and, through its intervention, tried to restore minimum standards and highlighted the need for it during the crisis context. During the intervention period, the local governance component built on village level governance to sub-district model. The local administrative law (LAL) created a two-tier system; district and sub-district to promote local governance in Yemen. The primary objective of the local governance component was to build the trust between authority and affected communities and enhance social contracts in the crisis context.

Establishment of horizontal and vertical linkages through VCCs to strengthen community governance

Although the local administration law does not include villages as a unit of analysis for planning and resource mobilization perspectives, the Village Cooperative Council (VCC) establishment can be considered as auxiliary support to build the sub-district and district relationships, which have been lost due to stoppage of service delivery related support. VCC has managed to bring back the confidence and strengthens the horizontal and vertical linkages. VCC at the village level managed to bring informal institutions related to water, youths and women groups to mobilize village to implement service delivery projects. At the same time, VCC was also able to build relationships and linkages with local authority, both executive (local council) and administrative organs, to seek approval for the construction of service delivery facilities. It is worth noting that VCC as a village unit may find difficulties to advocate for service delivery improvement in future because many of the services such as health, water, education, community assets are shared in nature. In Lahj and Hajjah, sub-district level VCCs were designed using SFD's Tamkeen approach, the results of which are encouraging.

The participating UN agencies have agreed to follow up in the rollout of the plan in ERRY II. The sub-district level model can be easily replicated and leveraged with other aid agencies.

Status of School Building Prior to The Intervention of Local Governance Activities



IMPACTS

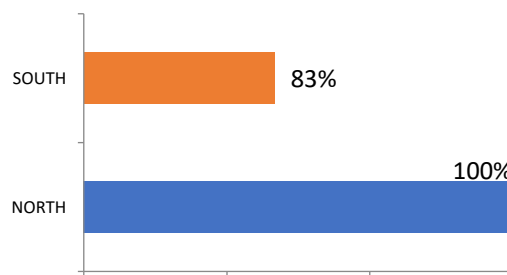
Increasing role of women in enhancing service delivery

Pre-crisis, Yemen could not enjoy the demographic dividends, and the ongoing context challenged the limited role of women in the local community and beyond. The crisis has exposed the division of labor between women and men, and therefore, in the absence of men, higher mobility among women was observed to support their families as breadwinners. The absence of men and their political engagement has also challenged the social sanctions on women and have allowed them to take part in socio-economic engagements. The local governance interventions have prioritized the role of women in enhancing service delivery by engaging them in village cooperative councils (SFD Tamkeen approach). A precondition was established in the formulation of VCCs to have 50% quota system. There are 223 VCCs established, and the membership has reached to 2,178 individuals, about 46% of whom are women. The regional geography also plays a critical role for women to participate in community governance. It was observed that compared to the southern governorates, the participation of women in the north has been higher. Observations from monitoring missions and interactions with VCCs have highlighted the fact that women in the north fell under difficult circumstances such as the demise of their husbands or their husbands' engagement in political activities. Whereas in the south, the localized nature of political engagement did not allow to break the barriers of cultural sanctions like it did in the north. It is worth mentioning that the participation of women in Lahj governorate was high and out of four governorates, Abyan has observed the lowest turnout. Despite the differences in terms of the involvement of women in VCCs, the identified priority interventions by women and community, in general, do not differ significantly.

Women's role in enhancing service delivery process varies from activity to another and not on a regional basis as explained above. The infographic below demonstrates the level of participation of women at various stages of the community governance process. Women's involvement was higher during the VCC formation, community mobilization and delivery of self-help initiatives. These three key activities and women's participation highlight the strength and capacity women bring to build resilience. Comparing compact and self-help initiatives, women were particularly keen on mobilizing resources without external support such as ERY. It also indicates that the role of women in mobilizing resources within the community is critical and they can do much better compared to men.

It is also important to highlight that there are more than 441 self-help initiatives implemented without any external support. The purpose of the compact initiative was to sensitize and create awareness among affected communities to work together in improving and enhancing service delivery. The number of self-help initiatives reached (441) and of compact initiatives (289) reflect the expected outcome. The 50% quota system in VCCs has created a positive impact, especially in the following community governance areas:

Percentage of VCCs with representation of women

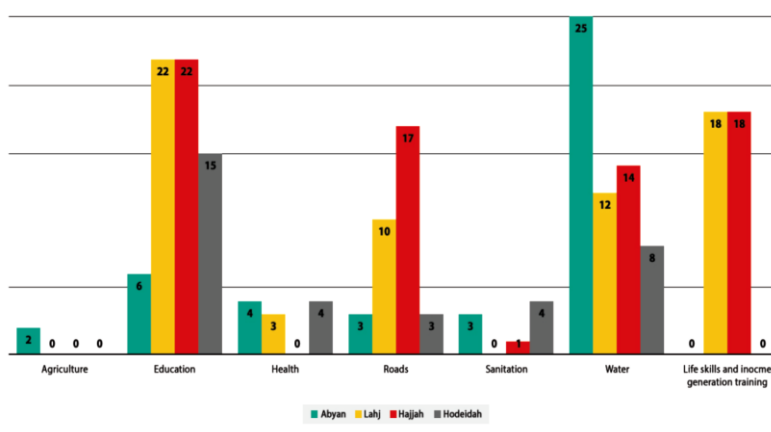


- a) **Needs prioritization:** the compact and self-help initiatives have focused more on improving access to health, education and WaSH, which are the key areas where women and children have had a significant impact due to the crisis. Malnutrition, cholera, diarrhea, and higher school dropout rates among children have impacted women and children more severely than men. The presence of women in VCC and their active participation in community mobilization, resilience planning and delivery of self-help initiatives indicate that women were able to influence the overall planning process while highlighting the concerns and sufferings.

The story of Al Feyoush is one such example where active and strong VCC members especially women highlighted the problem that the village was facing to access health services. With the arrival of more than 500 HHs of internally displaced people, the situation becomes severe. As per the local doctor, in the last three years, there were several cases of severe acute malnutrition, but due to lack of access to the health center, only a few cases were reported. The only health center in the town has more than 20 villages to serve. Pregnant women and lactating mothers were also challenged often and had to pay more than YER2000 for each trip. Considering the access problem to the health center, VCC members and particularly women; met with District Health Office and Manager and proposed to construct a Mini Health Center as an extension to the existing health center. The approval was provided to VCC and ERRY supported the initiative with \$2000 as a matching grant to build the mini health center. The center has now become the hub for nutritional supplement provision by Save the Children and Islamic Relief. Save the Children have made an addition to the initiative by building a section for outpatient facilities and this mini health center now serves more than seven villages and keep track of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) cases as well for further referral. No one ever thought that for \$2000 a mini health center can be constructed and would cater more than 2000 Hhs. The Al Feyoush story also highlights that, when given the opportunities, affected communities and especially women can pave the path to overcome shocks and stresses of protracted crisis in Yemen.

- b) **Improving access to services:** The analysis of the compact and self-help initiatives shows that in the four governorates and 215 villages, access to services such as health, education, WaSH and community infrastructure has improved. Out of 289 small scale projects, education topped among the priority interventions with 83 projects and subsequently water (79), skill development (46) and health (20). The

Sector priorities at governorate level by affected communities



participation of women in these projects also highlights the role they have played in the overall compact and self-help initiatives. In terms of coverage, health and water remained the highest coverage initiatives compared to education projects.

c) **Building trust and linkages:** In most projects on education, water, and health, the role of women in building trust between affected communities and local authority was critical. Due to the active leadership and engagement, the relevant government department, such as health, education, and water, were able to provide the technical support to construct service facilities, as well as the necessary support provided by the government. Women have also helped to influence the local authorities in securing permission without any delays. There is no doubt that, due to crisis context, the trust deficit has increased across the governorates. However, the number of successful initiatives validates both quantitatively and qualitatively the increase in the confidence between affected communities and local authority. This success also substantiates the physical and human capitals improvement in all targeted governorates to overcome the shocks and stresses. The community governance approach was able to build horizontal and vertical linkages as well as able to enhance service delivery.

d) **Women leadership development:** the 50% quota has provided the space for women or group of women to be part of the solution to overcome shocks and stresses instead of being merely beneficiaries or victims. Women members of VCC have also demonstrated that even in crises, resource mobilization, needs prioritization and service delivery improvement are very much possible. The women leadership has managed to bring the education and health-related issue to a greater notice among aid agencies. The leadership has also supported women who are not part of VCC as highlighted in impact assessment of Local Governance and Social Cohesion.



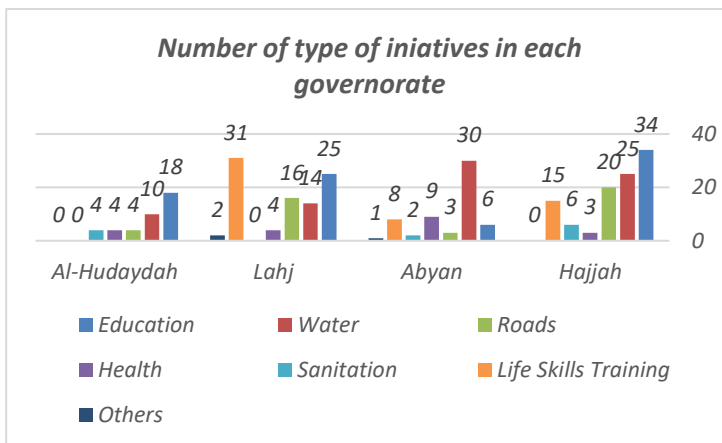
e) **Breaking the barriers of gender norms and social sanctions:** the participation of women in VCC and active engagement in the process of resilience planning development and implementation of compact and self-help initiatives have also provided evidence of breaking the barriers of women's participation in the public forum. The gender assessment conducted in 2016 highlighted that the crisis had broken the barriers with regards to division of labor, roles, and responsibilities. Before the crisis, women were not considered to participate in the public forum and engage in economic activities. The local governance component has validated the above assessment.

Value for money

Compact initiatives are supported by ERRY project and the ceiling for each grant is \$2000. The grant is a matching fund under which affected communities provide an in-kind contribution in terms of local material and labors to match the grant money support to be eligible for the funding. A total of **\$642,000** and an equal amount of in-kind community contributions were spent on improving services such as construction and rehabilitation of **119**

classrooms, 25 water wells for drinking and irrigation, 19 water reservoirs, 13,020 meters of water pipe grid installation, 16 health units, 750 meters of liquid waste piping grid, 3000 meters of rural roads pavement and life skill development for 1,521 women.

More importantly, compact initiatives have coverage of more than 200 villages in 8 districts reaching approximately 56,000 individuals.



Synergy and MTR recommendation status

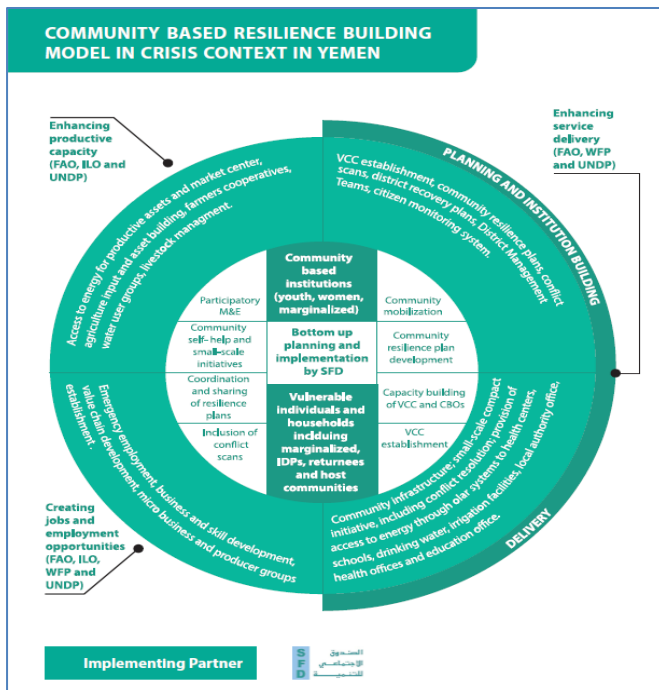
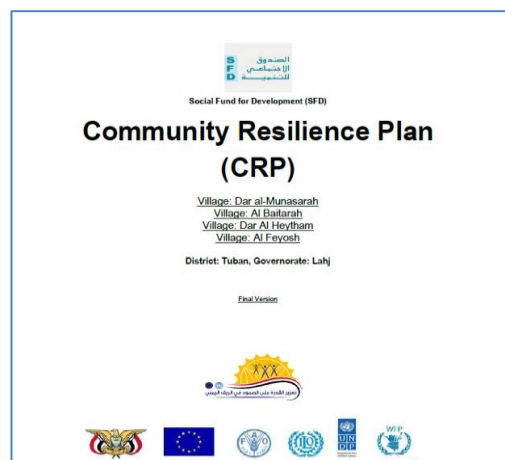
The collaboration between UNDP and WFP in Bani Qais (Hajjah) and Tuban (Lahj) is strengthened under the local governance component. The community resilience plans for both the locations were shared with WFP to identify 600 households for food for assistance activities.

The collaboration was based on piloting employment and employability model between the agencies while adopting the community resilience plan. At the inception of joint activities, the implementing partner of both UNDP and WFP organized the meeting to discuss and identify vulnerable households based on a resilience plan document and information. Further FAO and ILO also support the post cash for work activities based on the analytical data provided by the plan. It was much easier for the community to coordinate with PUNOs through resilience plan document and agreeing on multisector interventions by PUNOs. The community resilience plan was technically reviewed by PUNOs, implementing partners and SFD. The sub-district level model worked as feedback from the workshop participants.



Improvement of Community Resilience Plan Framework

Despite the ERRY design to adopt community-based resilience planning into their implementation framework, most of the PUNOs activities including UNDP missed it and thus a disconnect was noticed in the MTR report highlighting the urgent need to bring back the focus of community-based resilience and social cohesion tool as an entry point for the ERRY interventions. A workshop organized in Sana'a and participants from PUNOs, and their implementing partners were invited to review the community resilience plans. SFD and its branch offices from Hajjah, Hudaydah, Abyan, and Lahj also participated in sharing their experiences in the development of resilience plans. UNDP along with SFD presented the



structure and process of preparing the plan. Participants made suggestions, and there was a common consensus to develop the plan at sub-district level instead of the village level to provide more space for other agencies to support it. Based on the recommendation, Lahj and Bani Qais were selected to develop the sub-district level plans. PUNOs adopted the plans and implemented the recommended activities under the resilience plan. WFP identified the food for assistance and community asset rehabilitation priorities, and FAO supported youths and provided seeds for subsistence farming.

Additionally, the resilience plan also incorporated the local conflict scan and analysis to enrich the findings. The conflict scan supported implementing partners to carefully assess the risks and assumptions associated with the service delivery, jobs

and employment and enhancing productive assets. Based on the community resilience plan, UNDP has developed the community-based resilience model which captures the overall focus of the ERRY programming and suggests having minimum requirements for building community resilience.

Activity Result 1.2: Livelihoods opportunities are provided through stabilized cash for work, focusing on community asset rehabilitation (WFP)

WFP role galvanizes around the first key result area, which is improving livelihoods opportunities and food security in the targeted rural communities. Many households lost their source of income due to the destruction of their assets, the collapse of the local economy and the decrease in agricultural production. To support individuals, households and communities, WFP implements food assistance for assets (also known as cash for work) to provide income for food and rehabilitate communal assets.



FFA has a triple objective:

- 1) support household food consumption during the implementation of activities through cash incentives;
- 2) create and rehabilitate community assets that benefit a larger number of households (indirect beneficiaries);
- 3) contribute to longer term resilience by reducing risks and the impact of shocks such as drought and floods.

In 2018, FFA activities were carried out as planned in all districts and communities, achieving 100% of their expected targets. **1,200** households (representing about 7,200 individual beneficiaries, including 47% girls and women) benefitted from monthly cash incentives to compensate their participation in project activities. USD **777,316** were disbursed to these households in 2018, bringing the total amount of cash distributed during the project to USD **5,903,359**.



Furthermore, **103** communal assets were rehabilitated/created during 2018, bringing the total number of community assets that were rehabilitated or created during the project to **371** community assets. The table on the next page provides more details on community assets.

Community Assets Rehabilitated/Created in 2018, disaggregated by Governorate & Asset Type

Governorate	Activity type	Description of the activity	Number of Assets	# of Participant Households (direct beneficiaries)	# of Benefitting Households (indirect beneficiaries)
Hajjah	Road Works	Maintenance, paving and repairing of roads connecting villages to social services	3	600	2,500
	Water	Construction of water tanks	40		1,200
	Health	Construction of latrine pits	22		1,500
	Education	Conducting Literacy Classes for Women	1		
Sub-total			66		4,200
Lahj	Agriculture	Building gabions and cleaning irrigation canals	3	600	1,800
	Water	Water scheme network rehabilitation	1		500
	Health	Construction of latrine pits	30		1,200
	Education	School rehabilitation, building 6 new classrooms and 2 new latrines.	3		900
Sub-total			37		4,400
TOTAL			103 sites	1200	8,600

Immediate Impact/Changes

Monitoring confirms that targeted communities report improvements in their livelihoods, well-being and access to basic services due to:

- Improved access to water sources, markets, schools and health services;
- Improved and diversified income opportunities for women working on handicrafts;
- Stimulation of the local economy due to an increase in purchasing power (through cash transfers);
- Increased employability as participants were trained on asset construction, rehabilitation and management; and
- Improved knowledge and capacity of local communities and authorities to implement and manage FFA type activities.

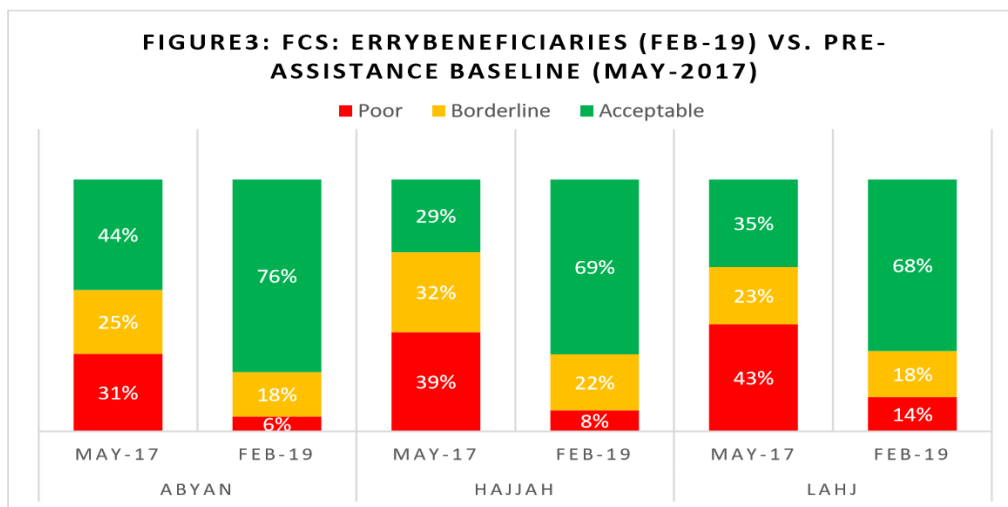


Based on the impact assessment, 88% of beneficiaries confirmed that all assets are still functional, 11% responded that assets are not functional and 1% did not respond. Furthermore, respectively 69% and 55% of interviewed beneficiaries highlighted improvements in their income and skills.

Food Consumption Score (FCS)¹

The study of the impact assessment also showed that, overall 70% of the interviewed beneficiaries had an acceptable food consumption score, 21% at borderline and 9% poor food consumption score. Comparing the food consumption score against a proxy pre-assistance baseline (source: mVam May 2017) ERY beneficiaries across the three governorates reported consistently higher acceptable FCS

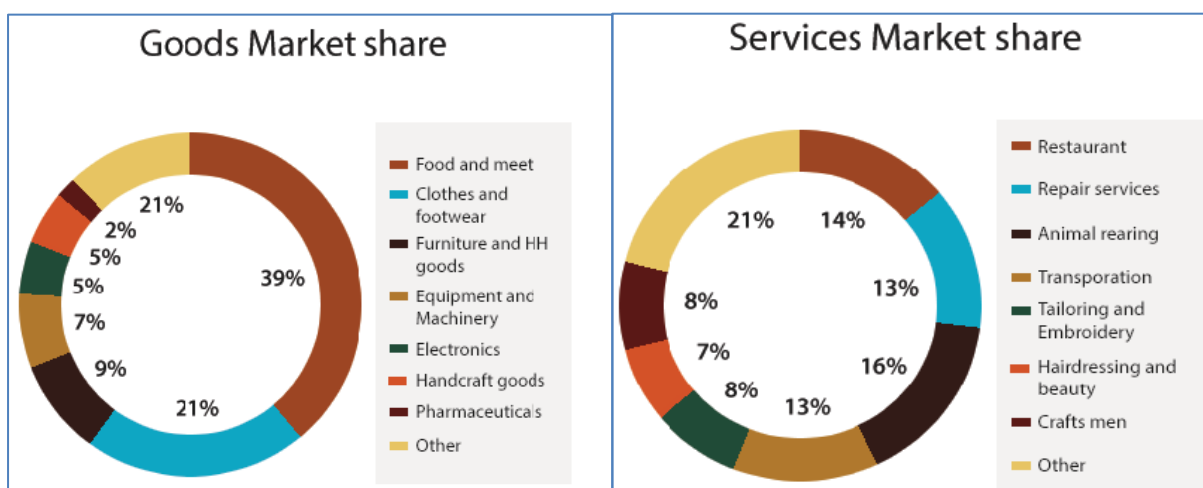
in February 2019 than the pre-assistance baseline conducted in May 2017. However, with the caveat that such comparison is made to the general population living in the three governorates.



Activity result 1.3: Income-generating revenues are created through enterprise recovery (such as within the framework of 3x6 approach) targeting communities affected by the crisis (UNDP)

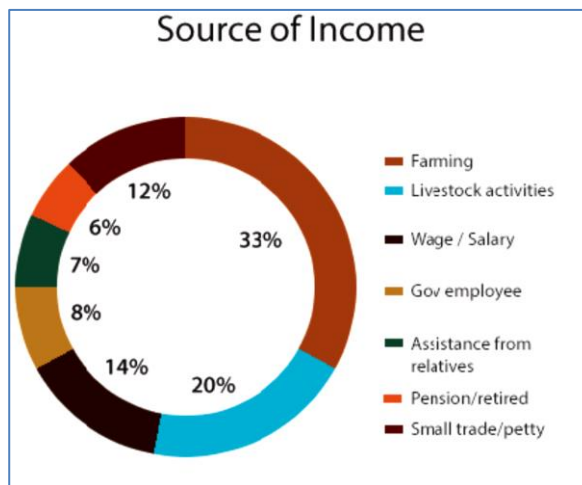
The livelihood improvement and self-reliance intervention adopted UNDP’s 3x6 approach. The primary focus of the intervention was to support affected communities to meet their immediate needs as well as sustain their household incomes to overcome protracted crisis needs. The three key areas undertaken through the 3x6 approach are: emergency employment, business and skill building, and entrepreneurship establishment. There has been a constant debate in Yemen about livelihood improvement and recovery that the affected communities require the immediate income through cash transfer for considerable periods as it tends to help significantly. On the other hand, the 3x6 approach has a blend of humanitarian and longer-term recovery intervention and supports the affected communities to graduate from the vicious cycle of vulnerabilities. The emergency employment opportunities for two months provide support to beneficiaries to meet immediate needs. Beneficiaries further receive skill and competency-based training to diversify their income opportunities. The training helps beneficiaries to develop a vibrant business which can thrive in a crisis environment.

Baseline: The baseline assessment conducted in 2017 indicated that men dominated most of the livelihood groups, and in rural areas women were engaged traditionally in farming or livestock without



being paid. The assessment also highlights that women who worked in wage labor were paid in-kind and very few women were involved in micro businesses. The assessment also found that the majority of women, producers or service providers, were home-based. The main highlight was that, due to conflict, the mobility of women increased significantly.

The above infographic highlights the baseline status in terms of the source of income, goods market share and service market share. Farming was the top employment provider sector in Yemen in the pre-crisis situation; more than 55% of the labor force engaged in the farming sector. However, between 2017 and 2018, the farming sector observed large labor workforce laid off due to the substantial decrease in agriculture production for various reasons, such as lack of: quality seeds, support from financial institutions for loans, inputs, and irrigation facilities. The ERRY interventions were crucial to support the families who lost the regular income, jobs, and employment. Therefore, the livelihood of the 3x6 approach focused on building the skill and capacities of affected IDPs, returnees and host communities.



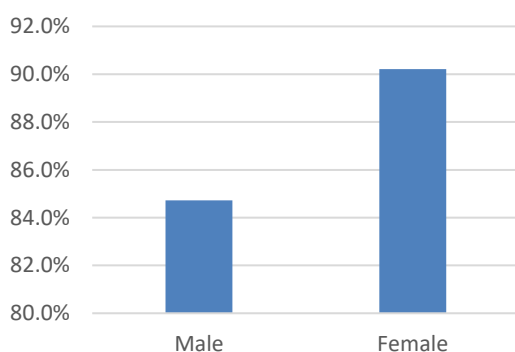
IMPACTS

Enhanced capacities on business skill development for alternative livelihoods

Under the business and skill capacity building, more than 3500 individuals received basic and advanced training. The training course was developed in collaboration with ILO. The course was developed in such a way to suit beneficiaries who were literate, semi-literate and illiterate. Under the necessary training, participants were provided with an overview of business and entrepreneurship development. The purpose of emergency employment under the 3x6 approach is to encourage participants to save income into their bank account. It was also a precondition



% who agree the training improved their life-

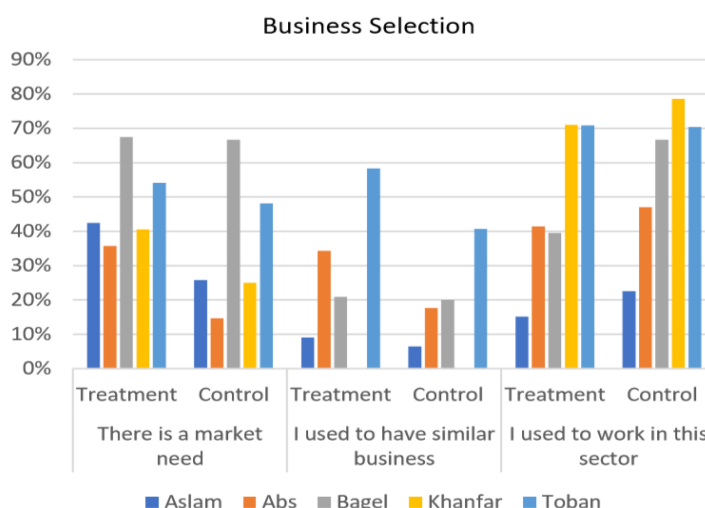


to access the seed grant to have half of the saving earned from emergency employment — the infographic above highlights the skills acquired by the participants from the training. Sales and marketing capacities of participants have improved as a result of the learned business and development skills. It also indicates that despite the capacity to run the business, participants were keen to learn how to organize sales and marketing to earn profits or gain the opportunity cost. Accounting was the second top priority for the participants to understand how to manage the log book, credit, debit, cash inflows and outflows. The infographic to the left highlights the gender of the participants.

Apart from Abyan governorate, the targeted governorates have observed women’s participation close to men. The socio and cultural restrictions in Abyan have limited the participation of women. Under

the 3x6 intervention, the engagement of women in emergency employment was lowest in Khanfer and Lawder comparing to the rest of the target districts. The response was implemented in late 2016 when the influence of conflict was very high. Conflict has a high impact at the community level, and thus women found it difficult and challenging to participate in the interventions. UNDP has managed to intervene in the same district in the year of 2018, and early 2019 and the engagement of women was considerably higher than in 2016. The above infographic also suggests that there is a greater need to encourage women to participate in economic activities. Future programme design should move beyond 30% mandate to engage women. The 3x6 should make a mandatory provision for more than 50% of women participation in the cash-for-work and business capacity building activities.

The project has also managed to assess the treatment and control groups to understand the impact of the intervention. The infographic below compares three indicators in terms of reason for business selection. It is interesting to note the difference between treatment and control group response for selecting businesses where there is market opportunity. The treatment group is clearly ahead of the control group and shows better understanding of market which is very critical for the purpose of the micro business sustainability. The comparison



between the market opportunity and previous experience in similar business also highlights that, in general both treatment and control group have been influenced by the crisis and were able to diversify their businesses according to market opportunity. Overall, there is a clear indication that the capacity building on business skills have managed to influence target beneficiaries to consider the market opportunities and need over their previous experience and the sector they worked in. It also showcases that the beneficiaries were able to recognize the need to diversify their livelihood activities as the market may not support all sectors. The conducted market assessments show that the most popular and preferred businesses among the beneficiaries is livestock followed by grocery and clothes selling businesses. The reason livestock being the topped micro business is also strongly linked with the dietary habit of Yemenis.

Micro and small business development has proven to be an effective solution to stable income generation to support affected individuals to overcome humanitarian and protracted crisis shocks and stresses

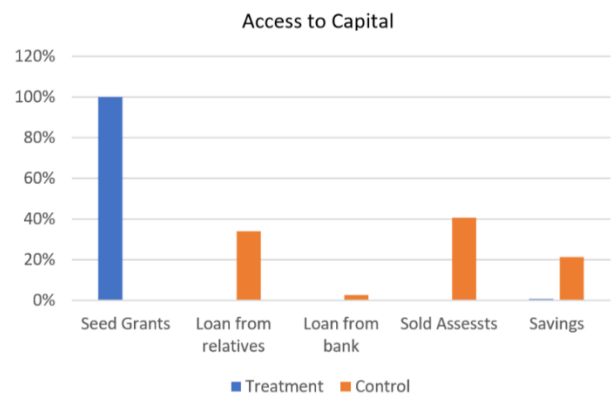
30% of the interventions under the Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan of 2018 was cash focused. The majority of the cash grants implemented under the above plan were limited to maximum 4-5 rounds, and exception cases observed where the grant was provided for nine months as well over a year. The target beneficiaries remain dependent on future cash grants.

There is no doubt that in the current context of Yemen, cash grant is the need of the hour and it provides beneficiaries with a choice to live in a dignified manner. However, in the absence of an exit strategy, the cash grant does not create an impact or help beneficiary to graduate from their status. The number of IPC4 districts from 2016 is on the rise despite the massive coverage and provision of cash grants. The experience of ERRY-UNDP has demonstrated that the vulnerable household and individuals including IDPs can graduate and transition to stable income at a micro and small level where market support the income.

The consumables, food, textile, pottery, cosmetic and honey sectors continue to thrive despite the macro-economic crisis. The myth that due to war, the economy is at the brink of collapse needs to be challenged and changed. The investment where income matters the most needs to be made accordingly to support the affected communities.

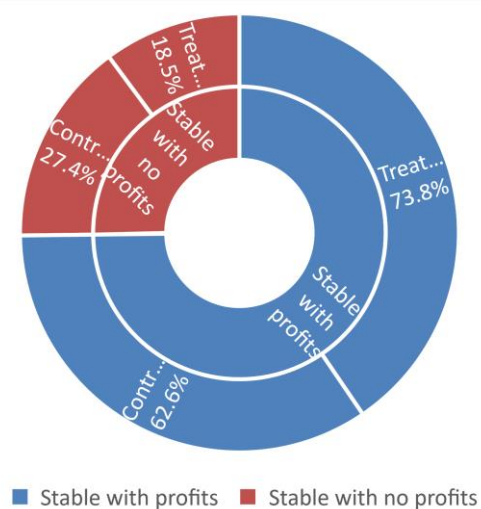
Access to capital

The infographic to the right has captured both treatment and control groups in terms of access to capital. Though the majority of the ERRY beneficiaries received the seed grants, there were about 38% of them also took the loan from their relatives. It suggests that the social capital among the target beneficiaries is compelling and the family and neighbours still support each other even after three and a half years of the crisis. The control group has adopted the negative coping mechanism by selling the asset to start up the micro business as well as using savings. The infographic shows around 3% control group could get a loan from the bank. If confidence is built between the beneficiaries and bank about the repayment of the loan, the access to capital from the financial institutions can increase significantly. It would also reduce the risk of selling assets as a negative coping mechanism. Loans from relatives, bank, and utilization of savings are significant sources, and they all are a positive coping mechanism. The future programme needs to capitalize and support beneficiaries to liaise with the financial institutions. Between treatment and control groups, it is worth noting that, there is a higher tendency among the latter to fall back into the debt as assets and savings are utilized. The 3x6 approach promotes and encourages beneficiaries to save income, and thus the ERRY beneficiaries may not want necessarily to fall into the debt crisis. It also concludes that the 3x6 approach has a positive impact on beneficiaries; it does not worsen their burden, but rather it enhances their coping mechanism.



Financial rate of return (FRR)

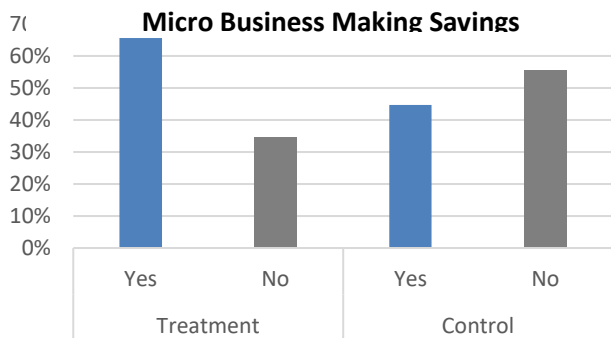
Comparing the access to capital and financial rate of return (in the infographic above), it is worth mentioning that the majority of the micro businesses both in treatment and control groups are stable with profits. It is also an indication of the high financial rate of return among micro businesses, and thus they are also successful. For all the assessed micro business, the above infographic suggests that irrespective of treatment or control group, the microbusiness has survived and has been stable with and without profit. The ERRY beneficiaries received \$900 as seed grant, and the assessed micro businesses are more than a year and half old. The assessment also indicates that the majority of microbusinesses were able to recover the seed grant input in the first 6-8 months with a rate of \$100/month. The assessment conducted among the large sample, 429 out of 2152 (20% sample) micro-business and therefore the findings can be extrapolated for all created businesses.



Income, expenditure and profit

The treatment and control groups do not show a significant gap in terms of income, expenditure, and profit as this is validated by the financial rate of return analysis. Aslam has topped the chart where both treatment and control groups have registered the same level of expenses and profits. The findings also triangulate the fact findings monitoring and field missions where it was found that the majority of the micro businesses were able to earn more than \$100/month.

The infographic of businesses making saving indicate that in terms of saving the treatment is in better place compare to control one. As highlighted in the access to the capital section that, the majority of the control group beneficiaries were dependent on selling off assets and utilization of savings and are

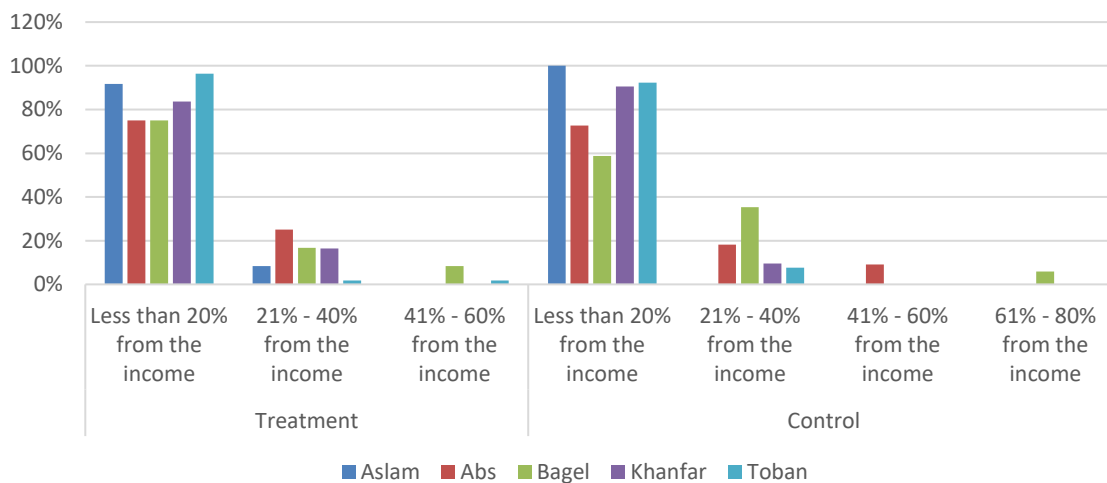


for the establishment of micro-business, are considered as negative coping mechanisms.

The majority of the control group beneficiaries have indicated to have no saving, whereas the treatment groups have responded favourably in terms of savings. It also highlights that most of the beneficiaries in both treatment and control groups fall under the category where the profit is limited to less than YER50,000/month.

Considering savings, the above two infographics also highlight that both groups are stable and do not fall into the crisis to close their businesses.

Saving out of Monthly Income



Women are breaking the barriers of displacement in a protracted crisis and are rebuilding their lives and their family members' A UN held estimate that there are as many as 30% of women-headed, displaced households living either with host families, renting an apartment or in open fields. The continuation of the conflict and crisis has brought women across the demography whether displaced, refugee or host communities, more vulnerability and exposure due to the active participation of men and young boys in political activities. The gender, protection, market and cash assistance assessments conducted in Yemen so far has indicated that there has been a considerable increase in women's mobility for income generation activities.

The increased mobility has also poised risks of gender-based violence, protection issues, and sexual harassment. Despite these challenges, the targeted women-headed households have managed to overcome the odds. It measured to what extent the created businesses improve women's livelihood and abilities. It found that women became more encouraged to start up and run their businesses according to 85% of treatment group respondents and 90% of control group respondents. Also, around 50% of respondents agreed that women became more capable of running businesses. One of the female respondents stated that *"now I can help my husband to have a good quality of food and send our kids to school."* Despite the fact that the war had bad effects on the beneficiaries, some of them could get a better advantage of it, as one of the female beneficiaries stated that *"because of war, women and children quit going for shopping whether they are afraid or due to poor purchase, thus I started up my business in selling clothes and delivering them to houses"*. Another female respondent said, *"because it became hard to import some commodities such as pickles, I started producing local pickles to sell them to markets and restaurants."*



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Harmonization and promotion of common approach



With the above joint model of implementation, it was for the first time ERY UN agencies; UNDP and WFP came together to harmonize; WFP implemented approaches such as the employment modality whereas the UNDP implemented the employability approach. Earlier to this model, both the agencies were also working on both models. The joint model promoted the standard approach. WFP adopted the

community resilience plan and accordingly the food for assistance and community rehabilitation priorities identified by the communities, and the same beneficiaries received support from UNDP for skill-building training and a seed grant to establish a business. The coordination between implementing partners (IPs) of UNDP and WFP increased manifold. Series of meetings were conducted to develop a common message for the beneficiaries to understand the joint model approach. Those beneficiaries who were willing to continue receiving support from cash for work for a more extended period worked with the implementing partners of WFP, and those shown interest in the establishment of micro-enterprises were selected for the support and input from UNDP. The joint modality also influenced FAO and ILO to work closely with UNDP and WFP. FAO came forward

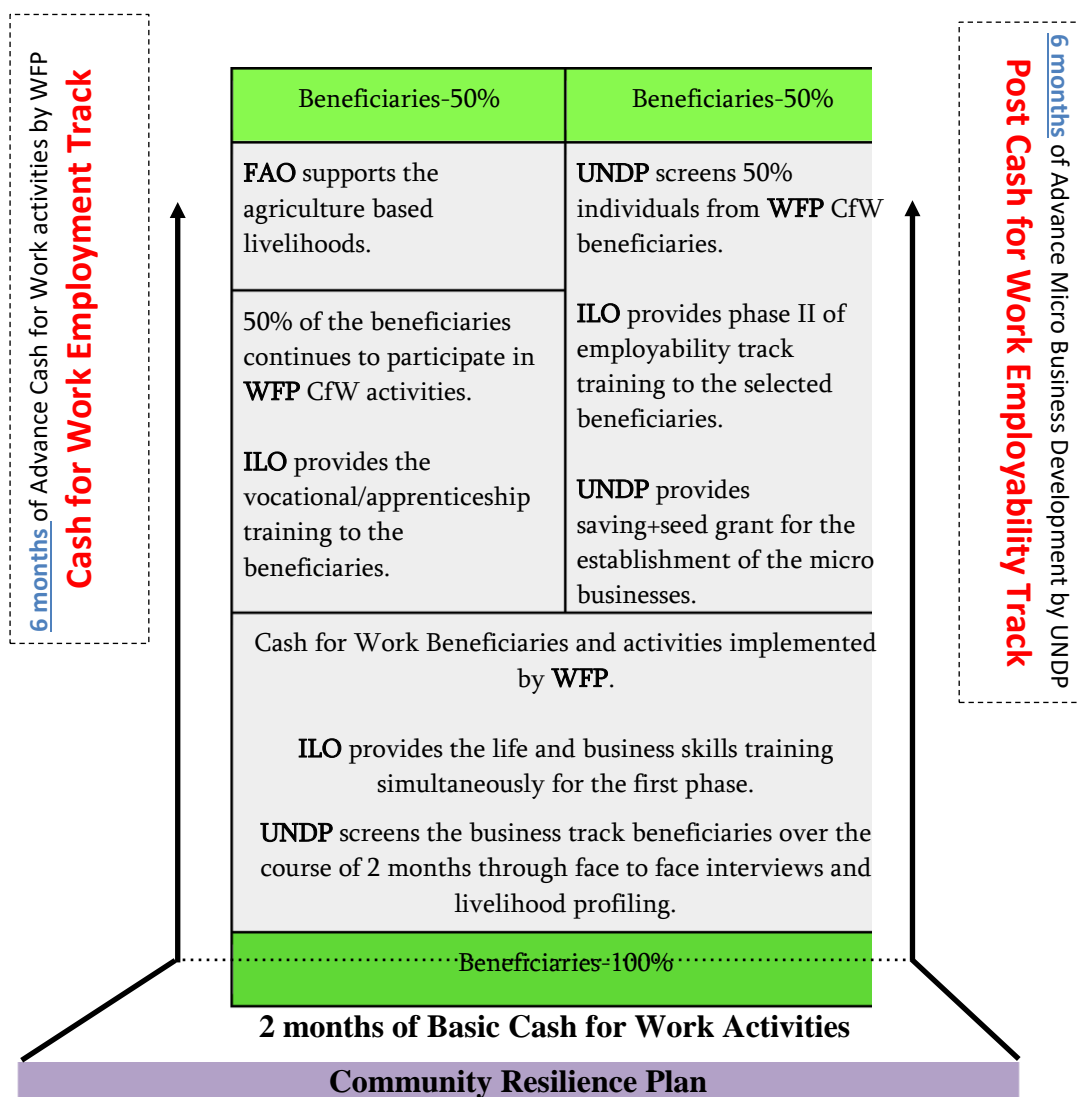
and provided seeds to women and youths whereas ILO supported through their certified trainers to support UNDP beneficiaries in the facilitation of training.

Increase financial efficiency

The joint implementation model has also led to increases in financial efficiency. For example, in Lahj, CARE International was a joint partner of UNDP and WFP. The operational and overhead cost was discussed between both UNDP and WFP as well as with CARE. It ensured that cross or double charging do not take place under the joint model approach. UNDP managed to save \$228,000, and this increased 228 microbusinesses in Bani Qais and Lahj.

Synergy and MTR recommendation status

The synergy and MTR recommendation interventions continued in the year of 2018. Under the livelihood interventions there were two critical areas that focused on the synergy; first, a continuation of the collaboration with International Labor Organization (ILO) for the business and skill development for the targeted beneficiaries. Secondly, with the World Food Organization (WFP), the joint model of employment and employability was developed. The agreement between UNDP and WFP was made at the programmatic and management level to pilot the joint implementation model.



The basis of the above model is to bring synergy across the PUNOs while placing the community resilience plan as a basis of intervention. In Tuban (Lahj) and Bani Qais (Hajjah), UNDP and WFP with their implementing partner have started implementing the above model. UNDP will focus on the employability track whereas WFP continues with employment. The priorities for cash for work activities will identify by the community resilience plan developed by UNDP's implementing partner; SFD. The community resilience plans for all the targeted locations in the above districts are shared with WFP and its implementing partner. It is not only the resource optimization in terms of synergy but also demonstrating joint programming in much more effective manner where tools, methodology, and approach between PUNOs (WFP and UNDP in this case) complement each other. UNDP and WFP have planned to do an impact assessment of the above model as EU's ROM feedback has also recommended this.

Activity Result 1.4: Supporting improvement of agriculture / livestock value chain in a protracted crisis context contributing to increasing resilient livelihoods and food security in targeted districts (FAO)

The lifesaving and humanitarian aid to address the crisis and prevent famine, based on imports and food distributions, has only shown its efficiency in the short term, but never succeeded in famine prevention efforts for long term with increasing local food production. The most appropriate strategy for famine prevention in rural Yemen is to strengthen local food system resilience with increasing local food production through investment in rural farming agriculture, as this is powerful mix of lifesaving and livelihood-saving interventions.

FAO-ERRY project carried out during this reporting period strategic activities in improving agricultural productive assets of rural livelihoods and strengthening their resilience and economic self-reliance. The project has particularly supported farmers with crop / livestock value chains improvement to increase food production (cereal grains and milk), their income-generation and self-employment. The key strategy employed by the project is the provision of farmers with Crop / livestock value chain inputs and supplies going side-by-side with provision of technical expertise on efficient practices in crops, vegetables, and livestock management.

Result 1: knowledge and technical skills of extension staff (MOAI) is upgraded with improved value chain development:

The project has implemented extensive technical training / how to conduct FFS / workshops to 80 district extension staff on various topics. The training sessions were aiming at giving the technical tools and empowering the district extension staff to support producers with innovative good practices for improvement of agriculture/livestock value chains. The districts' extension staff are empowered through receiving the basic knowledge of technical topics and FFS principles. They are involved in implementing modalities and monitoring of project activities with farmers using their proper participatory extension skills and technical know-how; they are now assigned as TOT giving technical support to farmers under the general supervision of the international consultants.

The improved skills of the farmers have been reflected on the general conditions of their farms and the quality of products. The major direct impacts from capacity building as well as some Feedback and thoughts are presented in the following tables:

Impact of upgrading Capacity Building on Improvement of Agriculture / Livestock Production

	Direct Impacts
Milk Hygiene	improvement of milk hygiene resulting in increased milk price from 185 to 260 YER (41% increase)
Home-processing traditional dairy products	Women groups encouraged with production and marketing of improved traditional dairy products, improving their income and standard of living
Milk Production	Increased Milk Production: Dairy women producers pointed out the importance of training on feed supplements in increasing the production of milk by 1-3 liters per cow / day.
Backyard Fattening Business	livestock women have pointed out the impact of their capacity building on feeding feed blocks, sugar molasses, chopped fodder along with wheat bran and sesame cake had noticeable impact in increasing liveweight of animals while reducing fattening cycle with reduced cost of fattening, such positive results has increased demand for feed supplements in targeted as well as in non-targeted areas.
Animal health	Farmers reported that their training on good farm management and improved animal feeding had reduced animal diseases: animals have good shining skin, higher appetite with increased intake of fodder resulting in better body score and liveweight
Development	Many women farmers and producers were encouraged to start a small business of dairy / fattening farms and milk processing after attending the workshops and granted with supplies

Result 2: Capacity Building for Empowerment of Women in Livestock Related Activities is upgraded.

The small-scale backyard sheep / goat fattening with making traditional home-processed dairy products for sale in villages, in markets or for home consumption and distribution to neighbours (yoghurt “or Zabadi”, butter milk “or Hakin”, Butter, Ghee “or Semna”) are extensively widespread in villages and practiced by women. Such activities are considered as the most promising businesses in which rural women can move successfully from subsistence to market orientation with constant stream of income. There is growing demand for high quality of dairy products processed from local fresh milk as there is huge deficit of local milk production in Yemen, where more than 90% of milk and dairy products in Yemeni markets are imported. Also, there is a high demand for sheep and goat males with good fattening status. Both activities are appropriate means for enabling rural women’s economic empowerment in terms of employment and income generation.

However, the management of the small-scale Backyard Sheep / Goat fattening business is primitive with lower productivity. The limitations are multidimensional where the poor feeding is considered as the most impedimentary constraint. Moreover, dairy women are facing some key impedimentary constraints to be considered as crucial bottlenecks to develop their business which necessitates urgent interventions:

- Poor Feeding management practices causing low milk production
- Poor milk quality standards and health risk, due to the primitive home dairy processing facilities (Laben, butter, ghee) with high risk of transmission of enzootic diseases such Tuberculosis and Brucellosis,
- Poor women lacking appropriate assets using poor non-hygienic dairy utensils, with poor knowledge and technical skills in hygienic dairy processing and animal feeding

Therefore, the project has adopted a comprehensive programme of training, FFS, extension materials and demonstration on good practices of farm management, milk handling and processing, animal feeding and animal health developed side-by-side with project activities & with delivery of inputs.

The project has first identified twenty (20) highly motivated extension women from MOAI in Hajja, Al Hudaydah, Lahj and Abyan who received comprehensive training sessions, through receiving the technical tools and basic knowledge of FFS principles and implementation modalities with proper participatory extension skills and technical know-how. Therefore, the women extension staff are

empowered with upgrading their skills and capacities in innovative techniques with livestock related activities. They are now assigned as district-based leading trainers (TOT) on how to train livestock rural women on: 1) good practices of home traditional dairy products (yoghurt “or Zabadi”, butter milk “or Hakin”, butter, cheese), 2) good practices of cow milking and milk hygiene, 3) good practices of small-scale backyard small ruminant fattening and on 4) good practices of animal feeding and introduction of new feeding technologies.

a. Empowerment of livestock women through Training sessions

During this reporting period, the FAO-ERRY project proceeded along with a comprehensive training to upgrade skills and knowledge of **9,433 farmers including 7,451 livestock women (79%)** during three comprehensive training sessions as shown in the table below. The training sessions includes three major topics:

1. improved animal feeding to increase animal productivity: Good practices of animal feeding and how to use feed blocks and molasses as feed supplements
2. limproved dairy production, hand milking, milk hygiene and home processing of traditional dairy products: (yoghurt “or Zabadi”, butter milk “or Hakin”, Butter, Ghee, white Cheese).
3. Good practices for small-scale backyard sheep / goat fattening management.

Details on training sessions

Period	Governorate	# of Participants	% Livestock Women
Feb-May 2018	Hudaydah & Hajja	2979	33%
May-July 2018		1660	100%
March-July 2018	Lahj & Aban	4794	100%
TOTAL		9,433 (79% women)	7,437 Livestock Women

b. Empowerment of livestock women through Farmer Field School’s (FFSs)

Furthermore, the trained extension women as Farmer field school facilitators has guided **1,275** rural women through livestock exercises and stimulate discussion “by women farmers, for women farmers”. The total number of 1,275 women were divided within 51 FFS into groups of 25 women each. Every group meets twice a month in a local village setting and under the guidance of the livestock women training facilitator. Topics related on improving livestock / dairy / fattening and feeding value chains were extensively developed during the numerous FFS sessions.

The activities conducted on farm demonstrations are emphasised observing and comparing farmers who have introduced the improved techniques (utilization of feed blocks, sugar molasses, improved farm management with dairy and fattening production, improved processing of traditional dairy products, etc....) and those who are following traditional practices. The women groups, under supervision of the trained facilitators, follow one regular basis during their meetings. The project has given priority to women participating in FFS for delivery of inputs, especially small dairy equipment and feed supplements: feed blocks, sugar molasses and wheat bran. Details on distribution of FFSs for Women in Livestock Related Activities (Feeding, Feeds, Milk production, hygiene & Processing, Backyard fattening) are developed in the following table:

Governorate	Districts	# of FFS Women Facilitators	# of FFS according to Locations	# of Replicates for each FFS / Month	# of FFS sessions per district / Months	Livestock women Beneficiaries
Hudaydah	Al-Marawiah	4	12	2	24	300
	Bajel	2	6	2	12	150
	Al-Zohra	3	9	2	18	225
Hajjah	Bani Qais	2	6	2	12	150
	Abs	1	3	2	6	75
Abyan	Kanfiar	2	6	2	12	150
	Zinjibar	1	3	2	6	75
Lahj	Tuban	2	6	2	12	150
TOTAL		17	51		102	1,275

c. Production of extension booklets:

The project has produced the first batch of six extension booklets as key technical tools to support the training and FFS sessions, using simple Arabic language and colourful attractive presentations. 28,500 copies were produced related to good practices of animal feeding, manufacture and utilization of feed blocks, good practices of growing and utilization of fodder crops, good practices for cow milking steps, milk hygiene and handling, .. etc.

Result 3: Capacity building of tomato and sorghum growers is upgraded:

FFS sessions are aiming at giving the technical tools and empowering the district extension staff and producers to support them with innovative good practices for improvement of agricultural value chains. The FFS for sorghum and tomato farmers provided important interventions to improve the skills of farmers to reach to a level to manage their crops which results in improving the production, increasing their yields and improving some local practices to manage their farms and crops.

Governorate	District	# of Facilitators	# of Sessions per month	# of total sessions (5 months)	# of targeted farmers
Hudaydah	Al-Marawiah	2	4	20	50
	Bajel	2	4	20	50
	Al-Zohra	2	4	20	50
Hajjah	Bani Qais	2	4	20	50
	Abs	2	4	20	50
Lahj	Tuban	4	8	40	100
Abyan	Kanfar	3	6	30	75
	Zinjibar	1	2	10	25
TOTAL		18	36	180	450

Sorghum farmers increase their production of rains by 10% with high quality; they were trained of the proper ways to save these grains for home consumption.

Tomato farmers were able to produce high quality and quantity of tomato. The introduced variety of tomato helps farmers to plant tomato with more resistance to diseases which helps them to have longer season and get higher production of tomato. Farmers of tomatoes were able to produce some natural pesticides from their local resources by using the extraction of leaves and seeds.

Result 4: women-headed households empowered with small dairy equipment for improving milk hygiene, handling, processing and marketing improved traditional dairy products.

The distribution of milk equipment had a significant and important leap in the project interventions, mainly on empowerment of women. The dairy equipment is distributed to three categories of women beneficiaries: 1) dairy women producers identified from the survey, 2) dairy women groups established by the project and 3) dairy producers with marketing milk and dairy products as well as VAPGs.

The project has procured a variety of small dairy equipment to support the dairy smallholders for improving milk production, milk collection and milk hygiene. The project has particularly empowered women-headed households for processing and marketing of improved traditional dairy products (Laben, Butter, Ghee, white cheese) to enhance their income generation.

During 2017, the project distributed small dairy equipment to **1,221** smallholder beneficiaries, including 75% women headed-households, in Hudaydah and Hajja governorates. Considering the positive impact observed with such interventions, the project has supported during this reporting period (2018) 900 individual women and **25** women groups (with 369 members) in Lahj and Abyan governorates with small dairy equipment composed of essential stainless steel and food grade dairy utensils for home dairy processing and handling (stainless steel milk cans of various capacity; milk filters, butter churns, food grade plastic buckets, mini dairies for milk pasteurization). The objective is to improve milk handling, storage, processing and marketing, through improvement of milk productivity, milk prices and milk quality hygiene.

The women dairy producers received training on the correct milking procedures on how to follow the steps for good milk hygiene standards. Teat dipping, washing and disinfecting cow udder was also emphasized, which had a positive impact on prevention of udder mastitis while improving milk hygiene standards. Women are also trained on improving milk quality standard and proper techniques of traditional dairy products (Zabadi, Laban Hakin, Butter, Ghee Semna) with introducing new techniques on how to make varieties of cheese, to get healthier and safe dairy products. Details of distribution of beneficiaries are indicated in the table below:

Governorate	District	# of Beneficiaries (Individual Women)	Women Groups
Lahj	Tuban	300	12 (184 women members)
	Habil Jaber	145	5 (75 women members)
Abyan	Kanfar	344	4 (50 women members)
	Zinjibar	111	4 (60 women members)
Total	4	900	25 women groups (with 369 members)

The distribution of small dairy equipment to **2,490 smallholder beneficiaries**, mainly to women (87%) had positive impact on improvement of milk productivity and milk quality hygiene. Farmers and milk collectors, particularly in Al-Marawiah district, are now collecting milk from project farmers handled in hygienic stainless-steel milk cans distributed by the project. The small farmer can be sure that his milk will not be spoiled in the hygienic stainless steel while waiting for its delivery. Milk refused and discarded at factory dairy plant has been reduced by 15% because of the absence of high acidity and awful rancid smell of the plastic jars.

Now both the farmers and the village milk collectors are happy. There is better milk quality, increased prices and less milk refusal due mainly to the replacement of the plastic and old aluminium milk jars with stainless steel. There is also capacity building of farmers. The project has made a breakthrough in Al-Marawiah district. The dairy factory in Hudaydah declared that the quality of milk has improved. As a result, the milk price at farm gate, daily milk collected and milk productivity per cow has increased as follows (Al-Marawiah District and Dairy Farmer Association at kilo 7 Hudaydah).

	Before Project Intervention	After Project Intervention
Milk price at dairy plant gate	185 YER	260 YER
Number of Dairy Producers for milk sale	400 Producers	1000 Producers
Quantity of Daily Milk delivered to Hudaydah Factory	23,000 liters	40,000 liters
Cow Productivity litre / day	3,5	7
Conclusion	Farmers are interested with dairy business as becoming profitable	

Furthermore, the project has identified some key issues faced by women groups. Most women have small and inappropriate working space with no electricity. Therefore, the FAO-ERRY project started piloting small-scale dairy units for milk processing and marketing. Furthermore, the FAO-ERRY project jointly with UNDP (Synergy between both PUNOs) have supported four women groups, in Hudaydah Gov: Bajel and Al-Marawiah, who are practicing small-scale traditional processing dairy products (cheese, Hakin, Yoghurt, Butter, Ghee) with solar panels for cooling and storage of their dairy products. This intervention will be further strengthened during 2019.

Result 5: Farmers are supported with improved seeds of sorghum and millet for cereal crop value chain improvement.

The project has supported **3000** small producers (**2000** farmers from Lahj and Hudaydah and **1000** farmers from Lahj and Abyan), through distribution of **150 tons** of improved sorghum seeds and **25** tons of cowpea seeds of different varieties for production of staple cereal grains and legumes as well as for production of fodder for livestock feeding. Details of cereal seed distribution are presented in the following table:

Governorate	District	Type of Cereal Seeds (Quantity in Kg)				# Of Beneficiaries
		Sorghum Ezzeir	Sorghum Chahhbi	Sorghum Baini	Cowpea (legumes)	
Hudaydah	Al-Marawiah	25	15		10	800
	Bajel	25	15		5	800
	Al-Zohra		20			400
Hajja	Bani Qais					
	Abs					
Lahj	Tuban			7,5	2,5	150
	Habil Jaber			17,5	2,5	350
Abyan	Kanfar			20	4	400
	Zinjibar			5	1	100
TOTAL	9	50	50	50	25	3000

The distribution of improved sorghum and millet seeds of different varieties for production of staple cereal grains as well as for production of fodder for livestock feeding had strong sounds among beneficiaries. Positive results are reported by farmers: germination rate and vegetative appearance are much better with vigorous growth as compared to fields planted using their traditional seeds. Under spate irrigation, good rainfall and irrigation farmers reported that sorghum / millet grain yield per Maad was 10-15% higher with project distributed improved seeds as compared to their traditional seeds. They also reported higher production of green forage and stovers. Some farmers from Khanfar (Abyan) have grown the distributed improved sorghum seeds (Baini variety) have got high production of grain: **300** kg/Faddan compared to the local variety which gives no more than **100** Kilograms / Faddan.

Result 6: Farmers are supported with improved tomato seeds to improve tomato value chain.

The project has supported **1,597** tomato crop producers with **1,997** cans of tomato improved seeds, each can contain **5,000** seeds. The distribution was under the supervision of MAI extension agents with support from the ERRY program staff. Details on distribution of tomato seeds is indicated below:

Governorate	District	# of cans (5000 seeds each)	Beneficiaries
Hudaydah	Al-Marawiah	101	101
	Bajel	450	450
	Al-Zohra	103	103
Hajjah	Abs	173	173
	Bani Qais	370	370
Lahj	Tuban	400	200
Abyan	Zinjibar	100	50
	Khanfar	300	150
Total	8	1,997	1,597

The distribution of new tomato variety seeds had strong sound among beneficiaries. Positive results were reported by farmers: strong seedlings were produced with more resistance to soil borne fungal disease which reflect in producing healthier seedling and reduce the waste. The introduced variety showed more vegetative growth which give more flower sets and more fruits. 20% increase in production were reported as well. The newly introduced variety showed more resistance to virus

infections and to some insect infestation. Due to high vegetative growth of tomato, this decreases the number of seedlings required for planted area and reflect in reducing the cost of production.

Result 7: Livestock Farmers are secured and sustained by improving animal feeding and feed resources value chain development.

Livestock production has a key role in the rural project sites contributing to 75-85% of total household income. However, most small-scale livestock keepers operate at poor levels of productivity with limited skills. The limitations are multidimensional, however, the shortage of animal feeds (quantity and quality) as well as their high prices, in all Yemeni regions is the foremost constraint resulting in low performances, high mortality, reproductive inefficiency and vulnerability to diseases. The traditional feeding system is based on poor quality grazing and high fibre sorghum stover characterized by low protein and poor energy contents with low palatability and low feed intake leading to large quantities of wastage and leftover. The poor quality of sorghum stover, which is the main feed available in rural villages, is sold at 200-350 YER / bundle of 5 kg with high proportion of waste and leftover (30-50%) due to its poor quality.

FAO-ERRY project is aware that addressing feed issues is prerequisite to improvement of livestock productivity, which has a great contribution to increasing resilient livelihoods in targeted districts through income-generating and food security. The project strategy is to emphasize on development of profitable and sustainable livestock system through making the best use of locally available feed resources.

Therefore, FAO-ERRY project has introduced a comprehensive package of feeding technologies based on better utilization of locally feed resources as follows:

a) Supporting livestock leading farmers with fodder seeds for demonstration and promotion of forage crop cultivations under potential conditions: Rainfed / small scale irrigation / Spate / Flood irrigation.

There is increasing development of commercial small & medium-scale dairy and fattening operations in mixed farming systems in the Tihama plains as well as in Southern lowlands, where there are several valleys. FAO-ERRY project has a high potential to promote cultivation of fodder crops of low water requirements and high resistant to drought & higher salinity.

The project has particularly supported farmers with fodder seeds and introduced on-farm demonstrations of appropriate techniques related to cultivation, harvesting and storage through appropriate techniques. The project has focused on the forage species proven under similar conditions of agro ecological zones.

The traditional fodder crop in Yemen is sorghum fodder; more than half of farmers who received improved sorghum seeds planted it for forage purposes. In addition, the project supported **602** farmers (572 farmers from Hudaydah and Hajja Governorates and 30 farmers from Lahj and Abyan) with 2.5 tons of Rhodes grass seeds and 2.5 tons of Alfalfa seeds. Forage seeds were distributed to farmers who have facilities for irrigation: wells and under spate/flood irrigation. Spate irrigation provides an opportunity for large-scale production of high-quality fodder. This is a cost-effective approach as the water and fertile, alluvial soils are delivered naturally. Priority was given to dairy livestock producers and to women involved in fattening business to benefit from such high yielding forages for intensive cut-and-carry feeding system.

b) Village Agricultural Producers Group (VAPG) are supported with Diesel Fodder Choppers for Better Utilization of Coarse Fodders in Animal Feeding

As previously indicated, animal feeding in most target districts depends on dry sorghum stover (aajur) with low nutritional value and high price, resulting in poor consumption with increasing waste and leftover ratio, more than 30 – 40 %. In the context of shortage and increasing prices of fodder, the

project introduced fodder choppers equipped with diesel-28 horsepower engine to reduce leftover of sorghum stover and making better utilisation of local feed resources.

The project distributed **90** fodder choppers to 90 Village Agricultural Producers Group (VAPG) grouping **9,290** beneficiaries from 415 villages. Details on distribution of fodder choppers are presented below:



Governorate	District	# of VAPG's (= # of Fodder Choppers)	# of Villages	# of Beneficiaries
Hudaydah	Al-Marawiah	17	66	2290
	Bajel	12	77	1712
	Al-Zohra	12	81	1479
Hajjah	Abs	8	43	900
	Bani Qais	10	117	980
Lahj	Tuban	10	10	608
	Habi Jaber	3	3	193
Abyan	Zinjibar	5	5	416
	Khanfar	13	13	712
Total	9	90	415	9,290

The project has organised a comprehensive training programme for each farmer group on good utilization and maintenance of the choppers. In addition, the project has hired two technicians to monitor and follow up with the use of choppers.

Impacts of Distributing Fodders Choppers on the Utilization of Coarse Sorghum Stovers

Factors	Impacts
Intake of dried sorghum stover	intake of chopped fodder has increased by 40-70% as compared to long sorghum stover; This is well appreciated by farmers as the price of sorghum stovers is high (200 – 400 YER / bundle 5 kg)
Valorization of banana leaves and stems as feeds	Farmers growing banana, mainly in Azzohra, Khanfar and Zinjibar districts have reported that fodder choppers are also efficient in chopping banana leaves to increase feed resources in banana planting areas. Chopped banana leaves are well accepted by animals
Formulation of better animal rations	Rations made of chopped sorghum stovers watered with sugar molasses and supplemented with feed blocks are making quantum breakthrough in improvement of animal feeding resulting in a significant increase of the dairy and fattening productivity.
Women are relieved from daily chores	Women are particularly happy as they are relieved from daily chores and time-consuming with manual cutting of fodders
Development	There is a continuously high demand for additional support with fodder choppers, especially from groups who were not served.

c) Livestock producers are supported with two innovative feeding technologies as strategic feed supplement based on better utilization of locally feed resources: feed blocks and sugar molasses.

The worsening shortage and soaring prices of feeds due to the ongoing conflicts have led to emergency crises of animal feeding in project sites. There is particularly shortage and high prices of sorghum fodder as forage growers interrupted irrigation due to lack / high price of diesel for water pumping.

The project has developed strategic and sustainable intervention based on the incorporation of local feed resources/ago-Industrial by-products into the local livestock community and thus increasing resilient livelihoods in the targeted districts. As a part of this strategy the project has first conducted

on-farm demonstration then scaled up introduction of two innovative feeding technologies as strategic feed supplement: feed blocks and sugar molasses, introduced and distributed by FAO-ERRY project at a large scale in Yemen for the first time. They have created real keen interest among farmers, mainly with women for their traditional livestock activities: dairy cows and backyard sheep/goat fattening business.

1. Supporting farmers with Feed Blocks

Feed Blocks (FBs) or Multi-nutrient Blocks (MBs) are a mixture containing urea, molasses, cereal bran and binders licked by animals as catalytic supplement for better utilization of poor roughage. Feed blocks have numerous advantages such as (i) strategic supplements that can ensure intake increase and efficiency of digestive utilization of poor-quality roughages; and (ii) simple to make locally at low-cost. The key ingredients for preparation of feed blocks are locally produced and available in Yemen (Sugar molasses and wheat bran). The following formula has successfully been applied with satisfactory hardness, cohesion and without any apparent hygroscopy (%): wheat bran (35); molasses (25); cement (20); urea (7,5); salt (10), Dicalcium Phosphate (2,5) with addition of 30-35 liters of water.



The project has supported **15,743** livestock producers with Feed Blocks, as emergency feed supplement, to alleviate the austere feeding crisis due to shortage / high prices of feeds. The total quantity distributed is 950 tons, equivalent to 120,594 units of feed blocks (7.5-8 kg each). One feed block is enough to supplement one cattle for 3 weeks or to one sheep /goat for 6 weeks. Priority was given to women (53%) involved in backyard sheep/goats fattening and dairying. Details of distribution of feed blocks to beneficiaries are presented in the below table:

Governorate	District	# of Villages	Quantity distributed (Tons)	Quantity distributed (unit with average: 7.5-8 kg each)	# of Beneficiaries	Women (%)
Hudaydah	Al-Marawiah	45	195	25037	1838	% 65
	Bajel	84	135	17975	2080	% 58
	Al-Zohra	65	130	16022	2270	% 62
Hajjah	Abs	51	65	8019	1125	% 45
	Bani Qais	598	75	9221	1012	% 55
Lahj	Tuban	48	125	15805	2353	%58
	Habil Jaber	59	65	8245	1621	%39
Abyan	Kanfar	75	90	11400	2404	%42
	Zinjibar	41	70	8870	1040	%52
TOTAL		566	950	120,594	15,743	

In order to sustain this feeding technology introduced by FAO in Yemen with encouraging utilisation of local feed resources, the project has trained four motivated private livestock supply traders from Abs, Hudaydah, AL-Marawiah and Bajel who already started with small / medium-scale production units for the manufacture and marketing of FBs under the technical supervision of the extension staff and technical guidance of project brochures.

2. Support of farmers with Sugar Molasses

Molasses is worldwide used as an energy source for livestock feeding systems. This is feed supplement and appetizer to improve intake of poor quality roughage, such as sorghum stovers which are considered as main animal feeds in Yemen. Unfortunately, sugar molasses which is produced locally by Yemen Company: Sugar Refining-Hudaydah (Rass Issaa-Assalif) was totally exported, and farmers and extension staff are not aware of its importance for livestock feeding (lack of extension and knowledge).



The project has introduced sugar molasses as feed supplement for the first time in Yemen. The project has supported during this reporting period **15,386** beneficiaries from Hudaydah, Hajja, Lahj and Abyan Governorate with **1,850** tons of sugar molasses, as strategic feed supplement. The beneficiaries are owners of cattle and small ruminants. The priority was given to members of dairy crops in AL-Marawiah involved in milk collection and marketing. The project has also given priority to women in all districts practicing dairying and backyard sheep / goat fattening as done with distribution of feed blocks, women represent 53% of total beneficiaries. Details of distribution of sugar molasses is presented in the table indicated below.

Governorate	District	# of Villages	Quantity distributed (Tons)	# of Beneficiaries	Women (%)
Hudaydah	Al-Marawiah	45	423.6	2120	% 65
	Bajel	84	359.46	4665	% 58
	Al-Zohra	65	319.562	2154	% 62
Hajjah	Abs	51	151.088	855	% 45
	Bani Qais	98	181.43	872	% 55
Lahj	Tuban	48	159.04	1650	%58
	Habil Jaber	59	34.31	500	%39
Abyan	Kanfar	75	156.37	1570	%42
	Zinjibar	41	62.49	1000	%52
TOTAL		566	1,847.35	15,386	

The impact has been excellent, and all recipients are pleased with the results. Farmers were particularly enthusiastic for the innovative utilization of sugar molasses and FBs as livestock feed supplements. FBs present nutritional and economic advantage as compared to imported salt blocks composed mainly of salt. One feed block (7.5-8 kg) costs 1500 YER (USD 4) which is sufficient to supplement one cattle for 3 weeks or to supplement one sheep /goat for 6 weeks.

Furthermore, the introduction of sugar molasses has made breakthrough; the Sugar molasses is high energetic feed supplement and appetizer to improve intake of low-quality fodders such as sorghum stovers. The economic impact is demonstrated with dairy farmers in Al-Marawiah district: One container 20 liters molasses is sufficient to supplement one milking cow for one month (total cost is 1500 YER) resulting in 15 liters milk increase (valued at 3000 YER).

The impact has been unexpected, farmers are very pleased with the results, giving high visibility to FAO-ERRY project, they have particularly appreciated the simplicity of both innovative feeding techniques and the immediate positive effect on increasing milk production and animal health status. The demand is very high, there is large number of farmers appearing to the project office or visiting MOAI district offices and calling on daily-basis requesting to be among the direct beneficiaries after they have seen their neighbors gain real benefits.

Result 8: Livestock women are empowered to improve small-scale backyard sheep / goat fattening value chain business.

The Small-Scale Backyard Sheep / Goat fattening value chain is a major component for food security with good economic opportunity for youth & women's employment and earning capacities in the project districts. Their farm management is particularly practiced by women because of the low initial

investment, rapid rate of turnover, and social acceptance. Therefore, the FAO-ERRY project has targeted the rural women focusing on their support and assistance with feed supplements along with building capacities on good practices of management of backyard sheep / goat fattening value chain business. The project has given priority to women involved in rearing small ruminants where 53% of total beneficiaries received feed blocks and sugar molasses. In addition, the project supported during this reporting period **1,275** livestock women, following farmer field school (FFSs), with **8,407 sacs of wheat bran**, 35 kg each. This support was aiming at activities conducted on farm demonstrations for observing and comparing women who have introduced the improved techniques (utilization of feed blocks, sugar molasses and wheat bran) and those who are following traditional practices without feed supplements.

Governorate	District	Quantity distributed (Sacs of 35 kg wheat bran)	# of Women Beneficiaries
Hudaydah	Al-Marawiah	1514	300
	Bajel	950	150
	Al-Zohra	1850	225
Hajjah	Abs	300	150
	Bani Qais	1143	75
Lahj	Tuban	1075	150
Abyan	Kanfar	1050	150
	Zinjibar	525	75
TOTAL		8,407	1,275

The Backyard Sheep / Goat fattening value chain is a major component for food security with good economic opportunity for youth & women' employment and earning capacities in project districts. The small ruminants are the main cash source for rural farmers to meet immediate needs of household expenditure, mainly food. Their farm management is particularly practiced by women because of the low initial investment, rapid rate of turnover and social acceptance. However, the management of the small-scale Backyard Sheep / Goat fattening business is primitive with lower productivity.

The project has given priority for distribution of feed supplements to women involved in backyard sheep/goats fattening and in cattle dairying. The project supported 2520 women with animal concentrate feeds, 3565 women with feed blocks and 3390 women with sugar molasses.

The impact was positive as Women reported the following observations: improved fattening productivity through higher growth rate with shortening fattening cycle. The compiled results from comparing 15 women (from various targeted districts) who have followed FFSs with improved techniques on backyard sheep / goat fattening (utilization of feed blocks, sugar molasses, improved farm management) and 15 women who were following traditional practices sheep fattening (long dried sorghum stovers with some wheat bran and leftover) indicated the following findings:

Parameters	Results from on-farm demonstration with traditional fattening management	Results from on-farm demonstration with improved management & new feeding system	Conclusion
Liveweight of sheep at starting of fattening period	13,5 kg	15 kg	1. Improvement of fattening management resulted in increased average daily gain of 71%
Liveweight after 4-month fattening period / sheep	25,5 kg	35,5 kg	
Fattening Period	4 months	4 months	
Liveweight increase for 4 months / sheep	12 kg	20,5 kg	2. Resulting in increase of 8,5 kg liveweight as compared to the traditional sheep fattening system.
Average daily gain (ADG): gr/day	100 gr	171 gr	
Total Feeding and Vet costs (4 months) / sheep	18000 YER	24000 YER	3. As a result, the net economic profit has more than doubled
Price of sheep at starting of fattening period	22 000 YER	25 000 YER	
Total Production Cost of sheep (4 months) / sheep	40 000 YER	49 000 YER	
Sale Price after fattening period	47 000 YER	65 000	
Net Economic Profit / sheep	7 000 YER	16 000 YER	

Result 9: Livestock producers are supported with vaccination campaign to protect their sheep / goat against PPR, Sheep & Goat Pox with treatment of internal-external parasites using Ivermectin 1%.

The FAO-ERRY project has accomplished the vaccination campaign in the project districts in Hudaydah, Hajja, Abyan & Lahj Governorates covering direct and indirect beneficiaries; vaccination of sheep and goats against PPR, Sheep & Goat Pox with treatment of internal-external parasites using Ivermectin 1%. The vaccination and treatment campaign were implemented by the regional veterinary services through LOAs between the Veterinary Services and the project OSRO/YEM/504/EU, under the supervision and the control of the project management unit. The extension staff had received comprehensive training programme prior to starting the vaccination campaign on logistics and good techniques to implement vaccination and treatment. A total number of **775,371 sheep / goats** owned by 30,825 livestock producers were vaccinated and treated. Details are presented in the table below:

Governorate	District	# of Teams (3 staff / team)	# of vaccinated animals	# of Beneficiaries (HHs)
Hudaydah	Al-Marawiah	5	106673	3676
	Bajel	6	144373	4812
	Al-Zohra	4	84,745	5958
Hajjah	Abs	7	180155	5627
	Bani Qais	3	75104	3882
Lahj	Tuban	3	36,948	1976
	Habil Jaber	3	25655	483
Abyan	Kanfar	6	87,573	3162
	Zinjibar	2	34,145	1,249
TOTAL		39	775,371	30,825

Result 10: Emergency Response and Support are Provided to FAO-ERRY Displaced Dairy Producers from War-Affected Areas in Al-Hudaydah.

a) Project beneficiaries (dairy producers) greatly affected by conflicts in Hudaydah

The outbreak of heavy fighting along Yemen's western coastal districts of Al Hudaydah Governorate that escalated in June 2018 as well as the continuing military developments in Al-Hudaydah surroundings (kilo 7-10-16-West Al-Marawiah) are increasingly intensified. The war is affecting the whole population in the conflict areas. However, the FAO-ERRY poor small livestock keepers in the areas are the worst-affected as they are losing their live animals which are their unique living asset for most of rural livelihoods

The conflict has directly impacted marketing and transportation, as some districts have become fully isolated or partially isolated due to distance and armed clashes. Movement also takes longer due to numerous checkpoints, the establishment of defensive fighting positions and the existence of explosive devices. The disaster is that more than **1,000** small dairy producers from war-affected areas in Al-Hudaydah Governorate have halted delivering their milk to Al Hudaydah Yemeni Factory Plant, after cutting off the kilo 16 route linking Al Hudaydah city to dairy producing areas in AL-Marawiah and surroundings. Then the dairy factory is no more accessible since October 2018 as it was damaged and became in the military zone. Therefore, considerable post-harvest milk losses, due to absence of cooling system, occur with negative impacts on income of the producers as milk marketing is the main source of small dairy producers.

It is worth noting that the dairy market in Yemen is dominated almost totally by imported dairy products (95 percent). Al Hudaydah Governorate is the sole region in Yemen producing and marketing some 25 – 35 tons of fresh milk to Al Hudaydah Yemeni Dairy Factory produced by 1000 small dairy producers, mainly from Al-Marawaa district. For more than two years, the EU-funded ERRY programme is kick-starting a small-scale dairy value chain production and improving milk production

and milk prices. Unfortunately, the current situation had put small dairy farmers in unexpected dramatic situation of severe turmoil and distress, with serious setbacks that threaten their main income.

b) Support with animal feeds

FAO-ERRY has advocated for urgent and consistent support to the project beneficiaries displaced from the conflict-affected rural areas in Al Hudaydah, who can no longer afford the continuing marketing of their milk to buy feeds and are collapsing for their food security and livelihoods. As emergency response, FAO-ERRY has immediately established an emergency team composed of FAO-ERRY team who made possible the logistical and technical requirements and supported **732 displaced dairy farmers with 6000 cows** in AL-Marawiah and Bajel districts (Al Hudaydah Governorate) that are in urgent need for emergency support distribution of animal feeds; detailed in the following table:



District	Wheat bran (sacs, 35 kg each)	Concentrate feed (sacs, 50 kg each)	Sorghun stovers (bundles, 5 kg each)	Feed blocks (Units, 8 kg each)	Sugar Molasses (liters)	# of Beneficiaries (Displaced Dairy Producers)
Al-Marawiah	11766	1427	7798	30 000	70 000	589
Bajel	4519	173	5518	10 000	30 000	143
TOTAL	16,285	1,600	13,316	40,000	100,000	732

c) Support with dairy equipment that will enable farmers to resume marketing their produced milk.

On further urgent and sustainable actions, FAO-ERRY started making small-scale dairy units for milk collection/cooling/processing/marketing. The objective is to enable farmers to resume marketing their produced milk in other areas. The dairy units are also used by groups of women already practicing small-scale traditional processing dairy products (cheese, Hakin, Yoghurt, Butter, Ghee) in order to get added value while avoiding loss of raw milk.

Impacts on creation of job opportunities and income generation

The FAO-ERRY project has elicited many important positive field impacts that affected the livelihood of the farmers, related to the creation of job opportunity in the rural areas directly or indirectly. The major activities which showed visible job opportunities with improving income generation of households are the following:

a. With Home-Processed traditional dairy products:

Among the total number of women granted with dairy equipment for milk hygiene and processing facilities, there are 1000 women involved in marketing their dairy products. In many cases, the husband or the older sons take care of marketing in a family business type. Women and young women are feeling more secure and worthy as they have a respectable and regular source of income and job opportunities. Many families have been economically and socially saved due to the involvement of their women in some dairy business supported by the project.

b. With Milk Production:

The improved prices of milk and increasing demand on milk and dairy products have encouraged dairy farmers to expand their farms and increase the number of their cows. Furthermore; other farmers were also encouraged to start dairy businesses. The number of dairy farmers involved in milk sale in Hudaydah has increased from 400 (before FAO-ERRY intervention) to 1000 producers (after project

intervention) with increased number of village milk collection centers from 10 to 25. The milk production and marketing has created more than 5000 jobs including producers, labors, milk collection centers, vet and drugs and feed suppliers. The increased number of dairy farms and dairy cows required a similar increase in forage and concentrated feed production.

Many cash crop and vegetable farmers in Al-Marawiah and Bajel have switched into the cultivation of forage crops such as sorghum fodder and Rhodess grass. It is apparent that new skills and expertise were required to manage and handle these transformations thus creating new job opportunities. The increased demand on concentrated feed, feed blocks and sugar molasses has induced the small-scale private sector through small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to be involved with creation of job opportunity (workers, drivers, distributors, manufacturers). Unfortunately, this dynamic trend for dairy development is now seriously affected by the current conflict in Hudaydah Governorate. The situation has been worsened since the closure of Yemeni Dairy Factory last September 2018.

c. With small-scale backyard sheep / goat fattening Business:

This is the most Promising Gender-Focused Resilience Good Practices that was largely developed by the project. This activity is traditionally practiced by women and play key role for the family as main cash source for rural farmers to meet immediate needs of household expenditure. The project has supported more than 5000 women-headed households and livestock producers with improvement of fattening business and marketing of good quality sheep and goats that created job opportunities for rural women, husbands and youth. There is high demand from women to get training and feed supplements to improve their fattening business, further expansion will create more opportunities and it is well known that the demand on good quality sheep and goats in Yemen is high for the local market as well as for export to Gulf Countries.

Finally, the creation of thousands of job opportunity by FAO-ERRY project – directly or indirectly – has many implications and reflections. The most important outcome is to restraint the rural migration of the youth to the urban areas in quest for job opportunities and better life. Hundreds of young sons and daughters are indulging in running the dairy farming and fattening businesses that have recently became economically feasible and rewarding. Also, many unemployed young men and women were inclined to join political parties or military groups to get some income and gain communal respect. But, after the new job opportunities were made available they turned back to regular endeavours of actual contribution to the stability, safety, and economics of the society.

Output 2: Community benefit from solar energy for sustainable livelihoods opportunities

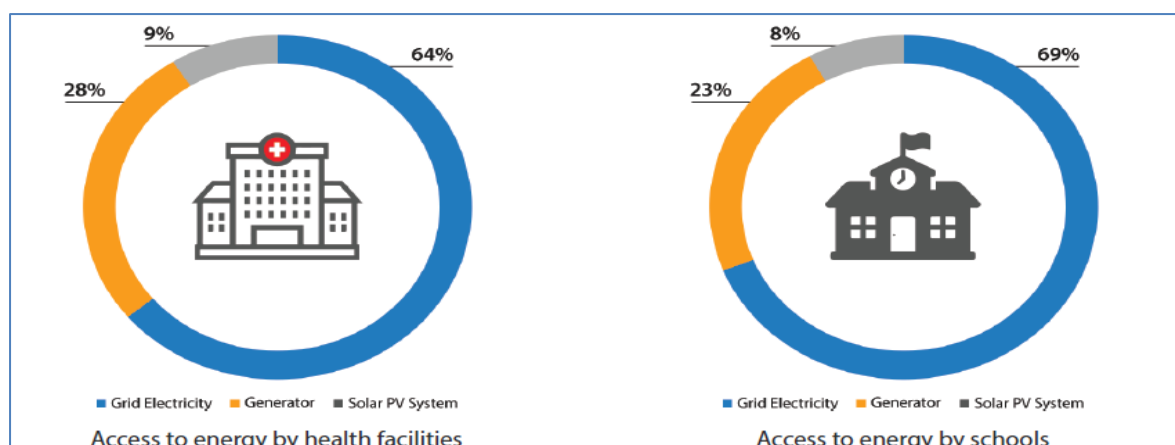
Output 2.1 Summary of Achievements, Year III

The objective of the component was to help displaced marginalized, youths and women to establish decentralized solar energy systems to improve access, employability skills, stable income, and self-confidence. The distinguishing feature of the intervention is to make solar energy accessible and affordable to all. In its third year of implementation, ERRY has delivered the following outputs:

- **176 Schools and health centres** supplied with solar systems to help reopen, benefiting 101,983 individuals; 70 solar systems to be distributed to public facilities in Q1 2019 in Abyan, Lahj, Hajjah and Hudaydah.
- **12 solar vaccination refrigerators (VCRs)** distribution was implemented in the four targeted governorates, bringing to a total of **72** vaccine solar refrigerators, benefiting 36,000 individuals.
- **5,600 Individuals** received PV lanterns including IDPs, returnees and host communities.
- **19 Solar systems** provided to **15 productive assets** and **4 market centers** to prolong business hours, benefiting 9,300 individuals
- **8 Four solar drinking water systems** with automated chlorination stations and four solar irrigation facilities established in Abyan (Kanfer), Hudaydah (Al Marawah) and Lahj (Lawder) to improve access to clean drinking water and sustainable irrigation facilities.
- **200 Micro-businesses** established in Hajjah (Abs) and Lahj (Tuban) districts to create income generation opportunities and decentralized services such as electricity generation through solar micro-grid.

Solar energy has always been seen in Yemen from a service delivery perspective to support critical facilities and less as income opportunities. The demand and supply for solar have increased exponentially since the crisis erupted despite restrictions and blockades. However, accessibility, lack of decentralized services and affordability have remained significant challenges to make the sector as income generation options for marginalized, poor, youth and women. The Enhanced Rural Resilience in Yemen (ERRY) project intervention has addressed the above challenges by taking pathways from service delivery to livelihood improvement. It has created opportunities for the marginalized, youth and women to have a stable income, support their families and neighbors. The intervention was carried out over a period of 8 months to support targeted groups for livelihood improvement.

Under the above output, there are four key areas where interventions were made to build energy resilience among affected communities. The first type of intervention focused on developing capacities and raising awareness of the affected communities in the target areas. The activities focused on the provision of the portable solar lanterns to support communities with no access to energy. The second type of intervention was to build energy support among public service institutions,

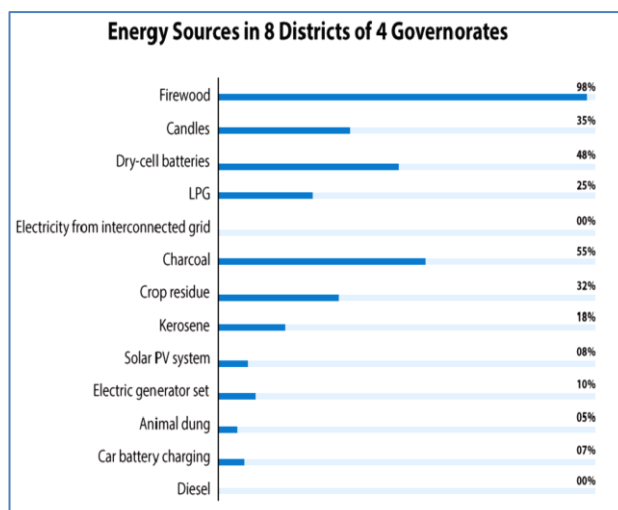


such as schools, health centers, local offices, and productive assets. The third type of activities was to enhance the systems related to water and irrigation whereas the fourth activities focused on developing solar programming for income generation opportunities.

Through all the four types of interventions, the solar activities under ERY have made a journey from service delivery to income generation.

Baseline:

In 2016, a socioeconomic assessment for solar was conducted by UNDP under the ERY project. The primary source of energy was firewood, and other conventional methods, such as candles, charcoal, crop residue, and solar PV system was only 8%. Displacement also impacted significantly on people’s ability to access energy where the displaced location does not provide them with the right to cut forest trees and collect firewood, and thus they were forced to buy fuel from their neighbor or market and only those who could afford it. The above infographic on access to energy by schools and health facilities demonstrate the case of southern governorates where the national grid was functional. In the north, due to lack of network, the impact on the displaced population and host families was considerably higher. Schools, health facilities and local offices collapsed due to lack of access to diesel and engine oil. The survey also highlighted the reasons for the adoption of solar application and the majority of the responders agreed that solar is a cheaper source of energy. It is interesting to emphasize that 25% of the respondents were interested in generating income opportunities through solar power where more than 46% households (sample respondents) were keen to have solar due to lack of safety and security, especially for women and girl children. The survey highlights the need for solar power from service delivery to income opportunity as well as enhancing service delivery as well.



IMPACTS

Service delivery approach to livelihood improvement

The solar component of ERY project has made a paradigm shift from service delivery to livelihood improvement. In the year 1 and 2, the primary focus of the interventions was on providing solar system and tools to support affected communities to access energy. In 2018, the focus shifted to promote solar energy for income generation. Since the beginning of the crisis, solar demand and supply have increased exponentially; however, it considered as income opportunities for the poor and affected communities in Yemen. The solar value chain was more driven from the supply side. Despite high demand, there was a disconnect between supply and demand. Poor and affected households who could barely afford to eat three meals a day, the solar system has been expensive to provide. A significant shift was made, and solar micro-businesses have been created. Additionally, two micro business associations were also formed in the northern and southern regions to support the businesses both technically and with advisory support.

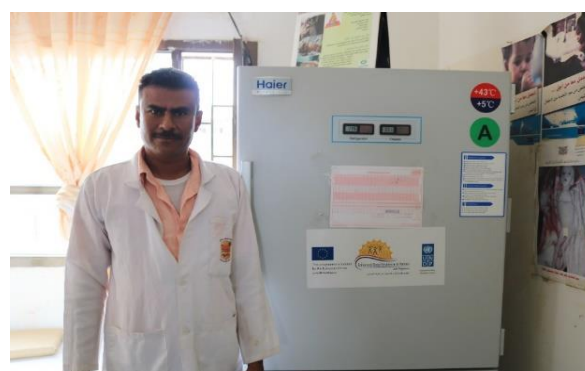
Solar energy extended outreach to support affected communities directly and indirectly in the targeted areas.

Solar energy interventions implemented under ERRY project has reached more than 150,000 beneficiaries in the target areas. Provision of the solar system to health facilities has made broader coverage compare to the rest of the intervention. It also highlights the urgent needs in the health sector. The solar installation at health centers and facilities has managed to reduce the overcrowding and burden on the hospital. The system provides essential services and support to the center and facilities to resume essential services, vaccination and immunization campaigns at scale.



The solar systems installed at the targeted health facilities are cost-effective with high opportunity and return cost. The installed solar systems have enhanced and improved service delivery including emergency services, obstetric care, and essential emergency services, management of childhood illness, cold chain operation, and vaccine storage. The solar refrigerator intervention has enhanced the capacity of health facilities to provide vaccination services pivotal in preventing debilitating illness and

disabilities of thousands of children from preventable diseases including cholera, measles, diphtheria, polio, and pneumonia. In addition to the health sector, solar system also supported schools to improve the quality of education. One of the critical findings came out from the intervention was that the targeting criteria have been proven critical for solar installation, consumption of energy and cost-effectiveness. Students selected from high-density areas where energy consumption was high has lowered the risk of equipment damage. The engagement of an education authority was found valuable in the nomination of school required solar energy. It helps external agencies avoid any structural design intervention or renovation against the Standards of School Structural Design.



Women and youths were able to diversify renewable energy into income generation

The intervention mostly targeted group of women, youth and marginalized who live in IPC 4 locations, faced the impact of a cholera outbreak, host a significant number of displaced populations, and had limited income opportunities. Abbs and Bani Qais districts (Hajjah Governorate) and Al Feyoush district (Lahj Governorate) in the northern and southern provinces targeted. The non-governmental organization (I/NGO) were the implementing partners for the above intervention while working closely with target beneficiaries. The intervention was in three folds; provision of emergency employment opportunities, capacity building of employability skillset and support in the establishment of solar microbusinesses. In terms of emergency employment, target beneficiaries were provided income through short term cash-for-work (\$6/day for 30 days) activities while

rehabilitating community and productive assets such as roads leading to market, health facilities and school as well as improvement of market centers.

Subsequently, target beneficiaries received basic and advance solar micro-businesses training. The capacity building activities conducted in close collaboration with ILO. The graduated target beneficiaries from training developed two types of business proposals. First, community shops for the provision of affordable solar items such as a lantern, charging equipment, operational and maintenance toolkits. Second, building SOLAR MICRO GRID to provide electricity to poor households and private sector. The first proposal developed by an individual and more than 50% were women and a second business plan developed by a group of women and youth.



Selected individuals were also trained by vocational training institute in the target location and certified as solar technicians to support the solar micro-businesses and solar microgrid for operational and maintenance services. Individuals and group linked with the bank and seed grant (\$900) was provided to establish their business. The community based solar technicians made feasibility and consumption needs assessment to provide valuable information to micro businesses in terms of demand and supply needs. The individual solar micro-businesses were also linked with the microfinance network and district market center to promote selling and expand businesses. A group of the major suppliers and traders, mostly Sana'a based, has appreciated the interventions and are willing to support these businesses as their entry points to enhance access and affordability of solar services at district, sub-district and village levels.

There are 160 individuals (50% women) who have established solar micro-businesses were earlier unemployed and host more than 2-3 families (22 members). Similarly, the group of women and youths who have managed to develop solar microgrid have faced an enormous challenge to earn income especially group of women. Solar micro businesses in the last four months have recovered 50% of the seed grant in addition to \$100/month stable income. Within the next two months, the input cost (seed grant) would be recovered, and the monthly income would increase further. For solar microgrid, as this was for the first time implemented in Yemen, the diesel service providers saw this as their competitors. In the northern province where a group of women initiated the business, has managed to break the barriers of cultural and social sanctions by taking a lead role in maintaining their business. Due to business uniqueness, the neighbors, market center, small shops, and local restaurants have requested for solar energy connection. The solar microgrid provides electricity for 14 hours with a rate of less than a \$/day whereas the diesel cost almost a dollar/hour and available for limited time. Since the establishment of the solar microgrid, the group of women and youths in northern and



southern provinces have been receiving a request for at least 10-15 new connections. The group of women and youth can earn \$10/day (\$300/month). The acceptance of a group of women is very high in the community as they were unemployed initially and now have a regular income and are proving employment to others as well. The diesel suppliers and service providers though initially saw this as their roadblock and feared losing clients to solar microgrid, women members have reached out to suppliers to explain the benefits of solar microgrid both from environmentally friendly and income generation opportunities. The community and tribal leaders, head of a village, private suppliers and other critical power holders have also influenced the diesel suppliers to allow the solar microgrid stations and benefit of whole communities. The group of women and youth did plan community engagement activities to reach out to all key stakeholders, and that has helped their businesses to overcome the initial challenge. About trained women as solar technicians, micro business and microgrid owners, the perception has also changed in the community that women can be engaged in economic activities to support their families and neighbors. The barriers that the crisis has broken especially in terms of the gender division of labor, the group of women were able to capitalize on it and managed to get more acceptance. It also has reduced and mitigated the exposure to gender-based violence and protection risks which were observed soon after crisis due to women’s increased mobility. The solar microgrid and individual businesses have provided women and youths dignified income opportunity to feed and support their families. The women and youth have become a role model in their community while promoting access to solar energy as stable income generation activities. The initiative has come in a time where humanitarian responses through multiple cash grants to support households/individuals have seen limitation and challenges to graduate beneficiaries from the vicious cycle of food insecurity and protracted crisis needs.

The provision of solar lanterns has helped the targeted individuals including IDPs, to improve access



Solar PV Lanterns benefits

to energy and resume household income generation activities. Solar intervention was able to contribute to people’s incomes, jobs, and employment opportunities. Households who accessed solar lanterns were able to work at night, providing livelihood opportunities to rural community members who are at the bottom of the pyramid. The targeted communities benefited from solar lanterns reported savings of around 5,600 YER (approximately USD 10) of energy costs per month on average.

Solar systems seem to increase the social cohesion within the productive association’s communities. Some of the beneficiaries have indicated that the productive associations are being used as community hubs, providing additional training opportunities to others in the communities and facilitating community activity when members can come together.

Improved access to quality and quantity of drinking water and irrigation facilities for the affected communities to prevent water borne diseases and increase agriculture production

Solar interventions supported water systems for drinking and irrigation help communities to overcome shocks and stresses. Solar drinking water system installation has proved to be the appropriate replacement of diesel sources in the improvement of water conservation, management, environment-friendly, and improving access and quantity of clean water.

The solar drinking water system is inbuilt with automated chlorination to prevent any water borne diseases. It is the first time when the chlorination system built in the design of solar drinking water. The system visited by the local authority, WaSH sub-cluster representatives and General and Rural Water Supply Project (GARWSP) to approve the quality and standards of the of the system. The longevity automated chlorination system is high and can be scaled up in potentially high incidence



(disease) or hot spot locations. Solar drinking water systems have also brought the financial viability for water management committee (WMC) to generate revenue to maintain the water system for a longer period without external support.

In addition to the above drinking water intervention, irrigation facilities were also targeted in the agriculture-dominated Al Marawah

district of Hudaydah governorate. The overall objective was to support small scale farmers to improve the irrigation system as well as help other farmers who do not have the support of water source to irrigate their lands. The unintended objective of the solar pump system was also to help the nearby communities to have access to surplus drinking water. The intervention found that farmers have participated in the design, implementation, and maintenance of the systems and were fully aware of the associated risks. They make now the extra effort to improve system durability and efficiency. The provision of solar pump input and creation of Water User Association have emerged as a long-term, cost-effective solution for reliable energy and to protect farmers from rising energy costs.



Establishment of national level advocacy platform-SOLAR WORKING GROUP

The primary objective of the Solar Working Group is to offer a technical platform for collaboration, harmonization for appropriate and efficient programming and dissemination of good practices and learning related to multiple sectors in protracted crisis in Yemen. The SWG may propose to undertake a review of current solar programming experience and tools among the SWG members and based on key findings; the SWG can propose to draft action and recommendation plan for areas of collaboration and facilitating of partnerships. The proposed four areas of focus for the SWG are; mapping of the existing interventions on solar in Yemen, action research to define the best practices and evaluate the impact of programme intervention, capacity building of partners, advocacy and coordination and production of good practices, lessons learned, tools and approaches.



Synergy and MTR recommendation status

The synergy under the solar component supports FAO in the implementation of solar irrigation activities. The UNDP ERY project included solar pumps for irrigations that were intended to replace dependency on fossil fuel and empower farmers to become self-reliant and improve their resilience. The synergies between UNDP and FAO, where FAO identified the target beneficiaries and trained them, and UNDP conducted the technical assessment and supported farmers with solar systems.

The midterm evaluation recommended exploring the opportunities to link solar interventions to income generation opportunities. It was implemented to achieve a milestone. Currently, 200 microbusinesses are benefitting more than 5000 individuals.

Output 3: Informal networks promote social cohesion through community dialogue and delivery of services

Output 1.3 Summary of Achievements Year III

- 14 existing WUAs were reactivated and supported for rehabilitation of canals for spate irrigation, benefiting 1,922 farmers covering 6,202 ha.
- 14 WUAs, including women working groups, were established for better sharing and management of village wells and irrigation. 537 beneficiaries covering 180 ha.
- 4 WUGs were provided with 4 solar pump system covering 150 producers and 46 ha.
- 229 insider mediators were supported by the project. They have conducted 62 community dialogues on conflict resolution, 48 of which were provided with small grants in order to address challenges related to public services and contribute to conflict resolution.

Activity result 3.1: Water User Association (WUA) established (FAO)

FAO under ERY programme is supporting WUAs / WUGs through reactivation of the existing or creation of new ones. The objective is to improve water management by and for the community, through both improvements in water use efficiency and regular distribution of the spate water as well as with their support with solar pumps to reduce cost of production. The goal is to participate to improvement of crops / livestock value chain productivity. The project is focusing on three interventions to achieve the intended goals through preparation of LOAs:

- Capacity building of WUAs / WUGs

- Support of WUAs / WUGs for maintenance and rehabilitation of irrigation canals by the community through LOAs
- Support pilot WUAs / WUGs with solar pumps for irrigation

During this reporting period the FAO project has supported a total of 28 WUAs / WUGs as follows:

- Reactivated and support 14 existing WUAs with LOAs at 3 districts (AL Zuhrah, AL Mrawaa , Tuban) for rehabilitation canals for spate irrigation with total number of 1,922 beneficiaries covering 6202 hectare.
- Established 14 WUGs, including women groups in 5 districts (AL Zuhrah, AL Mrawaa , Bni Kis , Tuban, Khanfar) and their support with LOAs for better sharing and management of village wells and irrigation, grouping 537 beneficiaries covering 180 ha. Those groups are ready to be supported during 2019 by solar pumps.
- Supporting 4 WUGs by 4 solar pump system in synergy with UNDP for irrigation of crops / vegetables and fodders covering 150 producers and 46 ha
- Supporting 3 WUGs with LOAs to get access to bank credit for equipment of three wells with solar pumps for irrigation of crops / vegetables and fodders covering 90 producers and 36 ha

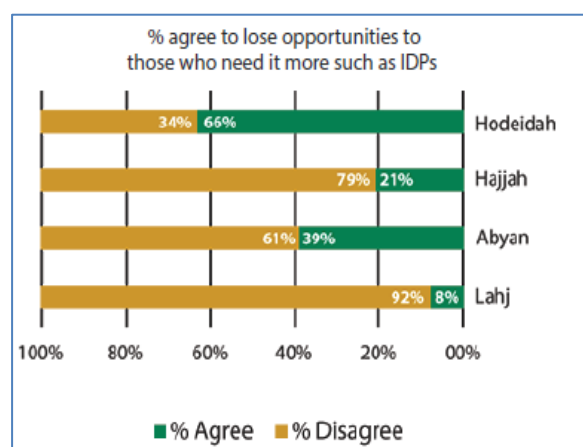
Activity result 3.2: Insider Mediators are better able to prevent and resolve community level conflicts, including areas such as exclusion and natural resources-based conflicts (UNDP)

The interventions under output 3 focused on building common consensus among displaced communities, returnees and host families over local conflict and promote social cohesion and solidarity in the targeted areas. The intervention has tried to bring power holders and those who do not have, together to discuss the conflict that has impacted the communities and identify priority solution to reduce or mitigate associated risks. The intervention has observed that, in a protracted crisis, major local conflicts are related to access and control of essential services and few on co-existence. It demonstrated that the Yemeni communities have continued to be cohesive despite facing the worst humanitarian and protracted crisis.

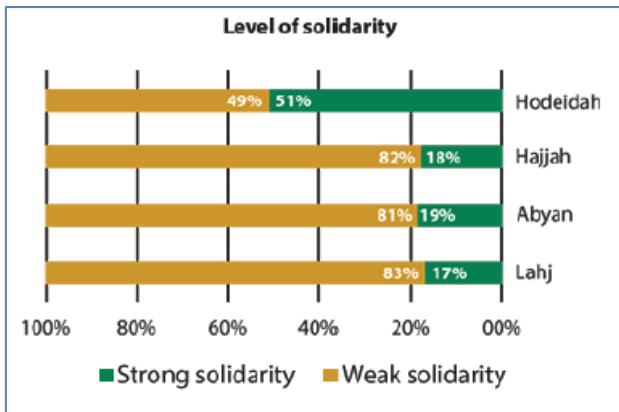
Baseline

The baseline conducted in 2016 highlights some critical aspects of social cohesion the situation in Yemen. In terms of the relationship and trust between affected communities and local authorities, there was less confident. It could be because at the beginning of the crisis it was challenging to find such level of confidence as local authorities were helpless.

The financial support which was provided to the local authorities by the central government and ministries was no longer available. Crisis affected population were not in the position to give the taxes, and thus this made the local authorities almost dysfunctional. It is virtually now two and a half years since the government employees did not receive salaries and incentives. The backbone service delivery, local authorities has become dysfunctional. Moreover, the above baseline does highlight the low level of confidence.



Hudaydah compared to rest of the governorate did not host a large number of displaced populations such as Hajjah and Lahj. The findings of the baseline do suggest that, due to less displaced people, the tendency among the broader society was high to support displaced people. Whereas in terms of



voices heard and solidarity, all four targeted governorates have performed same, and Hudaydah has done exceptionally well. There could be many political and social environment responsible where Hudaydah managed to show well on voices being heard off and active solidarity.

IMPACTS

Communities have improved the access to basic services through conflict mitigation approach

The review of the types of issues revealed from the conflict scan indicates that conflict issues and suggested solutions in most sites were about essential services covering a wide range of themes: water, education, road, electricity, health, youth, sewage. Limited cases of other types of triggers reported (social, political, economic, or institutional, displacement, and marginalization). Conflict resolution interventions have led to promoting solidarity and cohesion among targeted communities. Limited resources from authorities with the deterioration of local resources due to the protracted conflict, increased conflict over shared resources.

The collapse of the local authority with the unstable governance led to emerging of new influential actors that either occupied public resources, secured them on behalf of community or supported the operations of the public services. For community initiatives to succeed, compensation to get the power to control these assets back to the community had to settle in most cases. Public services that shared among different villages are more complicated within the current social and political context. Similarly, conflicts between IDPs and host families tend to be more on the inheritance of the expanded families (housing, land). The high

Access to water for displaced population



Access road building for IDPs and Host communities



impacts also signal to key message that in crisis context like Yemen, humanitarian and protracted needs should look at from the conflict lens. Evidence from small-medium rehabilitation of critical facilities has indicated that lack of conflict sensitivity approach has landed the interventions into conflict and collapse of the programming. Therefore, it is essential that a conflict lens should apply in all such interventions. The above priorities highlight that, water being one of the scarce natural resources in Yemen has affected the population continuously. Due to the sporadic availability of diesel and high price, the majority of

the water sources stopped functioning. Affected communities had to spend more to access water, and wherever the facility was available, conflict erupted. It is also highlight here that land and protection related conflict are very few, but they are the main drivers of conflict as well.

Conflict mediation has helped target communities to reduce the risk of violence and enhance social cohesion

48 of the 60 small grants provided by the project were allocated to conflict resolution initiatives. They were often designed to address challenges related to public service provision through social cohesion



Community Dialogue to Resolve Conflicts

interventions with community authorities and committees. According to the survey, 37% of committees' members that interviewed stated that the project contributed in a significant way to social cohesion and thus peacebuilding.

Another 21% thought that the project had at least some positive effect in this respect. However, one in five committees, members reported that the project had little or no impact on social cohesion and peace-building in their communities. Interviews with community members revealed that committees often considered as an informal network to mediate and solve problems. In about one third of the FGDs with beneficiaries, participants reported that committees have contributed to solving tensions in their communities. FGDs with beneficiaries, participants highlighted the positive impact on social cohesion generated by the deliberate efforts made by committees to engage all groups represented in the community in the implementation of initiatives.

The targeted northern and southern governorates under ERYR has a high rate of conflict incidences as well as hard to reach areas. The social cohesion intervention has demonstrated in areas where risks to violence and occurrences are high; conflict sensitive programming can be implemented in Yemen. Affected communities do not shy away to discuss conflict issues and willing to mitigate or reduce.

Insider mediators have become conflict mediator and recognized as local peace builders in their communities

The project has supported in the identification of more than 229 insider mediators. These mediators are based in the targeted communities and identified with consensus. The community acceptance of these individuals is very high and thus affected people can trust them. In a situation where communities are struggling to have two times meal, the insider mediator has managed to

Insider Mediators Facilitating Dialogues



mobilize affected communities to identify local conflicts and promote social cohesion. As highlighted in the above section, triggers for conflict and violence are available in the form of lack of access to essential services, land, and protection. These triggers can quickly become the drivers of conflict and jeopardize the solidarity and harmony among displaced, returnees and host communities. The role of insider mediators and ability to discuss the sensitive issues have provided



Conflict Resolution Plan Formulation

confidence to the affected communities and worked as trust builders. The mediators have received support from the local authority and council members. The executive and administrative organs of the local authorities are politically influenced and divided. In such a situation, insider mediators were able to organize the community dialogue process engaging all party to conflict and victims. In total 62 community dialogues on conflict resolution were conducted, and more than 900 community members participated. One of the critical evidences came out from the social cohesion intervention in Hajjah Governorate, which has helped more than 5000 individuals to recover their identification card. During the community dialogues, the lack of identity card was identified as a significant source of conflict to receive aids and insider mediator took this to the local authority and identity card registration department. The findings also suggest that, if peacebuilding process is to take place, engaging communities through bottom-up approach may bring community voice and support to an overall peace process, which is currently missing in peace dialogue in Yemen.

Synergy and MTR recommendation

The social cohesion and local governance implementing partners worked together to consider the synergy in their approach. Social Fund for Development (SFD) incorporated the conflict scan approach in the development of community resilience plan. The technical team of Partner Yemen facilitated community mobilizers from SFD to identify local conflicts and integrate into resilience planning. SFD professional support staff worked closely with PY in the implementation of conflict resolution where construction work required engineering advisory.

Outcome 2: Institutions are responsive, accountable and effective to deliver services, build the social contract and meet community identified needs.

Output 1: Functions, financing and capacity of local authorities enabled to deliver improved basic services and respond to public priorities.

Output 2.1 Summary of Achievements, Year III

- Two district recovery plans were developed in 2018. DMTs developed 8 monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to ensure transparency of service delivery implementation.
- 8 projects, which mainly focus on education, health, and water, are currently being implemented in 8 districts in Hajjah, Hudaydah, Abyan, and Lahj governorates. District authorities were able to implement the projects which are worth of approx. \$600,000.

Activity Result 2.1: Local authorities are better able to plan, monitor, and coordinate aid and recovery. (UNDP)

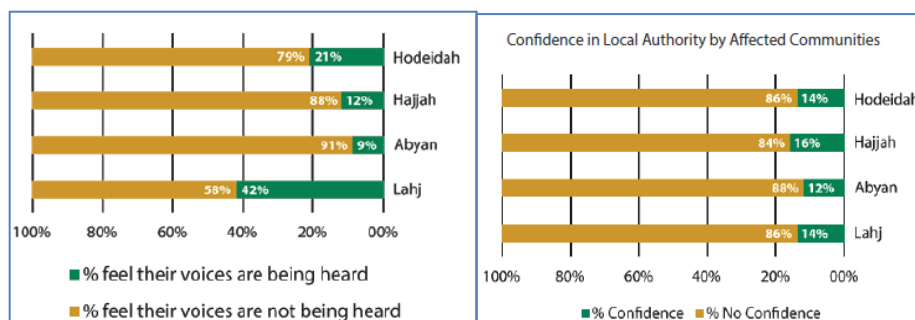
The focus of the above output was to support local authorities in preparing for better planning and service delivery. The intervention tried to build the capacities of local authorities in conducting a damage assessment, identification of district recovery priorities and implementation. The effort has helped to build trust and confidence between the affected communities and local authorities. Considering the structural challenges that the local authority is facing in Yemen, the intervention provided the institutional support at the district level to maintain the minimum capacities to remain relevant in the current context. The intervention also focused on developing a monitoring and evaluation mechanism to ensure that service delivery implementation is transparent and accountable.

Baseline

Since the beginning of 2015, no new budgets were endorsed, and local authorities were operating based on their 2014 budgets, the last ones endorsed by parliament. The local council, previously managed to obtain funding from the central support, has significantly dropped or simply does not exist anymore. Income from local sources- such as taxes and fees, that previously brought millions (an

average of 20-30 million YER per year) has dropped considerably due to economic fall because of the war. Locally raised revenues from residents and businesses in the district have all but evaporated.

Such massive losses in funding would have devastated government services provision even in peacetime, but in the light of ongoing conflict and collapse of private economy, the resultant humanitarian crisis and widespread damage to



infrastructure, local governments across the country have eroded and have been unable to provide most basic public services, just when Yemenis-particularly in rural areas needed the most. The baseline also indicates the level of confidence between affected communities and local authorities. The capacities of the authorities got eroded due to lack of the availability of regular salary and incentive, and therefore the motivation has been low. Due to lack of confidence, affected communities also have expressed that their voices were not being heard in such crisis by the authorities let alone maintaining or providing basic services.

IMPACTS

Districts authorities have demonstrated that through minimum support and capacity building, service delivery can be enhanced in protracted crisis.

The ERRY interventions support district authority in 8 districts of northern and southern regions. The project supported authorities in resuming the planning functions. District management team (DMT) was formulated to support district authority in mobilizing executive and administrative members. The DMT was represented by councils, bureaucrats, implementing partners and VCCs. The role of DMT was to ensure that the planning activities, such as damage and needs assessment, recovery plan development, validation of plan, issue prioritization and agreement on roles and responsibilities to implement the project takes place. The DMT also formulated a citizen monitor system to ensure transparency and accountability for plan implementation. Citizen monitors represented by selected members of DMT, VCC, key community leaders and NGOs from the target district.

The DMT and citizen monitor were instituted at an ad hoc arrangement for the first time in Yemen under the local authority framework.

At the end of December 2018, authorities from 8 districts were able to implement the projects in the table below which are worth of approx. **\$600,000**. Though the fiduciary control was limited, and SFD did disbursement, the engagement and participation of local authorities at all levels of issue prioritization and implementation demonstrated that authorities capable of handling fiduciary aspects as well. The primary focus of the district level recovery projects was on improving access to essential services such as the construction of health centers, schools, and water facilities. The initiatives at the community and district level primarily focused on service delivery. It also demonstrates that the intervention has managed to sensitize both affected communities and authority on the importance of service delivery in the protracted crisis. The intervention proves that it is very much possible to implement local governance customized model in a crisis context. The structure of local governance is far more useful to deliver services, and it can also be extended to provide humanitarian aid keeping the humanitarian principles lens.

District recovery project implemented by local authority			
Governance	District	Sector	Beneficiaries Reached
Hajjah	Ku'aydinah	Health	8,314
Hajjah	Bani Qa'is	Health	2,191
Abyan	Khanfir	Education	800
Abyan	Lawdar	Education	750
Lahj	Habil Jabr	Water	44,080
Lahj	Tuban	Health	9,360
Al-Hudaydah	Az Zhuorah	Education	650
Al-Hudaydah	Bajil	Education	550
Total Beneficiaries			66,695

The experience while implementing the local governance component at the district level has been positive, and in the future, it is very much possible to strengthen the sub-district level model as scale up. The community resilience plan at the sub-district level can be fed to the sub-district level recovery process instead of implementing district level recovery. The extent of district recovery is massive, and from the project, it may not be possible to have such footprints considering limited resources.

Output 2: Increased capacity of local actors and strengthened partnership of private sector to enhance economic recovery.

Output 2.2 Summary of Achievements, Year III

- Capacity of **53 business development service providers** has been strengthened. They have provided trainings to **2,693 beneficiaries** using the two modules designed by ILO, which are “My First Business” (MFB) module “I Too Have a Small Business”.
- 120 enterprises/apprenticeship service providers** were identified in Hajjah, Hudaydah, Lahj, and Abyan to provide upgraded informal apprenticeship.
- 120 master craftspersons** (out of which **31** were women) were identified and selected.
- 242 apprentices** (out of which **72** were females) were identified and selected.
- Expanding implementation of upgraded informal apprenticeship to cover 6 new prospective occupations. **360 apprentices** have been selected and **180 apprenticeship service providers** were identified in the four governorates as part of the second batch, which is still ongoing and will be completed by end of the project.
- Two micro business associations** in the northern and southern regions of Yemen were created to support businesses in the district and governorate level as well as provide collateral support to them.

Activity Result 2.1: Strengthened capacity of local partners to deliver on skills and employability, the entrepreneurial and on the job training. (ILO)

To contribute towards the achievement of output 2, the ILO implemented four key components that not only contribute towards the achievement of the overall objective and specific outcome, but also synergize with other agencies in order to maximize the impact, avoid duplication, and add value to other outputs. The key results achieved during this reporting period are as articulated below:

Component 1: Conduct a Participatory Value Chain Analysis and Skills Needs Assessment of Non-agricultural Sectors with High Potential for Job Creation.

Key achievements:

The value chain analysis and market assessment in the four governorates on the three non-agriculture sectors with high potential for job creations revealed the following:

- Three non-agriculture sectors with high potential for promotion of decent jobs for the target beneficiaries in the project areas are: i) auto-mechanic repair; ii) mobile phone repair/maintenance; iii) solar installation, repair and maintenance
- Barriers that impede the target beneficiaries (especially women) from accessing and controlling economic resources within the three selected value chains include limited entrepreneurial skills, vocational skills relevant to the identified sector, lack of start-up capital, etc)

Component 2: Strengthen the capacity of local training and BDS service providers and employers to implement on the job training and entrepreneurship / enterprise development cooperation.

The majority of jobs in Yemen are provided by Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises. However, they face a number of challenges that curtail them from reaching their potentials. Key among these challenges are limited access to business development services (BDS) such as market information, financial literacy, managerial skills and mentorship support.

It is against this backdrop that the ILO designed and implemented a series of interrelated packages and support materials for different levels of businesses. These packages are My First Business (MFB) Module and Semi-literate Training Package. These packages were implemented through a three-tier structure targeting the Master Trainers, the TOTs and the entrepreneur-level end beneficiaries.

Key achievements:

- 27 Trainers trained on My First Business (MFB) module and 26 trainers trained on semi-literate package “I Too Have a Small Business”. The training workshops that was conducted by the ILO master trainers was based on the materials and the Trainers’ Guide, recently developed by ILO.
- Under UNDP livelihood component, the MFB trainers successfully delivered the training to 1508 target beneficiaries in the targeted districts at both governorates of Hajjah, Hudaydah and Lahj.
- The project team also conducted field visit to Abs (in Hajjah) and Alzohrah (in Hudaydah) to follow up the delivered training by the trainers on Both MFB and semiliterate.
- The project also reviewed and updated the semiliterate training package “I Too Have a Small Business”, based on the feedback received from the trainers.
- Delivered and distributed 25 sets of updated Trainers’ Guide and illustrations boards to the trainers in the four governorates.
- Additionally, under UNDP livelihood component, the trainers of “I Too Have a Small Business” successfully delivered the training to 1185 final beneficiaries in Hajjah, Hudaydah, Abyan and Lahj governorates.



The total number of beneficiaries under this component are as tabulated below:

	Trainers (direct Beneficiaries)					Trainees (indirect beneficiaries)				
	Total	Men		Women		Total	Men		Women	
		No's	%	No's	%		No's	%	No's	%
My First Business (MFB)	27	16	59.3%	11	40.7%	1508	1054	70%	454	30 %
I Too have a Small Business	26	14	53.8%	12	46.2%	1185	695	59%	490	41%
Total	53					2,693				

Component 3: Design and implement private-sector-led apprenticeship schemes and business development services including coaching and financial literacy assistance for targeted youth (including upgrading of informal apprenticeship in informal economy).

Key achievements:

- Completed the Rapid Assessment on Informal Apprenticeship Service Providers in Hajjah and Hodaydah, and the main findings and recommendations were discussed and validated in a consultation workshop with stakeholders.
- [Increase access to upgraded informal apprenticeship:](#)

As a continuation of what has been achieved in year 2017, the project completed the following key activities in the targeted governorates during Jan – September 2018:

- [Identification and selection of apprenticeship service providers:](#)

The project identified and selected 60 enterprises/apprenticeship service providers in Hajjah and Hodaydah Governorates to provide upgraded informal apprenticeship based on the pre-set criteria. The criteria for selection of the enterprises/upgraded informal apprenticeship included the relevance of the skill offered, effectiveness, and internal efficiency as well as their willingness to undertake the training.

The selection was conducted in collaboration with the local authority consultation, the Chamber of Commerce, the local implementing partner, and vocational training offices in governorates.

- [Identification and selection of master craftspersons:](#)

The project identified and selected 120 master craftspersons (out of which 32 were women) from Lahj, Abyan, Hodaydah and Hajjah Governorates in the priority occupations as tabulated below:

Governorate	Occupations					Grand Total
	Embroidery and dressmaking	Auto-mechanic	Solar Energy	Welding	Car panel beating and painting	
Lahj	7	7	6	4	6	30
Abyan	7	7	5	6	5	30
Hodaydah	5	7	5	7	6	30
Hajjah	13	5	4	4	4	30
Total	32	26	20	21	21	120

The selection of the master craftsperson's was based on the following criteria:

- Technical Capacity
- Experience of providing apprenticeship
- Display sense of professionalism
- Willingness to participate in the upgraded informal apprenticeship model.

○ **Identification and selection of apprentices:**

The project also identified and selected 242 apprentices (out of which 72 were females) as tabulated below:

Occupation	Hudaydah - Bajil		Hajjah - Abs		Lahj - Tuban		Abyan - Zinjbar	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Auto-mechanic	14		12		14		12	
Car panel beating and painting	10		4		12		12	
Welding	12		8		8		14	
Embroidery and dressmaking		12		28		14		14
Solar Energy	10	2	6	2	12		10	
Total	46	14	30	30	46	14	48	14
Grand Total	242							

The selection of the apprentices was based on the following criteria:

- Is already enrolled into informal apprenticeship programme in one the key priority occupations in the targeted governorate in the selected apprenticeship service provider
- Completed 14 years of age and maximum 21 years.
- Must possess minimum age, educational and physical qualification prescribed for the trade as per the ILO Minimum Age Convention.

○ **Induction Workshop for the project partners:**

In January 2018, the project conducted induction workshop in Hudaydah Governorate in order to engage the private sectors, local authority, vocational training and other social partners in process of Identification, selection and approval of selected list of apprenticeship service providers' master craftsmen, and apprentices Hudaydah. However, the pre-planned workshop for Hajjah did not take place as this was cancelled by the local authorities. Nevertheless, the local implementing partner inducted the list of approved apprenticeship service providers, master craftsmen and apprentices. At district level, the local implementing partner (YLDF) signed an MOU with the local authority there that articulated the modalities of implementation of the project activities.

○ **Training of Master Craftspersons on learner-centered pedagogy:**

In January 2018 YLDF conducted the training for 60 Master craftsmen in Lahj and Abyan. Additionally, a total of 60 other master craftsmen were trained in Hajjah and Hudaydah in February and March 2018 respectively. The training was in the following pertinent topics: the learner-centered pedagogy, competency-based training and assessment (CBT/A), overview on informal apprenticeship with their roles and responsibilities and, occupational safety and health (OSH).

○ **Completion of class-based training for the apprentices:**

In February 2018, the class-based training completed for 120 apprentices in in Lahj and Abyan. The training was in the following topics: life skills, occupational safety and health (OSH), technical skills on the 5 selected occupations and overview on informal apprenticeship with their roles and responsibilities.

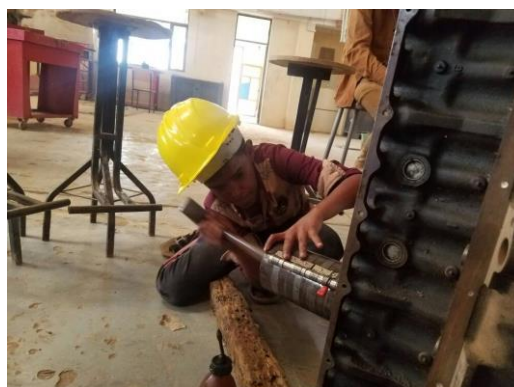


○ **On job training at workplace and theoretical core training at TEVET institutes :**

Training in the workplaces completed in the 4 governorates as all the contracts of the apprentices and Master Craftsperson were signed. During the on-job-training, theoretical training days were

conducted for each occupation. Supervisory visits from the TVET supervisors has been conducted to evaluate the apprentices in the workplaces based on planned list of competencies.

Although it was noticeable, a delay occurred for implementation on some occupations such as welding, auto mechanic and car panel beating and painting while foreseen progress and result achieved in solar installing, maintenance, Embroidery, and dressmaking. finally, in the mid of October 2018, this activity is completed, and the below table shows the progress:



Occupation	No. of Competencies		Progress / Governorate							
			Lahj		Hudaydah		Abyan		Hajjah	
	OJT	institute	OJT	Institute	OJT	Institute	OJT	Institute	OJT	Institute
Auto-mechanic	9	11	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Car panel painting	10	7	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Welding	3	3	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Embroidery & dressmaking	3	1	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Solar Energy	5	4	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

o **Entrepreneurship training completed in Lahj, Abyan, Hudaydah and Hajjah:**

The entrepreneurship training delivered by ILO authorized trainers using ILO business training package called “I too have a small business “targeted the semiliterate, where the objective of the training to give required knowledge for apprentices on business skills and be entrepreneur through opening their businesses. The best business plan which developed by the trainees under this training would be one of criteria that be used on the time of selecting the winners for getting the tools kits. The table below summarize apprentices who participated in the entrepreneurship training:

Governorate	Trainer	# of batches	Start Date	End Date	No of trainees	
					Male	Female
Hajjah	Ammar Alsurihi	Two	20-Sep	04-Oct	24	30
Hudaydah	Sarah Shaban	Two	17-Sep	02-Oct	44	14
Lahj	Rabab Ghalam	Two	07-Oct	23-Oct	36	14
Abyen	Radhwan Khan	Two	07-Oct	23-Oct	37	13

o **Improving the workplace environment:**

Beside the field orientation for OSH issues and giving advices to improve the workplaces environment which conducted by supervisors of TEVET and project field coordinator. Also, OSH kits were distributed to business owners in the five occupations such as First aid box and Fire extinguishers in addition some occupations and hazards prevention provided for master craftspeople’s and apprentices such as Coverall, Scrubs doctor, Gloves, Glasses and Masks to be used on-the-job, which will improve the work environment.

The table below shows the distributed items for the four governorates:

Occupation	OSH tools		occupation prevention Aids				Visibility Aid		
	First aid box	Fire extinguisher	Coverall	Scrubs doctor	Gloves	Masks	T-Shirt	Cap	Glasses
Embroidery and dressmaking	30	30	0	107	0	0	0	0	0
Car panel painting	17	17	60	0	60	60	0	60	0
Solar Energy	20	20	0	0	0	0	68	68	0
Welding	19	19	66	0	66	0	0	66	66
Auto-mechanic	24	24	83	0	83	0	0	83	0

○ **System for Apprentices accreditation and certification has been developed and approved by TEVET and private sector:**

The system was build based on competency logbooks and assessment tools with engaging supervisors from TEVET who monitor the apprentices progress on job training at workplaces, the system was presented with TEVET official for further discussion and approve the certification process and template of suggested certificate. The certificate template is approved as well as the UIA system. Two workshops conducted in this regard; one in Sana’a and the other in Aden.

○ **Graduation and certification for apprentices including distributing the tools kits:**

Certificates were issued based on an assessment log for each apprentice and approved from both YLDF (the implementing partner of ILO) and TEVET in each governorate. The distribution of certificates was completed in Hajjah mid of December 2018 while YLDF completed the distribution in other governorates in the fourth week of December. In addition, YLDF selected and procured the appropriate tool kits for each occupation. The tool kits were distributed for 50 % of graduated apprentices in Hajjah, Lahj, Hudaydah and Abyan in December 2018. A ceremony was held in each governorate with participations of project stakeholders including local authority to distribute certificates and tools kits.



Expansion implementation on Upgrading Informal Apprenticeship:

Based on the project plan for 2018 and the results achieved of implementation the upgraded informal apprenticeship, in the following are the key activities achieved toward expanding the scope of implementation through this type of intervention:

○ **Validation of a new list of priority occupations**

To ensure that the provided training produce apprentices with competencies and qualifications required by the labour market, the project conducted a study to validate a list of new occupations with potential occupations applicable to expand the implementation of the upgraded informal apprenticeship programme. The study was conducted in March 2018. The geographical coverage of the study was in the targeted governorates and districts: Hudaydah (Bajel district), Hajjah (Abbs district), Lahj (Tuban district), and Abyan (Zinjbar district). The following is the list of proposed occupations with high potential of creating job opportunities for the targeted beneficiaries of ERY

project: 1) Aluminum works and fabrication, 2) Beauty therapy, 3) Motorcycle repairing, 4) Confectioneries, cake and bread making, 5) Incense and perfume production, 6) mobile phone maintenance.

○ Development of competency-based curricula and assessment tools

Based on the study, the project is currently supporting a team of curriculum developers to develop competency-based curricula in the six priority occupations where the team has completed the following:

- Conducted the training workshop on how develop CBT curricula
- Prepared and reviewed a list of competencies in the six potential occupations
- Submitted the draft of competency based training material .
- Submitted a draft and final version of curricula.
- organized (in September) a validation workshop to test the developed curricula with the private sector participation.

At the same time, the developed curricula were shared with skills specialist at RO (Mr. Yasser Ali) who provided his comments then the final curricula submitted by team incorporated those comments. Now the final version of curricula is in use for implementing OCHA funded project.

○ Implementation of the second batch upgrading informal apprenticeship:

For the implementation of the second batch of upgrading informal apprenticeship with 360 apprentices, a competitive selection process was held to select the implementing partner in Lahj and Abyan where in the process of selecting the implementing partner, the lessons learnt from previous implementation were considered. In October 2018 ILO contracted with SOS center -Aden to implement this component in Lahj and Abyan for 180 apprentices in six new occupations while continuing with YLDF to implement in Hudaydah and Hajjah to expand the implementation for 180 apprentices in new six occupations. The new occupations are as follows:

- Aluminium works and fabrication
- Beauty therapy
- Motorcycle mechanics repairing
- Incense and perfume production
- Embroidery, cloth design and dress making
- Solar panels installation, repair and maintenance



The implementation progress:

1. In Lahj and Abyan, an induction workshop with project stakeholders in both governorates Lahj and Abyan was conducted. Additionally, businesses, master craft persons and apprentices were identified and an agreement for their involvement in the programme was reached.
2. The implementation of the last batch of training in Hajjah and Hudaydah was delayed by the challenges faced by the local implementing partner in getting approval from local authorities (NAMCHA). However, NAMCHA provided the approval for implementation on 27 December 2018.

Component 4: Develop, test and institutionalize post Cash-for-Work services pilot:

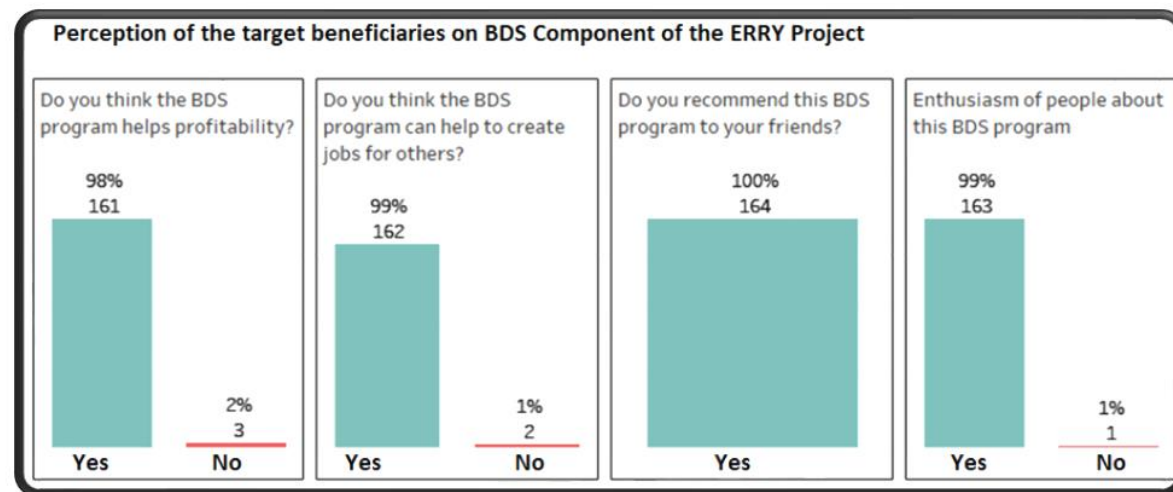
A very limited budget was allocated under this component and a proposal has been made to cover this activity under ERRY II.

Immediate Impact/Changes

➤ Business Development Services

The project BDS services included MFB and the Semi-literate training programs. While several BDS training curricula existed in Yemen, the semi-literate training was well accepted by beneficiaries. The Overall value of the BDS was encouraging beneficiaries to start their own businesses. The following findings were presented in the recent assessment conducted by ILO:

- 96% of beneficiaries are able to start-up of their own business due to participation in the BDS interventions
- 98% of the respondents reported increase in total sales since participation in the BDS training provided by the TOTs
- The diagram below shows the perception of the target beneficiaries on BDS component of the ERRY Project



➤ Upgraded Informal Apprenticeship

The recent impact assessment affirmed that communities had a chance to engage in a livelihood opportunity that can generate income, provide technical and financial support, and ignite self-employment. Findings of the study showed that targeted beneficiaries showed high interest in the outcomes of the program, they started their own businesses, and they were positive about the trainings received. The overall skills learned were put to good use. Beneficiaries confirmed income increase after the training and their overall self-confidence increased. The figures below show some of the findings of the study.

- 72% of vulnerable youth and women trained in upgraded informal apprenticeship currently engaged in income-generating activities, either in the form of employment, self-employment or a paid apprenticeship
- Majority of the respondents (58%) indicated that the current income levels were between \$101 and \$206 per month, although figures varied depending on the location and occupation
- 87% of the graduates indicated that their skills were more than enough to properly carry out the duties of their current positions, which is promising for the efficacy of the training
- 88% indicated that the skills they acquired were relevant to the needs of the market

Activity Result 2.2: Strengthen partnership with the private sector to accelerate early recovery and employment (UNDP)

During the design of the above output, the private sector was conceptualized to support and link market with established microbusiness. In the year of 2017, ERRY conducted capacity assessments of the chamber of commerce of Hudaydah and Yemen Business Club (YBC) of Aden. These institutions have faced massive set back due to the economic crisis in the country and are struggling to perform their routine functions. Structural problems such as lack of government salaries, office infrastructures and closure of several services have been the critical issues. Considering the limited resources and scope of the ERRY project, it was decided to invest more at the microbusiness level, and an effort was made to help businesses in transitioning to small and medium scales. Therefore, microbusiness

association was conceptualized to assist businesses in terms of advisory and technical support. The microbusiness associations both in the north (pending) and south registered as a business society. The microbusiness associations in ERYR phase II would continue to be strengthened at the district levels.

Micro businesses have created advisory and technical support platform to scale up

The interventions to create micro businesses require further technical and advisory support to the owners to scale up to small and medium enterprises. The majority of the businesses do not have



networking nor support once the project creates them. Based on the CONNECTING BUSINESS INITIATIVES (CBI) concept to provide a voice to those established micro businesses including solar, two micro business associations in the northern and southern regions of Yemen were created. The purpose of the micro business association is to support businesses in the district and governorate level as well as provide collateral support to them. A range of

stakeholders were representing the micro business association and registered under the Ministry of Trade and Commerce as a legal entity. Microfinance institutions, banks, chamber of commerce, local authority and micro business owners are the member of the association. There is a formal structure of the association including the chairperson, secretary, finance officer, monitoring officer, and regular members.



4. Communication, Visibility, and M&E

4.1 Communication:

From the very beginning of ERRY JP, visibility and communication have been key priorities. The joint programme is central in conveying the message of the EU's continued strong support to the most vulnerable household in Yemen through enhancing their resilience and self-resilience.

The following activities were carried out during the life time of the project implementation as part of the programme's communication & visibility strategy and annual communication plan:

- 1. A communication plans for ERRY JP Communication was developed for the implementation of ERRY JP Communication and visibility activities:**
- 2. The visibility of ERRY JP was enhanced by communicating results, ongoing projects and messages via conducting the following activities:**
 - 25 short videos and 7 documentaries were produced to highlight ERRY JP lessons learnt, impact and major achievements.
 - ERRY JP success stories and case studies document was produced consisting of 45 new success stories that covers ERRY JP Components implemented by the four UN agencies. These stories are based on field visits conducted by the Joint Coordination Unit.
 - 15 New success stories and press releases were shared and published in ERRY JP & PUNOs web pages & social media.
 - 9 ERRY progress booklets & factsheets were produced, printed, and shared as a softcopy to illustrate major accomplishments of all PUNOs for every quarter. These Booklets and factsheets were distributed in different workshop and meetings organized by the Joint Coordination Unit (JCU).
 - Promotional materials (shirts, jackets, calendars, mugs, caps, envelops, notes etc.) with EU, PUNOs, ERRY JP Logos were distributed to stakeholders of the joint programme.
- 3. social media channels were launched and utilized to further expand the Communication outreach and to disseminate messages, results and activities:**
 - ERRY JP Facebook and Twitter were launched to further enhance ERRY JP Visibility and share its activities, success stories, and achievements for a bigger range of audience.
 - More than 400 twitter and facebook were posted in ERRY JP social media for more than 1000 followers on twitter and facebook. Many posts were also shared using Participating UN agencies social media channels targeting more than 50,000 followers in facebook and twitter.
 - Many Social media campaigns were launched supporting key messages of the joint programme and aligned with International days using ERRY JP and PUNOs social media channels.
- 4. Quality, consistency, and adherence to UNs and EU corporate standards were maintained and ensured in disseminating information shared to public domain and other stakeholders.**
 - 6 videos produced by implementing partners were edited and standardized to ensure their compliance to UNs and EU Standards.
 - ERRY JP Website Page and social media were regularly updated to the latest delivery, project/programme details and other relevant information.
 - A communication guideline was developed guiding PUNOs, implementing partners on the proper use of communication materials produced for the joint programme.
 - Communication Working Group was formed from all PUNOs to discuss communications issues in a regular basis.

4.2 Visibility of EU:

EU visibility has been considered in all communications modalities used by ERY Joint Programme to achieve the following goals:

- Ensure that the beneficiaries are aware of the roles of PUNOs and EU in all the implemented activities in the targeted areas.
- Include EU and PUNOs logos as below in all published communication materials to raise awareness of all stakeholders that ERY JP funded by EU.
- EU logo is used for visibility in all communication materials including publications, videos, photos, posters,
- Successful stories, promotional materials etc. produced by ERY JP, PUNOs or implementing partners includes EU and PUNOs logos in an appropriate manner according to EU visibility and communication manual.
- In addition, in all of ERY JP social media posts and tweets, @EuInYemen @europeaid were always either hashtagged or mentioned so as to raise internal and external awareness in EU roles of enhancing rural resilience to the most vulnerable households in Yemen.

4.3 ERY Monitoring

The implementation of ERY integrated M&E system is guided by the M&E Strategy and Framework which set the objectives of the monitoring exercise and map the expected outcomes and outputs of the programme to a set of measurable and verifiable indicators to assess it is performing as intended. Close and real-time monitoring of the programme's main output indicators, as well as regular monitoring and quality assurance controls were conducted by the programme's main actors (the joint-coordination unit, the sub-coordination, the partner agencies) to ensure that activities' delivery is on track, and that the programme is benefitting the targeted rural communities.

The following points summarize the monitoring activities carried out during this reporting period:

- Output monitoring focusing on measuring the quantity of resources transferred; the number of beneficiaries reached; the quantity of assets completed / achieved; the quality of assets completed/achieved. Post-Implementation monitoring focused on the results of completed projects, sustainability (arrangements for operations and maintenance).
- Continuous field monitoring was conducted to ensure that the implementation of activities is according to plans and quality standards and collect information about risks and challenges in order to be addressed and managed immediately. Field visits were conducted by the JCU team, PUNOs' focal-points and technical specialists. In addition, joint field visits to targeted districts with stakeholders including MoPIC officials and local authorities were conducted in order to assess implementation progress and ensure beneficiaries' satisfaction.
- Quarterly technical coordination meetings at the national and sub-national levels were held. The committee advises the programme on implementation plans and formulate recommendations to overcome encountered challenges.
- Monthly technical meetings for the JCU and PUNOs were held to discuss technical issues, address implementation bottlenecks, and formulate decisions.
- Quarterly progress reports by the four partnering agencies were prepared, as per the pre-set reporting cycle, outlining progress of interventions and providing details on constraints and lessons learned. IPs, on the other hand, prepared their monthly progress reports which are submitted to the agencies. They report on the day to day monitoring of project activities, and their proper implementation, supervision and progress.

- Recommendations articulated by the MTR and Result Oriented Monitoring (ROM) reports were taken in consideration. One of these key recommendations is to enhance the synergies between different activities taking place in the same target locations, which was successfully applied during this reporting period resulting in more effective and maximized impact.
- ERRY organized two annual review workshops in December 2018 in Sana'a and Aden with all ERRY counterparts and various stakeholders. The workshops aimed at enhancing coordination and participatory monitoring as well as to constructively review the performance and progress of the programme activities during 2018. Participants and the programme team exchanged lessons learned from phase one and proposed some suggestions and recommendations to improve the implementation of the programme in the next phase.
- The M&E working group has been activated in 2018. Being an integral part of the ERRY JP governance structure, the M&E working group played an essential role in providing technical support and means to oversee and monitor progress in delivering results and achieving the programme's expected outcomes and outputs. The M&E held several meetings to address M&E related issues, share lessons learned, and elicit suggestions to manage risks and deal with challenges. Moreover, through the active participation of the M&E working group members, data collection instruments & practices as well as monitoring and reporting tools were harmonized across the project's partners.
- An interactive map has been developed that helps visualize the programme's major areas of interventions as well as the number of beneficiaries disaggregated by gender, district, etc.
- To monitor and follow up on field activities, FAO has set up a primary network at village levels in the 9 targeted districts through constitution of 85 Village Agricultural Producers' Groups (VAPG's) representing 569 neighbouring villages. The project has constituted 9 Extension Supervisory Committees (ESCs) composed of 48 people, identified among MOAI and TDA extension staff at district Office levels. The implementing strategy adopted by the project is based on capacity building of district extension staff (TOF) and their assignment as TOT to conduct field training and FFS sessions as well as follow up on project activities, under supervision of the ERRY project's experts.
- UNDP has introduced a digital platform such as KOBOTOOLBOX to enhance community engagement and response. The project has also developed the interactive interface to present interventions in infographic and easy to access for programme units and project team members. The improvement of data collection, storage and process has helped the project to identify impacts of the interventions with evidences which were utilized in the project three major impact assessments: solar, livelihood, and local governance and social cohesion.
- WFP has done post-Implementation monitoring that focused on the results of completed projects, sustainability (arrangements for operations and maintenance), and outcome measurement (food consumption score, daily average dietary diversity score, coping strategy index (food and livelihoods). For the day to day monitoring, it is the responsibility of IPs to record participants' daily attendance and volume of work achieved on a given day, as well as conduct regular field visits to gauge the quality and technical aspects of the project activities. Post distribution monitoring (PDM) and evaluation exercises were undertaken every other month. This involved calling the beneficiaries for feedback on the quality of assistance and assess their needs. PDM was conducted through a Third-Party Monitoring (TPM) company, in addition to the monthly field visits conducted by WFP staff.

- Towards the end of the reporting period, the partnering agencies started the process of conducting the Impact assessments of the components they are covering. The six assessments have been finalized during the first quarter of 2019 and will be consolidated into a single report by the JCU.
- ERRY has placed constant emphasis on improving the formalized feedback and complaint system in order to improve accountability to communities that ERRY serves as well as to the donors. The participating agencies have allowed and encouraged the vulnerable communities to voice the concerns and provide their feedback through various means. For instance, a hotline system was introduced under the solar component, which allows beneficiaries to register the complaint on a real-time basis. Once complaints are registered, they're placed under the category of the complaints; then appropriate measures are taken to address the complaint on time. This mechanism has also made suppliers more responsible for the installation of the solar systems. The experience shows that the feedback and complaint mechanism has brought more transparency and information flow from both sides.

5. Challenges and Risks

The success of ERY JP in implementing most of its crucial interventions continued in its third year despite certain challenges that caused obstruction to the programme and got in the way of reaching its full potential. Some of these challenges are mainly due to the complex and risky environment the programme is operating in. Others, however, are part of its own internal dynamics and the efficiency of its governance. The main challenges ERY encountered can be categorized into and summarized as:

- **The Security Situation:**

The lingering security situation in Yemen continues to be a major hindrance to the programme's activities' and service delivery. The volatility of the situation significantly restricted movements to the field, especially in Al-Hudayda districts. Although the improvement in the political situation in Hudayda did not completely stop ERY JP interventions there, it led to delays and impediments in implementing its interventions.

For example, the situation of dairy smallholders deteriorated dramatically with the start of the heavy fights on the 7th & 8th of September 2018 in Hudaydah outskirts, particularly in AL-Marawaa and Kilo 7, 10, 12, and Kilo16 Roads. They were not able to get the necessary equipment for their dairy products nor could they move easily to the markets to sell them. This condition put small dairy farmers in unexpected dramatic situation of severe turmoil and distress, with serious setbacks that threatened their main income.

Also, animal health interventions in affected districts of Hudayda governorate have been greatly impacted as veterinary specialists and animal health workers could no longer provide veterinary services for obstetric interventions (i.e., removing the placenta, inflammation, mastitis and other urgent treatments). Besides, some veterinary stores and pharmacies had to close as they could not be reached by farmers due to risks of movement.

- **Operational challenges:**

The Yemeni Rial in 2018 experienced the worst devaluation; it depreciated in value up to 70% against the US dollar. Although the implementing partner's contracts with ERY are in Yemeni Rials, resulting in saving money that was diverted to reach out to additional beneficiaries, the risks of absorbing saving were high. The continuous fluctuation of YER gave challenging time to implementing partners to manage the contract, and, on several occasions, the amendment was made to utilize the saving which consumed plenty of time.

Beneficiaries of the CFW interventions, for instance, were affected by the instability of Yemeni Rial exchange rate against USD. This caused the monthly amount transferred to beneficiaries to fluctuate month-on-month as beneficiary entitlements are distributed in Rial.

- **Challenges Related to Local Authorities:**

Joint Programme Coordination Unit (JCU) agreed with both the Govt and de-facto authority regarding (i) what information ERY programme will disclose, (ii) what ERY programme will seek approval for and what will not require any approval for implementation, and (iii) what financial support ERY does and does not. However, there has been some challenges related to local authorities, such as:

- Involvement of some local authorities in some villages, which complicated the distribution process, mainly with distribution of inputs, such as seeds and feed blocks and molasses.
- A significant delay in the issuance of relevant clearances from government authorities, which delayed the start of activities.

- **Other Challenges:**

ERRY JP also experienced a variety of challenges like any other project in the like of the Yemeni context, such as:

- **The large number of needy and poor farmers.**

Increased number of farmers and women, not covered, requesting support from the project, mainly for feed supplements (feed blocks, molasses, concentrate feeds), small-dairy equipment and fodder choppers. So that sometimes project staff are threatened and prevented from entering the village, especially in some Southern districts from Lahj and Abyan.

- **Identification of women-friendly skills**

ERRY JP had to make sure to devise an appropriate and targeted responses based on women's diverse context.

- **Humanitarian, development and peace nexus challenges:**

The context in Yemen needs nexus between humanitarian, development and peace-related intervention. Considering the scale of humanitarian interventions, often the limited resources for development and peace do not capitalize the gain from humanitarian aid; therefore, joint programme should focus on building strong linkages with the humanitarian interventions as well as mobilize resources for scale up.

6. Financial Delivery – Year III

CATEGORY	ERRY lifetime Budget	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total	%
		Expenditure	Expenditure	Expenditure	Expenditure & Committed		
1 Staff and other personnel costs	6,219,863	1,451,470	1,911,718	1,358,529	245,880	4,967,598	80%
2 Supplies, Commodities, Materials	3,905,033	425,502	1,848,641	674,115	658,049	3,606,307	92%
3 Equipment, Vehicles and Furniture including Depreciation	3,641,666	23,572	1,116,901	1,866,972	388,892	3,396,338	93%
4 Contractual Services (yemen)	4,353,405	316,705	1,288,687	1,824,238	1,361,353	4,790,983	110%
5 Travel	1,050,247	187,077	401,798	172,321	73,144	834,341	79%
6 Transfers and Grants to Counterparts	13,979,722	1,280,767	9,639,411	3,112,676	656,658	14,689,511	105%
7 Operating and Other Direct Costs	2,419,063	453,319	767,947	670,528	472,311	2,364,107	98%
Total Programme Costs	35,569,000	4,138,411	16,975,105	9,679,380	3,856,288	34,649,184	97%
8 Indirect Support Costs (7%)	2,463,054	289,689	1,219,830	748,626	171,557	2,429,701	99%
TOTAL	38,032,054	4,428,100	18,194,935	10,428,005	4,027,845	37,078,885	97%