Water for food security: Enhancing the resilience of host communities in supporting internally displaced people and returnees in Yemen

Project code: OSRO/YEM/805/KUW

Resource partner: Kuwait

Contribution: USD 5 million

Implementation: 09/08/2018 – 31/08/2020

Target areas: Ibb and Lahaj Governorates

Objective:
To support vulnerable, food-insecure households by improving and diversifying their incomes and agricultural livelihoods.

Key partners:
Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation.

Beneficiaries reached:
8 978 households (53 868 people) and 18 373 households (110 238 people) benefited indirectly.

Activities implemented:
- Constructed/rehabilitated 94 water infrastructures, constructing 39 harvesting tanks and one check dam, and rehabilitating six harvesting tanks, nine shallow water wells, and 39 gates and control structures, which indirectly benefited 18 373 households.
- Rehabilitated 8 427 m of wadi bank protection walls, 29 277 m of terraces and 141 855 m of canal.
- Provided cash-for-work (CFW) opportunities to a total of 7 998 people (of whom 1 599 women) representing their households, transferring a total amount of USD 1 727 492 (approximately USD 216 per household).
- Distributed and installed 300 localised irrigation systems for 300 households (covering a total of 75 ha).
- Distributed and installed 680 pipeline water conveyance systems for 680 households (covering a total of 340 ha).
- Trained 792 farmers on the use of modern irrigation systems, irrigation efficiency and water-saving technologies.

Results:
- Enhanced local ownership of water management and provided greater and sustainable access to water resources.
- Created sustainable livelihood and income-generating opportunities for the most vulnerable farmers, women, internally displaced people and returnees.
- Enabled the targeted communities to access a total of 224 620 m³ of water and utilise 4 200 ha of rehabilitated/protected land through improvement of water infrastructure.
- Enabled the beneficiaries of localised irrigation and conveyance systems to save 833 345 m³ of water annually; increase agricultural productivity by an average of 9-10 percent; increase water productivity for a typical cropping pattern by an average of 58-72 percent; and reduce pumping costs (e.g. fuel and labour costs).
- Enhanced the knowledge and skills of 792 farmers on the use of modern irrigation systems, irrigation efficiency and water-saving technologies.
- Enhanced women’s economic empowerment by offering women means to provide nutritious food for themselves and their families.
- Reduced the burden of traveling long distances with livestock to access water or carrying water for long distances, a burden that often falls on women and youth.

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