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Improve Livelihood in the Provinces

Strengthening local administration to stabilize the country

Objective

Small projects of the local administrative structures at the county or municipal level contribute to the stabilization of the living conditions of the population in the two Governorates Dhamar and Hadhramaut.

Approach

The project will focus on capacity-building for the local governance structures and promoting implementation of mutually agreed small-scale measures to stabilize the living conditions of the population in two governorates Dhamar and Hadhramaut. The activities will be carried out in close coordination with the project of the Berghof Foundation “Strengthening Inclusive Local Governance and Peace Building in Yemen”, that will focus on inclusive policy-discussions, local peace and stabilization initiatives and the establishment of responsive governance structures. The envisaged close cooperation and coordination will create synergies between the two programmes.

The aim of the Berghof Foundation is to improve the contributions of local administrative structures to foster a stabilised environment to achieve peace and security in the region. Local administrative structures are strengthened to be more inclusive and accountable e.g. by giving advisory services for planning and basic services (water, food, electricity) but also security, justice, education, health and infrastructure is therefore inadequate. The government and districts currently lack both qualified human resources as well as technical know how to restore security and social services. The deficit in the provision of basic services weakens the confidence of the population and thus the legitimacy of state structures.

Context

The internal political situation in Yemen has continued to worsen. Military operations occur mainly in larger cities in the country and represent a considerable threat to the civilian population. At the beginning of July 2015, the United Nations (UN) raised the UN’s highest emergency level for Yemen due to the humanitarian emergency. Large parts of the civilian infrastructure are damaged or destroyed. In a total population of 25.5 million, 2.8 million people had fled the fighting and are now internally displaced (IDP). More than half of the population (14.1 million Yemenis), suffer hunger. Almost two of three citizen (21 million) depend on humanitarian aid.

There are enormous challenges for administrations and municipalities in rural regions to provide adequate services under the given situation by taking into account the different needs. Their capacity to act is considerably completely limited. Over all, the state’s sub-national administrative structures have collapsed with only a few exceptions. Their ability to supply the population with

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Left: Group of consultative committees – Hadhramaut Governorate during sorting of small scale measures applications (Sorting and Evaluation Process of Applications)

Right: Training measure for the accountants of 3 districts of Dhamar Governorate on financial procedures for implementing local subsides (Initialization and Preparation Process)
realising of public policy discussions and support of local peace
initiatives. The SSPY project will accompany this process pre-
eminently by providing technical advice for local structures in the
planning and implementation of small scale measures/projects.
Therefore the project will work with existing and / or partially
functional administrative structures, identified by the Berghof
Foundation and will strengthen them on province and district
level.

The Programme will intervene in the following areas:

Area 1: Strengthening the capacities of locally organized adminis-
trative units. Local administrative employees are able to plan and
implement small projects to stabilize the population’s livelihoods.

Area 2: Promotion of small scale measures to stabilize the
livelihoods of the population. The emergency and demand situ-
ation of the local population is mitigated by small scale meas-
ures. The project supports administrative structures in the two
local governments Dharmar and Hadhramout in implementing
measures which aim to improve directly the living conditions of
the population. For that local grants for small scale measures/
projects are awarded to authorities in the two Governments
Dharmar and Hadhramout. Small scale measures/projects are
to be identified by a structured application procedure. Appli-
cants are, as a rule, elected representatives of local administra-
tive structures at district or municipality level. The inclusion
of traditional or informal structures (such as village leaders) is
useful in project identification, as they often enjoy great trust in
the local population. Through capacity-development measures,
the administrative structures at the technical level learn to write
project proposals and – with support by the GIZ team – to carry
out procurement processes, to implement projects, to maintain
infrastructure measures and to produce a simple financial report.

These procedures create an awareness of transparency and
accountability towards their own communities. In addition, the
workers employed to implement the measures learn the technical
skills necessary to implement or maintain projects and which
they can subsequently use again.

Results

The consultative committees in both governorates have been
formed. The criteria for the selection of the small scale projects
are established as well as an operational manual including guide-
lines. The first 10 districts (4 districts in Dhamar and 6 districts in
Hadhramaut) for intervention measures are identified. The first
application round for financing small scale projects in the two
governorates has been carried out. The selection process by the
consultative structure Hadhramaut has been finalized. As a result
18 proposals for small scale projects have been selected in Hadh-
ramaut (10 proposals) and Dhamar (8 proposals). The verification
process for 18 proposals is finished and 12 proposal are ready for
contractual process and implementation, like for example:

1. Rehabilitating the internal water supply networks at As Sawm
   District (12 villages) / Hadhramaut Governorate (Wadi area).
2. Expanding the Medical Health Care Services of the Health
   Unit of Al-mesbah area/Wesab – Ass‘afel – Dhamar.
3. Furnishing the girls classes building at Alnasr educational
   complex school in Althalooth /Otmah district – Dhamar
   governorate.
4. Improving the obstetrics and genealogy services at Sah
   hospital/Sah District /Hadhramaut Governorate (Wadi area).