

Cumulative number of beneficiaries and job opportunities as of 31/3/2005, by sector

Sector	Beneficiaries		Temporary job opportunities
	Direct	Indirect	
Environment	1,645,076	48,403	512,749
Integrated Intervention	34,298	18,679	64,637
Training	25,381	106,695	77,065
Education	1,417,274	200,140	8,226,912
Organizational Support	493,685	401,065	256,772
Health	2,170,140	568,796	810,484
Rural Roads	1,302,185	1,043,321	1,283,246
Special Needs Groups	137,483	84,718	486,857
Micro Enterprises Dev.	59,267	299,871	13,324
Small Enterprise	13,879	17,015	14,943
Cultural Heritage	291,953	112,408	801,683
Water	1,961,990	172,543	2,317,186
Total	9,552,611	3,073,654	14,865,858

Cumulative number of beneficiaries as of 31/3/2005, by gender

Gender	Beneficiaries	
	Direct	Indirect
Males	4,748,434	1,446,243
Females	4,804,177	1,627,411
Total	9,552,611	3,073,654

SFD cumulative commitments and contracted amounts as of 31/3/2005, by governorate

Governorates	No. of projects	Commitments (\$)	Contracted amounts (\$)
Ibb	405	32,706,976	21,031,003
Abyan	106	8,192,990	6,829,503
Al-Baidha	120	10,143,749	8,474,944
Al-Jawf	82	6,296,516	3,653,030
Al-Hudaïda	443	38,671,794	27,377,713
Al-Dhale'	77	6,915,226	3,939,010
Al-Mahweet	153	13,183,812	10,454,691
Al-Mahara	46	2,670,097	2,306,525
Sana'a Capital	429	41,353,247	30,621,581
More than one	266	10,853,021	7,938,261
Taiz	544	42,271,044	28,379,670
Hajja	297	22,822,459	17,739,920
Hadhrmaut	332	22,347,456	14,175,212
Dhamar	366	25,277,020	17,807,816
Shabwah	144	8,974,864	5,690,496
Sa'ada	124	9,082,957	6,703,881
Sana'a	350	23,450,155	16,631,361
Aden	148	13,866,975	11,529,387
Amran	301	22,193,307	17,555,303
Lahj	150	11,307,748	8,346,880
Mareb	71	6,720,808	2,896,195
Total	4,954	379,302,220	270,082,380

SFD cumulative commitments and contracted amounts as of 31/3/2005, by sector

Sector	No. of projects	Commitments (\$)	Contracted amounts (\$)
Environment	122	16,558,325	9,303,587
Integrated Intervention	37	1,609,362	2,252,698
Training	303	5,114,590	3,169,406
Education	2,393	207,506,245	147,003,122
Organizational Support	287	9,223,713	6,698,127
Health	408	29,225,108	20,850,987
Rural Roads	182	19,448,581	14,681,405
Special Needs Groups	252	16,830,831	12,035,492
Micro Enterprises Dev.	73	6,295,580	4,922,756
Small Enterprise	13	1,977,021	1,653,898
Cultural Heritage	115	15,714,747	8,813,763
Water	769	49,798,119	38,697,139
Total	4,954	379,302,220	270,082,380

Completed projects as of 31/3/2005, by sector

Sector	No. of projects	Investment (\$)
Environment	68	8,319,031
Integrated Intervention	20	936,867
Training	185	2,944,558
Education	1,470	105,934,921
Organizational Support	191	4,274,382
Health	268	16,456,523
Rural Roads	79	8,239,991
Special Needs Groups	144	8,641,430
Micro Enterprises Dev.	49	3,504,101
Small Enterprise	4	39,107
Cultural Heritage	25	3,163,915
Water	459	27,729,740
Total	2,962	190,184,564

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Social Fund for Development

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8 Pages

Editorial

The Social Fund for Development devotes great attention to the monitoring and evaluation of its interventions. This can be ascribed by the significance of regular assessments in realizing the extent to which objectives have been attained—particularly with regard to the impact on the lives of the served communities.

Within this context, the SFD frequently reviews and analyses its approaches and—subsequently—improves and upgrades them. Indeed, the evaluation processes the SFD continuously conducts to its projects and programs assists to explore and identify aspects of strength and weakness and—consequently—boost and augment the former and redress causes underlying the latter.

On the other hand, SFD's doors have remained open to objective evaluations carried out by missions of different donors and international, specialized independent firms to assess SFD's performance and the progress attained in pursuing its objectives.

In 2005, the SFD will benefit from the lessons learned in 2004 and the previous period and reflect this experience while implementing the 2005 work plan.

First meeting of SFD's Board of Directors for 2005

The Board of Directors (BoD) of the Social Fund for Development held its first meeting for the current year on 31 January 2005 under the chairmanship of H.E. Mr. Alawi Saleh Al-Salami, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance.

The meeting also discussed and approved SFD's 2005 Annual Work Plan, which includes 1,037 projects at an estimated cost of \$80 million. The planned projects are distributed over the SFD's three main programs as follows:

1 – Community Development Program: 830 projects, with estimate cost amounting to \$74 million. Benefiting local communities contribute around \$5.2 million of the program's total estimated cost.

2 – Training and Organizational Support Program: 174 projects at an estimated cost of \$2.8 million.

3 – Small and Micro Enterprises Development Program: 33 projects, with estimated cost reaching \$3.2 million.

On the other hand, the meeting approved the proposal on splitting the SFD's Programming and Evaluation Unit into two separate units: The Programming Unit and the Monitoring and Evaluation Unit.

Agreement signing with the Saudi Fund for Development

A loan agreement was signed in Riyadh to support SFD projects between the Republic of Yemen and the Saudi Fund for Development. The agreement was signed by Mr. Ahmed Mohammed Soufan, Deputy Premier and Minister of Planning and Int'l Cooperation, and Mr. Abdul-Aziz Bin Abdullah Al-Khuwaiter, Minister of State/ Cabinet member and Acting Minister of Finance in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Mr. Abdulkarim I. Al-Arhabi, SFD Managing Director, attended the signing.

The 75-million-Saudi-Riyal (\$20 million) loan will be used in financing SFD-supported education projects within Community Development Program.

Inaugurating 17 libraries in some Capital City schools

Mr. Abdulkarim I. Al-Arhabi, SFD Managing Director, Dr. Abdulsalam Al-Jawfi, Minister of Education, Mr. Ahmed Al-Kahlani, State Minister and Capital Mayor, opened and inaugurated on 10 January 2005 seventeen libraries in some of the Capital City's schools.

It is worth mentioning that the libraries' establishment and equipping project has been supported by the Social Fund in cooperation with the Education Office in the Capital City.



§ From right, Dr. Abdulsalam Al-Jawfi, Mr. Abdulkarim Al-Arhabi and Mr. Ahmed Al-Kahlani

Evaluation mission of the Arab Fund for Development

A mission of the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development visited the SFD in the first quarter to follow up with the implementation of the Arab Fund's loan No 425/02 within the support provided to the second phase of SFD operations. Mr. Abdulkarim I. Al-Arhabi, SFD Managing Director, met Dr. Mohammed Riyadh Dahhal and Mr. Mohammed Zinaseni, mission's members, and discussed with them the activities implemented under the loan as well as cooperation between the SFD and the Arab Fund. On the other hand, the mission convened meetings with unit Heads and conducted field visits to a number of projects financed by the loan. It has to be indicated that the visit will pave the way to another mission, which will prepare for the third loan the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development provides for finance SFD Phase III.

CGAP mission studies microfinance development perspectives in Yemen

Mr. Abdulkarim I. Al-Arhabi, SFD Managing Director, met on 5 March 2005 with the mission of the Consultative Group to Assist the Poor (CGAP)—an organization specialized in microfinance (MF) led by the World Bank and comprising a large number of donors—headed by Mr. Xavier Reille. Cooperation aspects between CGAP and the SFD were discussed during the meeting, as the SFD is the pioneer agency in the development of microfinance industry in the country.

Int'l Funding Corporation mission visits the SFD

The Managing Director, Mr. Abdulkarim Al-Arhabi, received on 10 January and 9 March 2005 mission of the Int'l Funding Corporation headed by Mr. Michel Potzeng. During the meeting, the mutual bilateral cooperation in small and micro enterprises development was discussed.

The Managing Director meets Islamic Bank mission

Mr. Abdulkarim I. Al-Arhabi, SFD Managing Director, received on 10 January 2005 mission of the Islamic Development Bank at SFD's main premises in Sana'a. During the meeting, discussed was cooperation between the SFD and the Islamic Bank as well as proceeding of projects financed by the Bank and implemented by the SFD.

Cooperation between SFD and UNESCO discussed

UNESCO mission paid a visit to the SFD on 14 March 2005. Managing Director met with the mission, and cooperation between the SFD and the UNESCO was discussed, particularly in girls education. It is worth mentioning that the SFD implements a number of cultural heritage projects in cooperation with UNESCO.

Units News

Education Unit

The number of approved projects during the quarter reached 315 at an estimated cost exceeding \$37 million. Cumulatively, the total number of agreed-upon and under-implementation projects mount to 2,393, with the estimated cost approaching \$379 million. Completed projects as of the end of March 2005 are 1,470.

Educational Quality

- Conduct tests and screening of 40 male and female teachers from the education-quality schools to be trained on learning environment. The would-be trainers, who will form a standard group for measuring the various aspects of the attended two training courses at the SFD premises (Sana'a) and "Zaid Al-Moushki" school (in Taiz) during the period 08–22 February 2005.
- Design completion for archiving and automated-documentation program for education-quality schools.
- Conduct tests and screening for 60 male and female school counselor from all education offices in the governorates. The would-be national trainers in learning environment were trained b regional experts in three training courses carried out in Sana'a during the period 26 Feb–16 Mar 2005.
- Initiating the school map field survey in Al-Baidha' governorate.
- A workshop was conducted in April on paper recycling by a regional trainer.

Supporting the talented and creative students

An expert in caring for the gifted and creative students has assisted the Talent and Creative Directorate of the Ministry of Education to set a program on the priorities in this field, in addition to creating an institutional structure that might help the ministry in this regard. The expert conducted several field visits to a number of talents' schools as well as some organizations working with such a group of students. A tentative report on the outcomes of the mission has been submitted.

Girls' Education Program

- Two training courses were conducted. The first, on Strategic Planning, was convened at SFD main premises for three days and attended by 22 education projects officers and consultants from SFD's branch offices. The second, on strategic and executive planning, was carried out for four days and attended by 20 community participation consultants for education support from the five governorates targeted by the program (Sa'ada, Amran, Al-Hudaida, Al-Dhale' and Taiz) as well as five Heads of local volunteer teams for education support at governorate level.
- The bidding has been announced and analyzed for the construction of three girls' schools in "Walad Aiyash" sub-district, Haidan district/ Sa'ada governorate. These are "Al-Hasan Bin Ali", "Mo'adh Bin Gabal" and "Al-Tawheed" schools (in the villages of "Guma'a-Walad-Fadhel", "Abou Rai'ah" and "Aal Al-Bailam", respectively).
- Field visits were conducted to the "Al-Maga'asha" sub-district, Maqbana district/ Taiz governorate to assess the situation and select & identify schools to be intervened within the program activities next year (2006).
- Formation of Parents' Councils in "Al-Fawz", "Mo'adh Bin Gabal" and "Al-Hayel" schools (Al-Maga'asha, Maqbana, Taiz).
- A one-day workshop on learning environment was carried out for education consultants. During the workshop, held at the SFD main premises, participants discussed training topics and materials prior to taking over training of male and female teachers of intervention schools as well as exchanging field experience. The workshop was attended by eight of the 26 consultants representing the five governorates targeted by the Girls' Education Program.
- Five coordination and consultation meetings were conducted for relevant agencies (governmental, non-governmental and international) involved in education and development at the level of the targeted governorates and community-participation consultants for education support in each governorate. Attendees included 59 male and female participants representing IDAS, ADRA, UNICEF, UNWFP, some charity societies and women organizations (Yemen Women Union and Women National Committee) as well as Education Offices represented by the Directorates of Girls' Education, Community Participation, Education, Illiteracy Eradication and School Activities. In addition, some officers of SFD branch offices in the targeted governorates participated in the meetings.

The national Educational Measurement and Evaluation (EME) Center

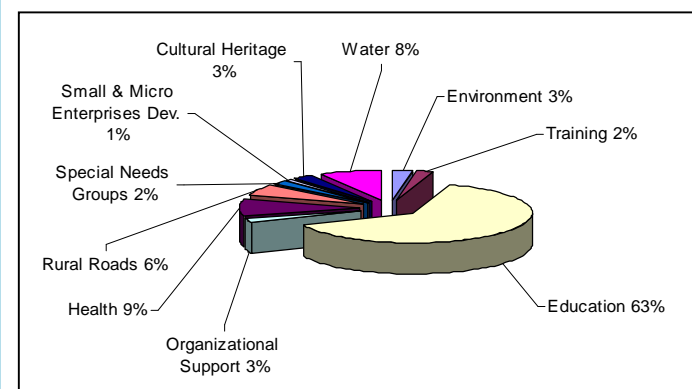
The bidding for the establishment of the EME Center has been announced and the consultation firm that will oversee the project implementation has been selected. Bidding envelopes have been opened and handed over to the consultation firm for analysis and awarding. On the other hand, the SFD has supported the visit paid on 12–20 March 2005 to Sultanate of Oman and United Arab Emirates by two staff members of the EME Unit, along with the General Director of the Examinations and Guidance General Directorate (Ministry of Education). The objective of the visit is to acquaint the participants with the experience of the two countries in EME and reflect the benefits gained in the relevant SFD-implemented project.

Microfinance Programs Supported by SFD (on 31-3-2005)

No	Program	Active number of clients				Outstanding loan portfolio (000, YR)	PAR	Cumulative numbers		Area of Operation
		Borrowers		Savers				Number of loans	Loan amounts (Million YR)	
		Total	Women (%)	Total	Women (%)					
1	Al-Hudaidah MC	1,579	86	0	0	13.3	0	7,925	351	Al-Hudaidah city and Bajil - Al-Hodaidah gov.
2	LSED- Hais	1,355	90	2,744	90	51	1	6,362	140	Hais, Khoukha, Jabal Ras, Zabid Al-Hodaidah gov.
3	Wadi Hadhramaut	453	14	0	0	19	12	1,035	75	Seyun – Hadhramaut gov.
4	Dar-Sa'ad S & C	1,757	88	3,165	87	37	0	3,579	128	Dar Sa'ad, Al-Bureikah – Aden
5	Al-Mu'alla S & C	1,145	100	1,628	100	28	0	2,525	87	Al-Mu'alla, Tawahi, Crater, Khor- Maksar – Aden
6	Sana'a MF	1,191	72	902	100	23	5	3,524	136	Sana'a Capital
7	Sheikh Othman S & C	1,299	71	2,258	84	23	0	2,422	67	Sheikh Othman – Aden
8	National MF Foundation	6,198	100	10,314	100	122	2	9,281	270	Sana'a Capital, Taiz, Qaedah and Yarim in Ibb and Dhamar
9	Bait Al-Faqeh S & C	786	89	868	87	9	1	1,365	25	Bait Al-Faqih, Mansouriyah – Al-Hodaidah gov.
10	Sana'a Microstart (SOFD)	593	100	0	0	5	NA	2,798	61	Sana'a Capital
11	Al-Awa'el MF Company	1,832	100	0	0	20	3	5,137	118	Taiz
12	Abyan S & C	985	100	1,699	100	17	0	1,605	34	Abyan
13	Other Activities & IGPs	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	6,895	260	Several areas
14	Small Enterprise Development Fund	788	1	0	0	411	5	1,032	789	Sana'a Capital, Taiz, Aden, Al-Mukalla, Al-Hudaidah
Total		19,961	-	23,578	-	779.2	-	55,485	2,542	

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

Commitments by sector, first quarter 2005



Expected number of beneficiaries and job opportunities, first quarter 2005, by sector

Sector	Beneficiaries		Temporary job opportunities
	Direct	Indirect	
Environment	51,669	-	41,451
Training	5,507	5,206	14,421
Education	111,704	1,529	1,437,939
Organizational Support	1,902	3,067	89,010
Health	251,386	184,612	99,745
Rural Roads	194,208	13,431	208,642
Special Needs Groups	9,212	1,340	44,621
Micro Enterprises Dev.	600	-	160
Small Enterprise	12,399	-	350
Cultural Heritage	70	350	101,273
Water	154,823	3,087	325,606
Total	793,480	212,622	2,363,218

Commitments by governorate, first quarter 2005

Governorate	No. of projects	Commitments (\$)	Distribution (%)
Ibb	67	6,660,737	11.2
Abyan	8	966,511	1.6
Al-Baidha	10	705,658	1.2
Al-Jawf	10	1,082,660	1.8
Al-Hudaida	72	8,102,449	13.7
Al-Dhale'	10	1,472,148	2.5
Al-Mahweet	18	1,833,521	3.1
Al-Mahrah	5	283,612	0.5
Sana'a City	21	1,539,460	2.6
Several governorates	48	970,855	1.6
Taiz	86	9,102,807	15.3
Hajja	39	3,996,081	6.7
Hadhramaut	43	3,244,077	5.5
Dhamar	62	5,668,823	9.6
Shabwah	15	1,226,278	2.1
Sa'ada	17	1,216,390	2.1
Sana'a	35	2,782,602	4.7
Aden	15	1,947,199	3.3
Amran	38	3,858,550	6.5
Lahr	14	1,685,385	2.8
Mareb	9	967,150	1.6
Total	642	59,312,953	%100

Water and Environment Unit

The first quarter of 2005 witnessed several activities in the two sectors of water and environment.

Water sector

Approved projects during the first quarter mount to 66 projects at an estimated cost of about \$5 million. Cumulative number of projects reached 769, with total estimate cost mounting to nearly \$49.8 million.

Activities carried out during the quarter included the following:

- A workshop was carried out on 01–02 February 2005 on design alternatives of low-cost water-harvesting cisterns and attended by water project officers and consultants. Local traditional experience was introduced participants.
- Two workshops were held on design alternatives of low-cost water-harvesting projects (implemented according to SFD's new intervention mechanism) and evaluation of the environmental impact of SFD-implemented projects. The workshops targeted consultants working with the branch offices of Amran and Dhamar and were held at the premises of the two offices during 12–17 and 22–24 March 2005, respectively, and attended by the Unit Head.
- Field visits were conducted in March 2005 to some of the Capital City's schools. The objective was to study potentials of conducting intervention in a pilot project in harvesting water from school roofs. Study targets schools suffering from insufficient water supply due to lack of connection with the general water network.

Environment sector

Approved projects during the first quarter mount to 12 projects at an estimated cost of \$1.1 million. Cumulative number of projects reached 122, with total estimate cost mounting to \$16.6 million.

The following activities were carried out during the quarter:

- Two projects have been approved in solid waste management in the Island of Soqatra. To respond to the urgent need of the island, biddings have already been announced and envelopes opened for the construction of 40 and 8 collection sites in the island's Hedibo and Qalansiyah cities, respectively, which can be used temporarily with the existing dumping sites. The tender for constructing a dumping site in each city will be announced during the next quarter.
- Biddings were announced and envelopes opened for the establishment of a building for hazardous medical wastes in the Capital City. Bids will be awarded in the next few days. This will form the first component of the hazardous medical wastes management system, to be followed by the second one for equipment and the third for training. It is worth mentioning that the project is the first of its kind in the country, as such wastes will be dealt with independently of those handled by the municipality in terms of collection, transfer and treatment.
- Biddings were announced and envelopes opened for the pilot project concerning wastewater management for the Libyan City district (located at Al-Sitteen Western Street, north to the Faculty of Medicine) in the Capital City. The project aims to explore potentials of implementing decentralized treatment plants in cities and re-utilizing treated water in irrigating road medians and public parks and flammable gases emanating from anaerobic treatment process in power generation.

- Seven schools in the Capital City were visited, with the participation of the Education Unit, to study reasons of mal-operation of the schools' toilets. The study outcomes were presented in a workshop held on 31 March 2005 at SFD's main office and attended by sixteen schools' headmasters and two project officers from Sana'a Branch Office. In addition, participants discussed relevant problems and solutions and concluded recommendations. A working paper was also presented during the workshop on the advantages and disadvantages of the modern toilets, compared to the traditional, dry ones. Participants agreed on experimenting the dry toilets—as an option for the Capital City's schools—with focus given to operation and maintenance.

Small and Micro Enterprises Development Unit

Risk-management training course

A course in the management of the risks faced by microfinance institutions was held in Sana'a during the period 06–08 March 2005. Participants included 25 trainees and trainers from the microfinance programs. The course discussed internal and external risks as well as ways and means to control and manage risks, focusing on operational risks, since microfinance programs deal directly with funds that are normally vulnerable to manipulation. Participants were introduced to a comprehensive curriculum to manage risks. Executive plans to sustain risk management in the microfinance programs were agreed upon.

Mr. Kais Al-Iryani, Head of the Small and Micro Enterprise Development Unit, and Mr. Ahmed Al-Zamzami, Managing Director of the National Microfinance Foundation, carried out the training, while Mr. Mohammed Khaled, consultant of the Arab Microfinance Network (Sanabel) participated as an observer.

It is worth mentioning that the course was the first ever carried out by local trainers, and the third conducted in cooperation with Sanabel.

Support of the microfinance programs in Aden

In continuation with its efforts to support the microfinance programs in Aden, the SFD has allocated a new fund of US \$500,000 to be used for on-lending purposes in the programs, in addition to supporting the institutional capacity of the programs, the development of their systems, and staff training.



§ A female beneficiary from microfinance programs in Aden

It is worth mentioning that the number of clients in the three programs in Aden has reached 4,081 persons, holding a loan portfolio of 71 million Yemeni riyals.

The SFD is attempting—through the current support—to establish a specialized microfinance foundation in Aden, and it is expected to reach 6,000 active clients at the end of 2005.

Cultural Heritage and Rural Roads Unit

Conservation and restoration project for Al-Ashrafia Mosque and Madrasa (school) in the Old City of Taiz:

Al-Ashrafia Mosque and Madrasa is regarded as one the most significant historic and archaeological monuments not only in Taiz but also in all Yemen. It belongs to the Rassulit era in the early ninth century of Hijra.

Rescue intervention had been applied to the two minarets, which were threatened by the risk of possible collapse due to the complete decay of the wooden beams and anchors in addition to the continuous water infiltration into the domes through cracks, there is a big crack in the western minaret in a great need to be treated as well.

Restoration works in the eastern, northern and western walls are still going on. Moreover, works are underway to reveal some archaeological components of the ablution facility such as water cisterns, fountain and aqua ducts etc. A part of the damaged Qadad courses had been restored on the roof of one of the big vaults and on the corners of the main dome of the prayer hall as well as the removal of some of the recently built walls and partitions.

Small layers of the newly added concrete beams around the domes in the prayer hall had been taken to be leveled with interior surfaces of the domes to be restored by fixing and cleaning the ornaments. This process will be carried out by a Yemeni technical team to be first trained through short- and long-term programs concerning the restoration works. It could be said that the rescue stage had been implemented to a certain extent with a good quality.

Parallel to the restoration works in Al-Ashrafia Mosque and madrasa, other emergency works had been started in Al-Moatabia Mosque and Madrasa as well as in the Great Mosque of Al-Modhaffar in the Old City of Taiz under the objectives to stop further deterioration of the valuable historic and architectural components – as a first step towards restoration works.

Rural Roads sector

Projects approved during the quarter reached 35 at an estimated cost of \$13.5 million, while cumulatively projects reached 182 and cost \$19.5 million.

- A training course was held in Aden during the period 06–09 March 2005 on the use of engineering programs in designing rural-roads projects. SFD's rural roads project officers attended the course.
- Several projects have been completed during the quarter in a number of governorates. These include the Al-Sarayem road maintenance project and "Bani-Hat—Al-Sayela" road improvement project (Ibb governorate).
- In Abyan governorate, Rusud road project was completed and Amha Hama road has been constructed and improved. In Taiz, the SFD has completed the "Bani Ubaid—Al-Sana'at" road project (Shara'ab Al-Salam district).

Community Contracting

The SFD continues pursuing the objectives of the community-contracting program, in particular with regard to enhancing community participation and building the capacities of the community committees. Within this framework, training was provided—during the quarter—to four community committees of projects implemented by applying community-contracting approach. These are the committees of the rural-roads projects of "Dhi Al-Sifal—Al-Ansyeeen—Ibb" and "Wadi Al-Leem—Al-Suhoul" (in Raima) as well as "Madrasat Yashbem—Al-Sa'eed—Shabwa" and "Madrasat Al-Khubba—Al-Qaten—Sayeoun". Training targeted 43 committee members, five of them are females.

In addition, office and field evaluation of the pilot program has been completed. A workshop will soon be conducted to discuss the evaluation reports and conclude lessons in preparation to expand the application of the community contracting approach.

Training and Organizational Support Unit

During the first quarter of the year, 68 projects were approved: 48 projects (70%) in the Training Sector, and 20 (30%) projects in the Organizational Support Sector. Amongst the Organizational Support Sector projects, two have already been achieved during the same quarter in the fields of (Decentralization and Local Development Support Program, and Strategy of NGOs' Sustainability and Evaluation of the Community-Based Program)

Training Sector

Forty-eight projects were approved in the following fields:

- Four projects for training steering committees, local councils' members and local councils' plan and budget committees in the components of preparation of plans and budgeted programs, development planning with local communities' participation, as well as concepts and sustainable development applications.
- Six projects, the training topics of five of them concentrated on improvement and enhancement of the skills and know-how of farmers working in both plant and animal husbandry, while the sixth project involves introduction & dissemination of green - house technology in "Manakha district - Haraz", Sana'a governorate.
- Six projects, amongst which five involving training and qualifying about 650 university students (1st phase) in five governorates, while one project provides practical training for 150 of the 1st phase trainees from Sana'a governorate.
- Five projects for training SFD branches' consultants (males/females). The training aims to improve their capacities and performance as concerns the application principles of the formation and training of local community committees (beneficiary committees).
- Six projects to be implemented in various governorates. Their topics concentrate on training and raising the supervisory skills and capacities of a number of projects' officers, consultants, technical supervisors and small contractors, for implementing and managing the SFD's projects and interventions. This is in addition to acquainting them with the SFD mechanism, as well as executive and contracting procedures.
- Four projects involving the training of the steering committees and members of some associations working in the charitable, environmental, and fishing fields. Training is to include planning, as well as organizational and financial management, with a view to enhance work quality, records' organizations and preparation of closing accounts.
- Four projects, of which 3 comprising refresher training courses for trainers who had formerly received training through the SFD branches in modern training techniques and skills. The fourth project involves preparation and editing of five training manuals and guides in the fields of training trainers (ToT) in community participation.
- Nine projects dealing with various fields and topics:
 - One project for training consultants and acquainting them with principles and concepts of studying the priorities of rural communities' needs, as well as the practical and methodical steps of various (PRA) tools and techniques.

- Four projects, amongst which two organizational support projects for two charitable associations in “Lahj” and “Dhamar”, and one in the same field targeting the Department of Training and Research Development in “Sa’ada” governorate. The fourth project involves the present situation as well as the need for a number of consultative training centers addressing market training needs and their development.
- Three projects for monitoring and evaluation. They involved monitoring and evaluating the performance of some local community committees (beneficiary committees) that had been formed and trained in several governorates by the Training and Organizational Support Unit (TOSU). This is in addition to field evaluation of a number of training projects implemented in the framework of the TOSU during the last two years, as well as training and enhancing the capacities of SFD’s Mukalla branch consultants in monitoring and evaluation.
- A project in the field of modern techniques and methods in illiteracy eradication and adult education, targeting a number of associations in Dhamar governorate.

Organizational Support sector

Twenty projects to provide equipment, training on the use of these equipment targeting:

- Charitable and developmental associations in Hadhramaut, Socotra, Al-Mahara, Capital City and Abyan.
- The Productive Families Center in Hadhramaut by providing equipment.
- The Yemeni Women Union branch in Aden.
- Central Information Unit and the departments of Amran Governorate head office.
- Local council and authority “Decentralization and Local Development Support Program”, in the governorates of Al-Hudaida and Amran.
- Local councils’ members in Al-Hudaida governorate.
- Enhancing the capacities of some local community committees benefiting from SFD projects

Health and Social Protection Unit

General activities included participation of the unit Head, along with the official of the Special-Need-Groups sector, in the study visit to Hajja governorate (Aflah Al-Sham). The visit was conducted on 13–17 February 2005 in coordination with UNICEF and the Higher Motherhood and Childhood Council. It aimed to acquaint closely with the situation of children susceptible to traffic and—consequently—identify activities that the SFD could carry out in this regard. In addition, the unit Head conducted a study visit to SFD’s branch offices in Taiz, Ibb and Dhamar on 08–14 March 2005. Objectives of the visit included acquainting with the activities conducted by these offices as well as field visiting some of the relevant projects implemented in certain governorates covered by the branch offices.

Health sector

Several projects were developed and approved in the quarter, including:

- Evaluation of the health facilities implemented by the SFD since its inception in 1997 until the end of 2004. The evaluation aimed at identifying the facilities’ needs such as equipment and health staff.
- Two projects for rehabilitation of female trainers in community midwifery in some governorates. The projects aimed to meet the needs of these areas to trained birth attendants and support SFD’s third phase trends in health.
- Rehabilitation of the branch offices’ consultants and officers in health training to improve their performance in screening, developing and implementing health-training projects.
- Training of 75 traditional birth attendants in Soqatra and Al-Udain district (Ibb governorate)
- Commencement of the implementation of a host of in-service rehabilitation projects in neonatal and psychological health care. The projects targeted practitioners and nursing staff.
- Implementation of a rehabilitation project for 40 instructors to enable them to obtain complementary B.Sc. in Community Health.
- A number of projects to establish and develop emergency delivery services in some hospitals in the main cities and districts—as a fist phase.
- Preparation and setting of certain design standards to be applied in the new health facilities at the level of health units and centers. The goal is to attain the utmost benefit from the establishment of health-facility buildings to ensure the provision of better health services.

Special Needs Groups sector

The number of projects approved in the quarter reached 23 at an estimated cost of about one million USD. Cumulatively, the number of projects is 252 at an estimated cost of \$17 million approximately.

- Apart from the Capital City, Public Works Ministry and Al-Saleh Social Association for Development, the SFD participates in the membership of the technical committee for transferring shanty dwellers to the new city in Sa’wan area. The committee’s mandate includes preparation of a regulation, by-law and a proposal for the establishment of the inhabitants’ society to manage the city. In addition, the committee’s tasks include reviewing SFD’s proposal on the city management, preparation of houses distribution mechanism and a proposal on estate benefit contracts as well as specifying an appropriate site outside the city for a basic and secondary school for both the city itself and the nearby area to facilitate the integration of their dwellers.
- Within the activities of the project of training and awareness on the concept of early childhood, six of the workers in childhood were sent to Cyprus to attend the regional workshop held on 11–17 March 2005. The activity, organized by the Arab Resources Workshop, focused on enriching training experiences in early childhood in the Arab countries. Attendees included participants from eight Arab countries, representing governmental and non-governmental organizations involved in early childhood.

- The SFD supports the preparation of teachers of some kindergartens and the first three-basic grades to be local trainers in speech rectification and treatment. In this context, the Social Fund supported the visit of experts from the Jordan-based Sacred Lands Association for the Deaf and the training of 26 teachers from the Capital City and the governorates of Taiz, Aden, Al-Hudaida, Ibb, Dhamar, Hadhramaut and Lahej. Following a one-year practical application by the trainees, the SFD supported the return of the experts to conduct on-job evaluation and follow-up of these trainees during the period 02–22 March 2005, followed by a workshop to review the results of the follow-up field visits. In the conclusion of these activities, trainers carried out a final test in speech rectification and treatment; the eight top-scored examinees will be sent to Jordan to attend in next September a two-week practical training session in similar classrooms, after which they are expected to assist in training local governmental and non-governmental organizations’ staff in the mentioned field.



§ SFD-supported school with facilities for integrating the disabled in the mainstream society (26th September School in Ibb)

Integrated Intervention Program

- A training course in hygienic and environmental awareness was carried out on 01–09 February 2005 in the Al-Lail City, Capital City. The objective is to form awareness teams in several schools and implement the awareness-raising program in seven topics, viz. malaria, cleanliness, nutrition, diarrhea, primary health care, prenatal care and fever management. In addition, the course aims to prepare a work plan for the field awareness team. It was attended by 40 female and male trainees from the Ruqaiya and Badr Al-Kubra schools (10 female trainers each) and Al-Hasan and Mousa Bin Naseer schools (10 male trainers each). During the course, awareness-raising tools were used such as pictures, acting and discussions. Administrations of the mentioned schools and the Local Council showed considerable cooperation to make the program a success.
- Three training courses were conducted in the districts of Ahwar and Al-Luhayyia (Abyan and Al-Hudaida governorates, respectively): Two in February and March 2005 and the third during the period from December 2004–February 2005. The first two courses were attended by 30 trainees, who—in turn—will train the local community members in the future.

The first course focused on the production and manufacturing of fertilizers, aiming to introduce farmers to the importance of adding organic fertilizers to agricultural soil and their advantages in terms of soil improvement and plant growth. In addition, farmers were provided with training on skills in fermentation and fertilizer piles. A special attention was also paid to raising the farmers’ awareness on the advantage of fermentation, as it helps improve the soil and increase production, in addition to highlighting the risk of compost heaps in terms of causing environmental pollution and diseases affecting children and animals. Farmers were introduced to the fact that burning the dung, as they have used to do, entails also pollution affecting negatively the health of the community.

Topics of the second course included providing training to farmers on mechanisms of improving the economic feasibility of the agricultural products. The course aimed at boosting the farmers’ knowledge and skills through providing training on the diagnosis of agricultural pests, mechanism of using the appropriate pesticide, ways of selecting the best chemical products (available in the local market) and how to minimize production cost per area unit. In addition, changes emerging in the farmer’s life (increased income, improved living conditions, etc) were addressed. Evaluation results ascertained the success of the training course: Production of certain agricultural crops has increased (cereals, onion, green pepper, sesame...) and pests affecting some products (mango, melon...) have been prevented.

The third course provided training for 30 female kitchen-garden trainers who—in turn—will train the local community female members. The course aimed to establish kitchen gardens to play a favorable three-fold role: *Nutritional* (improving food quality), *economic* (lessening the family burden through attaining self-sufficiency in vegetable supply; cultivating fruits and cereals) and *environmental* (using dung as manure; re-using kitchen water in irrigation).

- Following four-year implementation of the integrated intervention program in four areas, the first stage of the program was evaluated during January–March 2005 by a local team under the supervision of an international expert. The results of the evaluation affirmed the success of the program in achieving most of its goals, particularly in attaining social mobilization in rural areas thanks to the successful handling of the main inputs, including community organization, illiteracy eradication, hygienic and environmental awareness and infrastructure, in addition to the networking that ensures sustainability of the projects. Integration of these inputs, community participation, effective implementation of the program’s activities, and cost efficiency have all contributed to the overall favorable outcomes of the first stage of the program. The evaluation results indicated—in particular—to the considerable success achieved in training the beekeepers as well as in a host of learning aspects, which were amongst the major goals of the that stage.

Outcomes of the evaluation were presented in a workshop, which recommended the expansion of the program to a second stage to be implemented in six “new” areas as well as expanding the program in two of the four original ones—namely, “Rab’a Al-Doas” in Al-Luhayyia district (Al-Hudaida) and “Al-Nayef” in Khamer district (Amran).