

### Khairan Al-Muharraq rural-access road brings life to villagers

SFD visiting team crossed a distance of 25 km through rock and sand road before it reached the intended project, which is the beginning of two rural-access roads in Khairan Al-Muharraq district of Hajjah governorate, known for its rough terrain and simplicity of inhabitants. The first road, serving 11,427 people from the villages of Al-Naserah, Al-Qaniyah, Al-Dhala'ah and Sharqi Al-Khamisain, is the most challenging and difficult. It mounts up and then down a mountain. Before SFD intervention, the mountain's stones used to fall during and after the rain, bringing the entire life and movement on that road to standstill for long periods—sometimes up to weeks.

In the first of those villages, the team met Abdo Mohammed, who said that he is now using this road on a daily basis to reach to the markets 10 kilometers away from the village or to transfer patients to the district's center in the other direction. He added that the road has greatly reduced the time the villagers had spent waiting for a passing car to transfer them to their destination as the cars pass by the village continuously and the animals experience less sufferings than before.

Yahya Ali Sinan (34 years) sustaining five family members in the nearby Al-Qaniyah village said that there is a big difference before and after SFD intervention. He elaborated by indicating that retaining walls and runoffs has made this road serviceable and sustainable and enabled the truck-borne water tanks to reach our villages easily. "And we pay less for the water tank", he added. Yahya recalls that the truck-borne water tank, before the intervention, took more than 3 hours to reach his village, but now it takes only an hour and half maximum. "While I used in the past to pay 4,500 riyal for water every 15 days, I now pay 3,000 riyals and while I paid 3,000 riyals for emergency transfer of one of my family members to a clinic in the neighboring city center, I now pay only about 200 riyals". He concluded.



### Aden hosts the fifth SME event

In continuation of the fourth small and micro-enterprise (SME) event held in Taiz in August 2008, the SFD organized on 26–30 November 2008 the fifth event in Aden under the auspices of the Prime Minister Dr. Ali Mohammed Mujawar.

A number of microfinance programs and institutions participated in this event and displayed the products of their clients.

During the event, a number of distinguished clients and employees from the participating organizations as well as a number of social figures supporting SME development in Aden, Lahej and Abyan governorates were awarded. The event was a great success—as noticed by the increased demand for financial services in Aden and Lahej following the event.



### Donor Joint Progress Review Team evaluates SFD Phase III *(continued)*

In its final report, the team has emphasized that the project continues to make excellent progress in achieving its development objectives and agreed results. The report praised the SFD's continuing endeavors to develop its technical and administrative systems in order to achieve more impact in development, more cost-effective performance and more transparency in outreach. They commission urged the SFD to enhance its outreach by promoting its activities and projects so that the public is informed of its successes. The team agreed initially to hold similar meetings to check on the projects' progress and to visit some of them in mid 2009.

### 2009 Impact Evaluation

The SFD has kicked off preparations for the implementation of the impact evaluation scheduled to commence in 2009. Preparation works include formulating the project's draft document, which contains the objectives and methodology of the evaluation, including the evaluation plan, time schedule and estimated cost.

In addition, a meeting was held with donors to discuss the document and the terms of reference of the external evaluating agency and work was initiated with the UK Department of International Development (DFID) to select the external evaluation firm. The local survey (data collection and processing) will be financed by the World Bank.

Work with the evaluation expert has also been launched to prepare the evaluation methodology, design and timetable.

# Social Fund for Development

### Dutch support to the Social Fund

Two agreements were signed on 29 October 2008 in Sana'a between Yemen and the Netherlands to provide additional support for maternal and child health program in Yemen for a total amount of \$36 million, of which \$8.5 million was allocated to the Social Fund. The agreements were signed by Mr. Abdulkarim Ismail Al-Arhabi, Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs and Minister of Planning and International Cooperation /SFD Managing Director, Dr. Abdulkarim Rasse', Minister of Public Health and Population, and A. G. Koenders, Minister of Dutch Development Cooperation. Al-Arhabi underscored, at a news conference following the talks, the depth of the relations between Yemen and the Netherlands, which extend for 400 years, confirming Yemen's keenness on strengthen these relations. *(Continued on page 2)*



### Editorial

At the end of October 2008, the Government approved the National Strategy for Local Governance. The strategy was developed with the participation of all relevant agencies; among them the Social Fund for Development (SFD). The SFD has played a prominent role in enriching the strategy, drawing on the successful experience of its community participation approach and support to local authorities. The SFD recent program "Empowerment for Local Development", which focuses on the empowerment of all development-process-related levels starting from local communities and up to the local authority was recognized and adopted by the Strategy.

Review of the emergence and development of the decentralization process reveals that the SFD has supported the process at all levels. The SFD pursued this goal through activating the roles set in the Local Authority Law and its regulations. In this regard, the SFD implemented, during the past years, training programs that targeted all the districts in the Republic, in response to the growing need to build the capacities of this important sector. In addition to capacity building, these programs have also helped analyze the localities' institutional situation and organizational problems and have recently assisted in enriching the strategy's in-depth analysis of the localities and their current status.

Within this context, the SFD has also contributed to financing the Decentralization and Local Development Support Program since its inception in late 2003 (the SFD is one of the major supporters of this program). The program aimed primarily to contribute to preparing the strategy and providing practical experience for the decentralized application of planning and implementation of development projects at the local level.

The SFD is resolved to support the national efforts towards broad-authority local governance through supporting the national program for implementing the local government strategy, continuing the localities' capacity building and deepening partnership with them.

### Germany provides the SFD with €17.5 million

Yemen and Germany signed on 09 November 2008 six grant agreements, two of which were for the Social Fund for Development (EUR17.5 million) to enhance basic education. Both agreements aim to improve access to education, with a particular focus on girls in rural areas. The grant agreements were signed by H.E. Abdulkarim Al-Arhabi, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Planning and International Cooperation/SFD Managing Director, and Ms. Doris Koehn, KfW Group's Senior Vice President for MENA and Europe, in the presence of German Ambassador H.E. Michael Klor-Berchtold.

The other agreements provide grants to support programs in water sector.

### Donor Joint Progress Review Team evaluates SFD Phase III

The Donor Joint Progress Review Mission held meetings on 13–19 December 2008 focusing on evaluating progress of projects and activities under the third phase of the Social Fund for Development (SFD III), in addition to following up on reviewing the achieved results and its impacts on the targeted impoverished communities.

Representatives of the WB, DFID, EC, KfW and the Netherlands took part in the review. They also discussed the Global Food Price Crisis Response (GFRP) Trust Fund, which is being implemented by the SFD in 80 sub-districts all across the country.

The team also discussed a number of crosscutting issues including poverty targeting and gender mainstreaming. They discussed preparations of a road map for its longer-term vision for its role to national development and its plans for the 4<sup>th</sup> phase after 2010. They also reviewed the SFD's preparations for the 2009 impact evaluation and its communication and influence strategy. *(Continued on page 12)*



**Dutch support to the Social Fund (continued)**

He noted that the relationship between Yemen and the Netherlands is distinguished by the existence of a continuous dialogue between the two sides on the various aspects of support. For his part, the Dutch Minister reiterated resolve to continue cooperation and work with Yemen.

On the other hand, a 15-million-dollar financing agreement was signed on 22 November 2008 in Sana'a between the Republic of Yemen, represented by the Social Fund for Development, and the Netherlands to support education in Yemen. The amount will be allocated to finance basic and secondary education improvement and expansion project under SFD's mid-term vision extending until the end of 2010. The agreement was signed by Abdulkarim I. Al-Arhabi and the Royal Netherlands Deputy Ambassador, Ms. Alen van Rische.

Following the signing of the agreement, Al-Arhabi praised the devotion shown by the Dutch government to support and strengthen the efforts of the Yemeni government to enhance development in Yemen, particularly as regards the development of basic and secondary education. The Netherlands Deputy Ambassador considered the grant as part of donors' support for SFD contributions in all sectors of development, especially education, noting the responsiveness of the SFD and the Yemeni government to invest support for the development of education methods and systems. For his part, the Minister of Education praised SFD's efforts in improving the economic and social conditions of local communities, particularly in rural areas, and expressed gratitude to the Netherlands' initiative in responding to all the needs of the poor communities and supporting essential projects and programs directly related to the lives of the beneficiaries.

**UNIT NEWS**

**Education**

Eleven projects were approved during the quarter at an estimated cost of \$1.9 million dollars. The projects include basic education (6 projects), supporting policies and educational trends (3) and, finally, literacy (2). The cumulative number (since the inception of the SFD in 1997 until the end of 2008) reaches 3,520 projects at an estimated cost of nearly \$385 million.

**Basic education development**

This program aims to expand basic-education infrastructure, increase enrollments, extend education-service coverage (particularly in underserved areas), narrow the enrollment gap of boys and girls and improve the education environment.

During the quarter, six projects were approved in this sub-sector worth about \$1.2 million, including the construction and furnishing of six schools in Amran governorate. These projects are expected to benefit directly 1,733 students (including 1,019 males and 714 females).

**Rural girls' education and community participation**

This pilot program is implemented in five sub-districts (Al-Maga'eshah in Taiz governorate, Al-Mihrabi in Al-Dhale', Al-Ramiya Al-Uliya in Al-Hudaidah, Bani Utaifah in Amran and Weld Ayyash in Sa'adah) where male enrollments in basic education exceed female by more than 90%. The program seeks to raise rural girls' enrollments by 20% between 2005 (when the actual implementation of the program's projects started) and 2010 (end of SFD third phase according to its vision), provides community education classes and supports coordination & institution building with the Ministry of Education on girls' education and community participation. The program's components are community formations, capacity building, awareness and *community mobilization and infrastructure*. Focus was given, during the quarter, on the first two components as follows:

*Community formations*

Under the collaboration and partnership with Al-Saleh Social Development Foundation, 950 school uniforms and 1,000 school bags have been distributed to students of rural-girl-education schools in the five targeted governorates (Sa'adah, Al-Hudaidah, Al-Dhale', Amran and Taiz). In addition, 800 Eid clothes were distributed for boys and girls in the same areas.

On the other hand, three field studies were carried out to identify the needs of women, youth and student formations in four governorates (Al-Hudaidah, Taiz, Amran and Al-Dhale') to prepare a life skills guide targeting those groups. Moreover, the Al-Sukhna rural-women atelier (Al-Sukhna district / Al-Hudaidah) has been provided with office furniture, cutting tables, chairs and blackboards as well as tools and machines for tailoring and training.

*Capacity building*

During the period 16–18 October 2008, a training course on field scientific research methodology was conducted for 12 male and female consultants involved in the survey pertaining to the preparation of the life skills manual.

Also, a training course was carried out on 18–23 October 2008 for eight members of the administrative body of the Al-Sukhna rural-women atelier and the district development-committee project heads on fund raising for small projects.

**Supporting administrative decentralization in education**

The SFD supports the Ministry of Education in reaching administrative decentralization in education through constructing and furnishing education offices at the district level. This aims to achieve staff stability in these offices and, therefore, easy communication between the offices and relevant education establishments as well as to ensure direct control over these facilities and providing them with teaching supplies in a faster manner. In this regard, three projects were approved in the quarter for the construction and furnishing of education offices in Taiz governorate at an estimated cost of about \$573,000—bringing the total cumulative number of SFD-supported offices to 63 worth about \$11.3 million.

**Third phase indicators - Education Sector\***

Indicators	Target (2004–08)	1 <sup>st</sup> year (2004)	2 <sup>nd</sup> year (2005)	3 <sup>rd</sup> year (2006)	4 <sup>th</sup> year (2007)	5 <sup>th</sup> year (2008)	Total
Classrooms built and equipped	7,500	1,940	2,541	1,867	1,232	2,547	<b>10,127</b>
Classrooms rehabilitated	1,100	295	352	263	145	304	<b>1,359</b>
Completed classrooms (by completion year)		0	636	2,614	2,340	1,236	<b>6,826</b>
Children enrolled	300,000	155,558	263,834	231,689	111,468	190,471	<b>953,020</b>
Preschool teachers trained	600		542				<b>542</b>
Kindergartens established	34	4	10	9	2	4	<b>29</b>
Workshops in education, planning, programming and evaluation	16	8	12	16	58	29	<b>123</b>

\*Includes only under-implementation and completed projects as of 31/12/2008

**Cumulative number of beneficiaries and job opportunities as of 31/12/2008, by sector**

Sector	Beneficiaries		Temporary job opportunities
	Direct	Indirect	
Environment	2,224,188	380,242	2,391,515
Integrated Intervention	144,019	79,328	346,726
Training	83,799	428,857	141,359
Education	2,107,319	2,502,014	14,522,429
Organizational Support	581,535	532,379	576,383
Agriculture	35,046	308,230	54,048
Health	5,357,161	2,076,551	1,616,213
Rural Roads	3,308,194	1,710,226	5,295,385
Special Needs Groups	189,102	97,389	704,094
Micro Enterprises Dev.	139,691	603,161	39,416
Small Enterprise	35,855	76,915	17,629
Cultural Heritage	300,327	129,002	1,628,391
Water	2,477,704	188,996	3,123,428
Business development	37,605	90,424	1,493
Food Price Crisis Response Program	133,500	-	528,297
<b>Total</b>			<b>30,986,806</b>

**Cumulative number of projects, commitments and contracted amounts as of 31/12/2008, by governorate**

Governorates	No. of projects	Commitments (\$)	Contracted amounts (\$)
Ibb	727	74,136,125	61,110,274
Abyan	166	17,638,895	13,202,159
Capital City	530	67,163,162	56,513,647
Al-Baidha	187	18,179,858	16,246,053
Al-Jawf	111	10,014,291	7,964,301
Al-Hudaidah	689	74,663,036	61,804,298
Al-Dhale'	152	17,562,843	11,596,195
Al-Mahweet	227	24,160,873	19,289,238
Al-Maharah	71	3,993,453	3,294,713
More than a governorate	783	38,748,617	27,770,076
Taiz	989	102,975,443	79,203,457
Hajjah	515	51,973,187	41,206,642
Hadhramaut	465	40,071,723	28,510,007
Dhamar	564	49,956,914	40,613,664
Raimah	174	19,787,969	13,411,687
Shabwah	215	16,850,335	14,335,560
Sa'adah	203	22,912,258	16,663,077
Sana'a	321	25,579,638	20,445,687
Aden	211	27,723,984	19,777,212
Amran	492	44,155,650	36,819,054
Lahej	344	30,056,629	21,418,517

**Cumulative commitments and contracted amounts as of 31/12/2008, by sector**

Sector	No. of projects	Commitments (\$)	Contracted amounts (\$)
Environment	209	36,815,765	16,115,214
Integrated Intervention	138	9,396,245	8,021,957
Training	545	10,266,958	7,805,932
Education	3,520	385,308,454	310,638,191
Organizational Support	436	20,121,840	16,597,416
Agriculture	52	2,676,672	936,550
Health	796	57,852,079	42,894,860
Rural Roads	519	88,097,038	78,030,609
Special Needs Groups	441	24,970,677	20,319,782
Micro Enterprises Dev.	123	12,531,056	9,522,039
Small Enterprise	27	4,812,031	3,908,020
Cultural Heritage	190	38,646,829	26,554,003
Water	1,104	83,429,429	65,709,532
Business development	28	2,426,341	1,969,243
Food Price Crisis Response Program	99	9,567,610	8,893,815
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,227</b>	<b>786,919,024</b>	<b>617,917,163</b>

**Cumulative number of beneficiaries as of 31/12/2008, by gender**

	Beneficiaries	
	Direct	Indirect
Male	8,108,834	4,366,947
Female	9,046,211	4,836,767

**Cumulative number of completed projects as of 31/12/2008, by sector**

Sector	No. of projects	Investment (\$)
Environment	136	12,541,167
Integrated Intervention	49	2,847,955
Training	463	6,306,641
Education	2,847	257,097,542
Organizational Support	360	11,329,277
Agriculture	14	383,513
Health	472	29,972,602
Rural Roads	282	44,295,115
Special Needs Groups	320	16,673,276
Micro Enterprises Dev.	101	8,292,999
Small Enterprise	25	2,823,020
Cultural Heritage	110	13,836,004
Water	813	51,872,975
Business development	9	595,313
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,001</b>	<b>458,867,399</b>

## SFD Achievements in 2008

The SFD's total investments in 2008 reached around \$196 million distributed over the different sectors. Projects approved during the year mount to 1,360 projects, with 629 projects completed.

### Number of projects and commitments in 2008, by sector

Sector	No. of projects	Investment (\$)
Environment	41	17,048,879
Integrated Intervention	30	815,927
Training	94	2,556,147
Education	466	84,966,279
Organizational Support	60	3,868,428
Agriculture	31	1,830,666
Health	141	10,917,474
Rural Roads	122	26,526,328
Special Needs Groups	63	2,767,729
Micro Enterprises Dev.	14	1,928,785
Small Enterprise	1	385,000
Cultural Heritage	27	9,104,029
Water	160	22,857,289
Business development	11	814,580
Food Crisis Response Program	99	9,567,610
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,360</b>	<b>195,955,150</b>

### Completed projects in 2008, by sector

Sector	No. of projects	Investment (\$)
Environment	13	1,152,407
Integrated Intervention	13	940,645
Training	51	710,801
Education	233	30,783,873
Organizational Support	28	1,456,760
Agriculture	5	278,867
Health	73	5,063,417
Rural Roads	74	16,099,250
Special Needs Groups	30	1,592,407
Micro Enterprises Dev.	10	2,064,762
Small Enterprise	3	1,080,194
Cultural Heritage	12	1,536,723
Water	83	5,539,490
Business development	1	5,652
<b>Total</b>	<b>629</b>	<b>68,305,248</b>

### SFD commitments in 2008, by governorate

Governorates	No. of projects	Commitments (\$)	Distribution (%)
Ibb	10	789,402	6.5
Capital City	4	128,235	1.1
Al-Baidha	1	775,349	6.4
Al-Jawf	3	487,598	4
Al-Hudaidah	5	405,249	3.3
Al-Dhale'	2	350,000	2.9
Al-Mahweet	7	447,450	3.7
Al-Maharah	1	71,250	0.6
More than a governorate	23	2,501,403	20.6
Taiz	14	1,917,767	15.8
Hajjah	11	1,005,838	8.3
Hadhrmaut	5	594,565	4.9
Dhamar	8	382,398	3.2
Raimah	2	382,000	3.1
Shabwah	1	280,000	2.3
Sa'adah	3	219,200	1.8
Sana'a	5	368,780	3
Aden	1	50,000	0.4
Amran	5	749,100	6.2
Lahej	4	226,360	1.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>12,131,944</b>	<b>100</b>

### Number of beneficiaries and job opportunities in 2008, by sector

Sector	Beneficiaries		Temporary job opportunities
	Direct	Indirect	
Environment	182,783	53,199	1,595,911
Integrated Intervention	25,534	14,357	18,161
Training	46,294	179,062	27,217
Education	198,462	1,286,852	2,826,135
Organizational Support	75,323	3,255	77,995
Agriculture	15,305	207,730	44,418
Health	1,420,191	1,363,274	265,360
Rural Roads	571,961	11,408	1,336,475
Special Needs Groups	19,597	7,407	62,063
Micro Enterprises Dev.	33,400	143,500	11,345
Small Enterprise	-	-	10
Cultural Heritage	5,412	16,000	268,457
Water	313,331	10,664	478,953
Business development	15,295	36,544	532
Food Crisis Response Program	133,500	-	528,297
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,056,388</b>	<b>3,333,252</b>	<b>7,541,329</b>

### Literacy

Eight training courses were held on 01–23 November 2008 in literacy, in which 174 male and female teachers from eight districts in Al-Hudaidah governorate (as a first stage). Moreover, during the period 26 November–02 December 2008, a course was conducted for training national trainers on design and implementation of educational means from the environment raw for literacy and active learning, which was attended by 30 male and female participants.

In addition, the quarter witnessed the approval of a training-course project on methods of literacy awareness (more than one governorate) as well as another project to support literacy activities in Al-Nashamah sub-district (Al-Ma'afar/Taiz).

### Cultural heritage

The SFD continues its efforts to contribute to safeguarding Yemen's historical sites, cities, monuments and other significant assets

In this regard, seven projects were approved during the quarter worth about \$2.4 million; thus, bringing the total cumulative number of projects to 190 worth nearly \$38.7 million.

#### Yemeni museums database

The supply of all the equipment of the project relating to the establishment of a database for Yemeni museums was completed. The database software was installed in the National Museum (in Sana'a) and Seyoun and Abyan museums as well as the headquarters of the Museums and Manuscripts General Authority. Training will be provided in the second phase for cadres and museums on a program of data entry and archaeological pieces of information in the database.

#### Partnership Program to preserve the historical city of Zabid

Work is ongoing in the implementation of the partnership program with the German Technical Cooperation (GTZ) to contribute to the preservation of the city of Zabid and other historical cities. In accordance with the program's mechanism, tens of houses are being restored and other components implemented (such as supporting craft associations and raising the awareness of Zabid's residents on the importance of the city preservation). Work is also under way to identify and select a number of other historical cities, in which the program will be implemented, and prepare plans to preserve them.

#### Paving the historical city of Zabid

Work continues in the implementation of the pavement of the city's experimental section. The first phase pavement bidding was also announced. It is noteworthy that the Social Fund is also financing the purchase of ground electric cables as well as their extension prior to pavement, with all the major electrical components put underground, thereby enhancing the preservation of the city's historical and archaeological nature.

### Third phase indicators – Cultural Heritage Sector\*

Indicators	Target (2004–08)	1 <sup>st</sup> year (2004)	2 <sup>nd</sup> year (2005)	3 <sup>rd</sup> year (2006)	4 <sup>th</sup> year (2007)	5 <sup>th</sup> year (2008)	Total
Projects financed	90	26	30	22	15	12	105
Consultants trained	95	52	60	41	30	30	213
Laborers trained	880	177	220	136	120	223	876

\* Includes only under-implementation and completed projects as of 31/12/2008

### The Great Mosque of Shibam (Kawkaban)

Some of the risks were eliminated in the northern corridor of the Great Mosque in Shibam (Kawkaban) / Al-Mahweet. Moreover, numbering, documenting and dismantling of a number of decorative wooden casings have been carried out, and worn-out and eroded parts were repaired with the removal of termite and storage effects. On the other hand, an international expert has been seconded to assess the mosque building construction and identify the relevant problems.

#### Restoration of Shibam (Hadhrmaut) houses

Following the flood disaster in Wadi Hadhrmaut, the SFD—in a quick response—decided to initiate the fourth-phase project of the restoration of the historic houses of the city of Shibam/ Hadhrmaut, which included a component of urgent reforms and restorations to redress the damages resulting from the catastrophe. Documentation began immediately after the disaster and restoration began in December 2008. With the end of this stage, 75% of the city's total houses will have benefited from the restoration.

It should be noted that the unit played a central coordination role to technically unify stakeholders' vision towards the cultural heritage of Wadi Hadhrmaut and the damage caused by the floods as well as the major potential damages because of the intensity and urgency of unstudied interventions in addition to the consequences of changing the perception of the mud as a reliable construction material in the valley. These agencies concluded with a homogeneous vision on the mentioned topics and conveyed it to the World Bank's Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) mission to consider it. The agencies include, in addition to the SFD, the General Authority for the Preservation of Historical Cities, the General Authority for Lands, Survey and Urban Planning and the GTZ-implemented Historical Cities Development Project.

#### Conservation of the Sana'ani Song

The Sana'ani song musical database was fully completed and will be opened to the public officially next February. The collection, and recording and documentation of more than 300 classic singing melodies were also finalized. The work team is currently embarking on the establishment of a lyrics database so that the two databases will be linked together—thus, linking each song with its corresponding lyrics. This is in addition to the completion of recording more than 200 traditional Sana'ani songs from private holdings, which the project could access. They include rare recordings of private musical gatherings as well as cassette recordings on old tapes.

#### Documenting oral folk

The field survey of the oral childhood and motherhood folklore in four governorates (Al-Maharah, Hadhrmaut, Shabwah and Abyan) has been completed. Office unloading, screening and classification of the information and tapes that have been collected and recorded will commence during the fieldwork.

#### Preliminary study on Bait Al-Ashwal village preservation

The documentation of archaeological stone pieces existing at the houses of several villages of the Yareem and Al-Saddah districts (Ibb governorate) has been completed. These

villages are Dhafar, Al-Arrafah, Bait Al-Ashwal, Manketh, Mawah, Al-Aksoud and Al-Seerah). Documentation, carried out by photography, painting and categorization, included 314 archaeological objects (South Arabian inscriptions and artifacts). A database, showing the objects' sizes and locations as well as the names of the houses' owners possessing them, was also set. In addition, four new-graduate archaeologists were trained on archaeological documentation approaches.

**Other activities**

All the works relating to the restoration of the Dar Al-Hikmah library (Jamal Jameel School) have been completed. These include restoration of the library and the pool as well as the gate entrance along with the installation of suitable lighting.

Moreover, the project of documenting Al-Madrasah Al-Shamsiyyah in Dhamar was completed. Architectural documentation, done by photogrammetry technique, included all the school elements (prayer hall, students' rooms, ablution facilities, minaret).

Also, within the rehabilitation program targeting Bustans and Maqashem of the Old City of Sana'a, works continued for the rehabilitation of the Bustan Al-Gawza—one of the few remaining gardens not included in the program).

In addition, a consultation and coordination meeting was held on 15 November 2008 between the SFD and the Ministry of Culture's Manuscripts Sector with the presence of experts in manuscripts. The meeting focused on the SFD's trends to continue providing support for the manuscripts, especially in light of the renewed activities of manuscripts sector, especially in light of renewing manuscripts documenting activities and the administrative improvement that began to emerge recently.

Finally, an architect and archaeologist participated in the third training course of the Rome-based International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM), which was held in Sharjah (United Arab Emirates) on 26 October–5 December 2008. The course was entitled the Third Regional Course for Conservation and Management of Archaeological Heritage Sites in the Arab Region. The unit also participated in the International Course in Training of Management Planning for Cultural Heritage organized by the same center in Shanghai (China) on 24 November–05 December 2008. These participations came after Yemen had gained the center's membership.

**Training and Organizational Support**

Interventions in the two sectors of Training and Organizational Support aim at providing services through training and building the human and institutional capacities of SFD staff and project officers, consultants, community committees (beneficiary committees), small contractors, technicians, local authorities, NGOs and governmental organs.

The number of approved projects during the quarter mounts to 26 projects in both sectors (at an estimated cost of about \$1.6 million)

and cumulatively 981 projects (nearly \$30.4 million).

**Governmental Organizations**

Interventions are comprised of five projects, of which two training projects—namely two training of trainers' courses for the empowerment programs implemented by SFD branch offices and a training workshop about tourism development in Wadi Hadhramaut.

On the other hand, the organizational support interventions included three projects targeting the main offices of the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation in the governorates, the Productive Families' Center in Dhamar, the establishment of four libraries in four districts of Dhamar governorate. Support includes providing equipment and supplies as well as administrative training and need-assessment study for the Ministry of Planning offices, secretarial and coiffeur training for the Productive Families' Center and training in documentation and indexing for librarians of the four libraries.

**Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)**

Training and organizational support were provided to NGOs by means of six projects: Two concern apiarists training in Khadir and Al-Mawaset districts (Taiz) through practical courses in addition to a training workshop targeting outstanding and leading apiarists, who had already taken part in the previous practical courses. The workshop aimed to raise awareness about voluntary work as well as cooperative work among apiarists, which can lead to the formation of beekeepers' NGOs.

The other four projects are concerned with organizational support through targeting Nuqum Women Training Center (NWTC), the Yemeni Women Union (YWU), the National Institute of Management Sciences/ Capital City and the Yemeni Youth Federation in Taiz governorate.

Intervention included some additional construction (civil works) in the NWTC headquarters and the YWU as well as providing various kinds of necessary equipment and supplies, as required. Components of intervention include also training in projects' designing, fund raising techniques, feasibility studies concerned with small productive projects, new methods and techniques in literacy training and methods of utilizing educational aids.

**Local Communities**

Targeting included the local communities in Al-Nadira (Ibb) and Al-Haima Al-Dakhilia (Sana'a) through two training projects, with the first concerned with supporting self-help initiatives in illiteracy eradication in 14 sub-districts and 20 development communities and the second including 10 sub-districts covering 24 development communities (respectively). Intervention in the two districts aims to train 75 teachers in illiteracy eradication techniques and methods as well as to provide equipment and supplies to the literacy classrooms.

**Local Authority**

SFD targeting comprised six projects. Of these, five projects are concerned with training: Four projects for training the local authorities in Al-Oudain (Ibb governorate) and Jabal Al-Sharq (Dhamar) in Supporting the Local authority on Participatory Planning and Methodologies of Work in the Empowerment Program.

**Third phase indicators – Training and Organizational Support Sectors\***

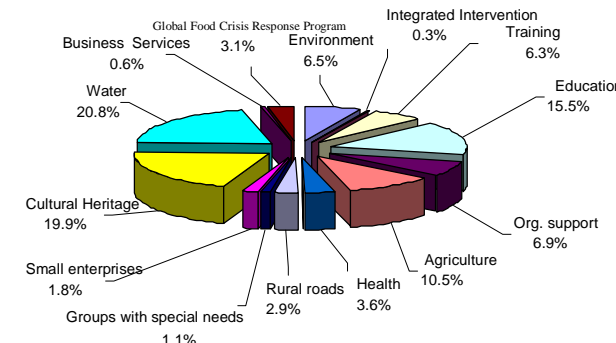
Indicators	Target (2004–08)	1 <sup>st</sup> year (2004)	2 <sup>nd</sup> year (2005)	3 <sup>rd</sup> year (2006)	4 <sup>th</sup> year (2007)	5 <sup>th</sup> year (2008)	Total
Workshops for NGOs	125	43	86	80	101	27	337
NGOs and cooperatives supported	200	41	28	29	30	43	171
User groups, communities and CBOs supported	700	66	232	266	356	432	1,352
Local councils provided with organizational support	50	0	10	15	13	22	60
Councilors and local authority members trained**		1,875	5,845	260	737	505	9,222

\*Includes only under-implementation and completed projects as of 31/12/2008

**SFD-supported microfinance programs (end of December 2008)**

Program	Active number of clients			Outstanding loan portfolio (Million YR)	PAR (%)	Cumulative numbers		Area of Operation
	Borrowers		Savers			Number of loans	Loan amounts (Million YR)	
	Total	Women (%)	Total					
National MF Foundation	11,519	99%	13,997	245	2.5%	49,255	1,573	Capital City, Taiz, Qa'edah and Yareem in Ibb and Dhamar
Aden MF Foundation	3,062	94%	5,262	55	0%	21,180	727	Dar Sa'ad, Al-Buraikah, Al-Mu'alla, Al-Tawwahi, Crater, Khormaksar, Sheikh Othman – Aden, Lahej
MF Development Program (Nama')	4,715	33%	979	149	0%	24,268	1,010	Sana'a, Taiz, Aden
Sana'a MF	2,698	85%	2,297	59	14.0%	17,828	632	Capital City
Abyan S & C	3,062	100%	3,314	68	0%	11,421	388	Abyan
Al-Hudaidah MC	1,870	79%	0	19	24.0%	30,094	727	Al-Hudaidah city and Bajil - Al-Hudaidah governorate
Wadi Hadhramaut	1,434	28%	1,728	19	11.5%	5,889	727	Seyoun – Hadhramaut governorate
Al-Awa'el MF Company	3,133	100%	0	11	1.4%	29,727	727	Taiz
Other Activities & IGPs				0		46,943	753	Several areas
Small Enterprise Development Fund	2,110	8%		1,016	2.0%	8,080	5,522	Capital City, Taiz, Aden, Al-Mukalla,
Social Institution for Sustainable Development (SFSD)	2,350	88%	0	89	0%	7,329	443	Capital City
Al-Amal Microfinance Bank	200	33%	503	10,6	0%	201	12,6	Capital City

**Commitments, fourth quarter 2008, by sector**



**Expected number of beneficiaries and job opportunities, fourth quarter 2008, by sector**

Sector	Beneficiaries		Temporary job opportunities
	Direct	Indirect	
Environment	14,089	0	15,311
Integrated interventions	72	0	274
Training	2,430	150,842	6,381
Education	2,091	69,751	56,050
Organizational Support	3,124	1,627	10,507
Health	14,931	107,730	42,970
Rural Roads	155,247	0	12,521
Special Needs Groups	3,314	0	22,538
The micro projects	7	4,492	612
The small projects	3,500	14,000	15
Cultural Heritage	3,372	0	64,566
Water	112,553	0	44,423
Business unit	50	150	4
Global Food Crisis Response Program	9,385	0	2,203
<b>Total</b>	<b>324,165</b>	<b>348,592</b>	<b>278,375</b>

**Commitments, fourth quarter 2008, by governorate**

Governorate	No. of projects	Commitments (\$)	Distribution (%)
Ibb	10	789,402	6.5
Capital City	4	128,235	1.1
Al-Baidha	1	775,349	6.4
Al-Jawf	3	487,598	4
Al-Hudaidah	5	405,249	3.3
Al-Dhale'	2	350,000	2.9
Al-Mahweet	7	447,450	3.7
Al-Maharah	1	71,250	0.6
More than a governorate	23	2,501,403	20.6
Taiz	14	1,917,767	15.8
Hajjah	11	1,005,838	8.3
Hadhramaut	5	594,565	4.9
Dhamar	8	382,398	3.2
Raimah	2	382,000	3.1
Shabwah	1	280,000	2.3
Sa'adah	3	219,200	1.8
Sana'a	5	368,780	3
Aden	1	50,000	0.4
Amran	5	749,100	6.2
Lahej	4	226,360	1.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>12,131,944</b>	<b>100</b>

## Community-based Labor Intensive Works Program

The SFD introduced in the second half of 2008 a new program (the emergency program) under the labor-intensive works program, which was initiated at the end of 2006. The two programs aim primarily to create temporary job opportunities to reduce unemployment and generate income opportunities for poor families in the poorest communities.

The emergency program provides cash assistance for such communities to mitigate the effects of the food-price rise through offering jobs opportunities generated by the program to implement development projects that are essential to these communities, applying the pay-for-work principle.

The emergency program targets about 16,000 poor families distributed over 80 sub-districts located in 40 districts throughout the country. By the end of 2008, about 6,000 families benefited from the program, with 99 projects being implemented (at an estimated cost of nearly \$9.6 million). The projects include water harvesting, rehabilitation & upgrading of existing rural roads, rehabilitation & restoration of agricultural terraces, soil protection and removing harmful weeds.

It is worth pointing out to the role of rural women, as they managed to participate in the fieldwork within either collective contracts or their own individual contracts. They benefited from the facilities provided by the program to motivate them to participate by offering the opportunity to choose the type of work appropriate for women and in conformity with their social and living conditions (such as the provision or transfer of sand, provision of water, removing or transferring harmful weeds, cooking).

Moreover, within capacity building, training was provided to the program officers in SFD branch offices, 110 consultants (in accounting as well as technical and social fields) and 56 other consultants on follow-up during implementation.

## Small and Micro Enterprises Development

During the last quarter of 2008, the Small and Micro Enterprise Development (SMED) Unit focused on expanding the microfinance industry, providing training and technical assistance to banks and microfinance institutions (MFIs) with the aim of increasing their capacity. SMED also focused on promotion by organizing the fifth small and micro enterprise event, which took place in Aden.

### NMS Steering Committee Meeting

The SFD organized the third meeting of the National Microfinance Strategy (NMS) steering committee, which was held on 29 October 2008 in Sana'a, to enhance the implementation of the national strategy and work plan. A number of representatives from funding agencies, governmental bodies and MFIs participated in the meeting.

### SFD Partners' Workshop

The SFD organized a meeting of its partners, which was attended by 23 representatives from 12 MFIs. During the workshop, a number of topics were discussed, including expansion difficulties faced by MFIs, the loan tracking system and MFIs' 2009 plan as well as technical assistance and training needs. In addition, 2008 performance indicators were discussed and compared with plans as well as the problems and difficulties related to MFIs growth. Participants concluded a number of recommendations to tackle such difficulties.

### Training Courses

In cooperation with the Microfinance Network of the Arab countries (Sanabel), the SMED unit organized on 19–22 October 2008 a training course in financial analysis for 19 MFIs' employees. Another course was also conducted on 23–27 November 2008 in product development. The course, in which 17 MFIs' employees participated, aimed at improving the skills of participants in designing MF (loan and savings) products as well as other financial services. Moreover, a course titled "Risk Management in Microfinance" was held in Sana'a on 14–17 December 2008, in which 20 MFIs trainees participated.

The latter two courses were a result of the standing cooperation between the SFD and Sanabel.

### A Booklet on SMED in Yemen

The SMED unit has issued a booklet on small and micro enterprise development in Yemen (in both Arabic and English). It deals with the challenges and difficulties faced by SMEs in Yemen and the interventions implemented by the SFD and its partner organizations to solve such issues. In addition, the booklet contains information on how to obtain the services provided to SMEs. (Refer to [www.sfd-yemen.org/smed](http://www.sfd-yemen.org/smed))

### Support for NMF and Nama Program

The SMED unit has provided technical assistance to the National Microfinance Foundation (NMF) by linking the foundation's headquarters in Sana'a with its branches via the loan tracking system. In addition, technical assistance was provided to Nama Program's centers in various districts of Taiz governorate to allow them to exchange information that can help track and monitor their performance.

### Qualification of 1,000 SWF Beneficiaries

A managing director was appointed for a project that would qualify 1,000 beneficiaries of the Social Welfare Fund (which is the cash assistance program). The project will build the beneficiaries' capacities to become future MFIs clients.

### Facilitation of Business Start-up for Small Enterprises in -Yemen

The SFD is financing the International Finance Corporation (IFC) with \$157,000 to help simplify start-up procedures for SMEs through six government bodies working within this program in Aden governorate. This comes in accordance with an agreement signed between the SFD and the IFC and with a grant from the Netherlands Government, with the activity carried out in cooperation with the Coastal Port Cities Development Authority.

### SMEPS Funding

The SFD has continued supporting its subsidiary, the Small and Micro Enterprises Promotion Services (SMEPS) Agency to implement its interventions and activities in various cities such as Sana'a, Al-Mukalla and Aden. SMEPS has implemented a number of activities during the quarter, as follows:

#### A Study to Market Fish to the Arabian Gulf

The SFD agreed on funding SMEPS to conduct an analytical study on fish marketing in the Arabian Gulf countries and explore the market needs for Yemeni fish as well as the regulations and conditions to enter such markets in a sustainable and simplified way.

#### Handicraft Export Promotion Project (HEEP)

SMEPS received in November 2008 five European handicraft wholesalers and took them in a tour to Aden, Taiz, Hadhramaut, Al-Hudaidah, Ibb and Sana'a. A workshop was also held on incense sector. These activities played a role in promoting for and increased orders to different handicraft products from Switzerland, Germany and Netherlands. Moreover, the agency organized a training course for Talha Association in handicraft export (financially and logistically) and how to deal with the orders from European markets.

#### New Business lines

New high-quality modern irrigation pipelines have been developed and tested successfully in farms, with the product having potential marketing opportunity.

#### Other SMEPS activities

In October 2008, SMEPS started implementing Know About Business (KAB) in some vocational institutes.

In addition, the agency interviewed some of Business Edge trainees from Sana'a, Aden, Taiz and Al-Mukalla) aiming to evaluate the program. On the other hand, the Chamber of Commerce and SMEPS Al-Mukalla branch, with the participation of a number of MFIs, launched Technical Assistance Stations (TAS) in Hadhramaut aiming to introduce the services to be provided by the branch to those MFIs.

Moreover, in November 2008 SMEPS held three workshops to evaluate beauty salons sector in Sana'a, Aden and Al-Mukalla, with 170 persons from the public and private sectors participating. Finally, in December 2008, a training course was conducted in Aden in coordination with the Swiss expert on making local incense sticks with the participation of some NGOs from Aden, Sana'a and Al-Mukalla.

This is in addition to a project targeting the Head Office of Hajjah governorate in components including a workshop for drawing an executive plan for the Office's strategic institutional development, and a workshop in reviewing organizational frameworks. This is besides conducting training courses in development planning, skills of leadership, modern management, training and development of human resources and training in computer applications as well as the preparation of guidelines for the application of the administrative quality management system, and the implementation of a technical assessment for developing the Head-office's electronic information system.

The sixth project is concerned with organizational support through the construction and equipping of the Local authority Information and Training Center in Hajjah governorate.

### Private Sector – Individuals

Interventions are in the form of 5 projects concerned with training consultants in the components of institutional development, skills of identification and assessment of needs in a number of governorates, as well as training the heads and members of the field work teams for the Empowerment Program in the SFD's two branches of Ibb and Dhamar. This is besides a training program for consultants in P.R.A for Ibb branch and training consultants from the governorates of Dhamar & Al-Baidha in the SFD's implementation and contracting mechanism.

### University Graduates

Two projects have been developed, the first within the National Program for Qualifying Rural Youth to support the development programs in Al-Jawf (2<sup>nd</sup> phase). The project comprises 13 training courses for 400 trainees in advocacy in addition to computer applications. The second project is comprised of two training courses in P.R.A. to cover the requirement of Sana'a branch in this field.

## Health and Social Protection

Activities of the unit comprise the two sectors of health and groups with special needs.

### Health Sector

Seven projects were approved during the fourth quarter at an estimated cost of nearly \$437,000. Of these, a project was developed for the construction and furnishing of the second floor of the primary health-care premises of the Public Health Office in

Taiz governorate.

Cumulatively, 796 projects have been approved worth nearly \$57.9 million

### Expanding and improving reproductive health services

Six projects were developed to expand and improve reproductive health services. Of these, two projects (under the maternal and newborn health program) target the expansion, furnishing and equipping of the comprehensive obstetric emergency center of the Al-Nasr Hospital (Al-Dhale' governorate) and the construction and equipping of the emergency center in the Qa'atabah City (Qa'atabah district/ Al-Dhale').

In addition, activities were carried out within the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding between the SFD, Ministry of Public Health and Population and the Royal Embassy of the Netherlands, aiming at equipping and furnishing health units, health centers and hospitals to support maternal and child health services in the Capital City and Aden, Raimah and Sa'adah governorates. In this regard, preliminary-study projects, targeting 15 health facilities (10 hospitals, 4 health centers and a health unit) in these governorates, were developed.

Finally, two projects were developed for printing a training package related to home-based mother and newborn care and another package pertaining to manuals of training local female communicators on mother- and child-care.

### Providing mental health care

Within its contribution to the national efforts to reduce the incidence of mental illnesses, the SFD supported conducting an analysis study of the status of mental health in the five main governorates (Sana'a, Aden, Taiz, Hadhramaut and Al-Hudaidah)—as part of the National Mental Health Strategy development.

Moreover, training was provided to 7 psychiatrists and 27 psychology specialists and workers on modern training skills as well as to 16 general practitioners from Sa'adah and Ibb governorates on psychiatric care.

Third phase indicators – Health and Special Need Groups Sectors

Indicators	Target (2004–08)	1 <sup>st</sup> year (2004)	2 <sup>nd</sup> year (2005)	3 <sup>rd</sup> year (2006)	4 <sup>th</sup> year (2007)	5 <sup>th</sup> year (2008)	Total
<b>Health</b>							
Projects to support health facilities providing quality services	150	15	33	21	150	81	300
Number of trained health service providers *	1,500	455	559	354	356	833	2,557
Health institutes (HIs) supported to enhance of health education quality	20	2	7	3	12	6	30
Staff trained from HIs	400	120					120
Health education curriculum upgraded for the HIs	5				25	3,250	3,275
Libraries equipped and supplied with books for HIs	8		2		10		12
Teaching laboratories equipped with learning materials	8	1					1
Psychiatric hospitals and trained health-care centers staff	25	20					20
Supporting district health management	4		3				3
<b>Groups with special needs</b>							
Public schools supported with inclusive education	110	57	7	4	32	35	135
Disadvantaged children in SFD-supported schools	15,000	3,633	1,304	5,744	1,414	2,963	15,058
NGOs supported by technical training to serve special needs groups	30	24	33	60	36	64	217
Communities made aware of inclusive-education importance & accessibility	150	4	33	33	11	20	101
Faculty of Special Education	2				2		2
Staff members qualified in the field of disability	100	20	46	8	62		136
Pre-school rehabilitation and education centers for preschoolers with disability	25	5	1	1			7
Street children centers	5	2	1	1	0	0	4
Juvenile delinquent centers	5	2	0	3	0	1	6

\*Includes only under-implementation and completed projects as of 31/12/2008

## Groups with Special Needs

The number of approved projects during the quarter mounts to 4 projects (worth about \$138,000) and cumulatively 441 projects (around \$25 million).

### *Inclusive education and integration of children with special needs in public education*

During the quarter, a workshop was implemented on the concepts, mechanisms and programs of integration for children with hearing disability. Twenty-three trainees from three schools, local council, Education Office and Women Development Al-Zahra Association in Al-Makha district (Taiz governorate) participated in the workshop.

In addition, in the framework of SFD's policy to include new disability categories (such as low vision) and to create low-vision education program in inclusive-education schools, a preliminary vision survey was carried out among the first grades in four schools of the Capital City. The survey, implemented by these grades' trained teachers, included 3,431 female and male students and resulted in revealing 42 students suffering from visual problems and in need for medical referring, which will be done in cooperation between the Inclusive-Education Directorate (IED) and the Disabled Care and Rehabilitation Fund (DCRF).

The SFD also supported the implementation of field survey and audiogram for children in four schools in Taiz governorate. The survey findings included the presence of 23 deaf children in need of medical earphones that will be provided for them by the IED through the DCRF.

### *Early intervention*

Realizing the importance of disability early detection and intervention (therapeutic, preventive and rehabilitation), the SFD is implementing two projects designed to establish early-detection-and-intervention programs in Taiz and Aden governorates in cooperation with the relevant Health Offices. The two programs aim to train 20 specialist doctors from 10 health centers in the two governorates on early detection of disability in addition to the training of 10 workers of two associations (From Child to Child and Special-Need Groups Development). Training focus on data analysis, record keeping and raising the awareness of the two governorates' school workers about early detection of disability and early intervention in this regard.

Also, within the framework of providing support to the pre-school education program for the mentally disabled children of the Al-Hudaidah Mentally Disabled Center, a training course was conducted on kindergarten teaching ways and methods. The course, which was held on 15–25 November 2008, targeted 14 female teachers working in the center. Moreover, another training course was held on 21–30 December 2008 at the Al-Amal Deaf and Visually Impaired Center, focusing on

techniques and methods of teaching deaf children and targeting 15 teachers from the center.

### *Supporting national policies and strategies*

The SFD provides support to government efforts to develop strategies and policies for people with special needs as well as to studies addressing these groups. Within this context, the SFD, in collaboration with the World Bank, has continued its support to the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation in the implementation of the second phase of the Social Protection Strategy preparation.

### *Rural Education Outreach*

Under its trends to encourage NGOs to extend educational services to rural areas, the SFD continued supporting activities of the Rural Education Outreach Project implemented by the Physically Disabled Association to extend its services to the Al-Rakhmah village (in Dhamar). Support was provided to a training course (held on 21–27 October 2008) on integration ways and approaches, targeting 31 female and male teachers from four schools in the region.

### *Preparation of national trainers*

A project is being implemented to send three of workers involved in low vision to study at a regional university to obtain specialized diploma in visual rehabilitation.

Also, the SFD carried out two training courses on 1–8 November 2008, targeting 55 trainees (SFD disability consultants and others working in this field). The training addressed need assessment, training goals identification, preparation of training materials, acquiring trainer's skills, preparation and implementation of training workshops and courses and integrated legal approach in development. It is noteworthy that, after the completion of this training and according to its results and outputs, trainees will be screened and some will be selected as trainers to work with the various categories of disability.

### *Improving health and educational environment*

Support was provided to implement four training courses targeting 16 members of the Al-Takaful City leadership as well as 14 teachers from two schools adjacent to the city. The first course focused on the educational problems experienced by the socially marginalized children and the second addressed the behavioral problems of those children; and while the third focused on the Child Rights, the fourth tackled environmental problems in the city.

Support was also provided for the implementation of two training courses in education and behavior problems in addition to an environmental and hygienic awareness program. These activities targeted three social workers from three integration schools in Dhamar in addition to the teachers of the Socially Marginalized Groups Al-Noor Association.

## Water and Environment

Activities of the unit include water and environment sectors.

### Water Sector

The number of water projects approved during the quarter mounts to 19 projects at an estimated cost of approximately \$2.5 million, with the cumulative number of projects in the sector (1997–end of 2008) reaching 1,104 projects at an estimated cost of about \$83.4 million.

During the quarter, and within the framework of the assistance provided to engineers and technicians interested in the Ferro-cement option in the preparation of technical designs for water harvesting projects, a book entitled Design and Implementation of Rooftop Rainwater Harvesting Tanks Using the Ferro-cement Technique was issued in November 2008. This book elaborates on rainwater harvesting at the local and global level, basics of design and designing and implementation of rainwater harvesting cisterns of capacity of 50 m<sup>3</sup> and 100 m<sup>3</sup> over and below ground surface (respectively) including five annexes about rainfall in Sana'a and operation and maintenance of the Ferro-cement tanks.

In addition, a training course was held in December 2008 in the SFD Sana'a branch office in the establishment of rainwater harvesting cisterns using this technique. The course, held in a school in the Capital City, was attended by 20 engineers and 5 plastering skilled laborers.

On the other hand, rooftop rainwater harvesting proved to be a success as 61 projects have been approved, under-implementation and completed, including 5,145 rooftop private cisterns having capacity of more than 260,000 m<sup>3</sup> and serving about 70 thousand people (SFD and beneficiaries' contributions reached about \$4 million and \$9 million respectively). As a result of this success, a special program was approved in December 2008, with the SFD providing \$20 million and the community contributing more than \$70 million.

### Environment Sector

Four projects were approved during the quarter (worth an estimated \$794,000), which brings the total cumulative number of projects up to a 209 projects (estimated at a cost of about 36.8 million dollars).

Activities in the quarter focused on continuing the implementation of the Community-Led Total Sanitation approach aiming to reduce open defecation in rural areas. In this regard, the experience was transferred to schools. These include a school in the Fara' Al-Udain district (Ibb governorate) and another school in Al-Taizziyyah (Taiz) attended by students from eight villages in addition to five basic schools. Students and parents have shown considerable interest in the approach and begun to implement some positive initiatives. Implementation of the approach will continue in other governorates (Sana'a, Aden and Dhamar).

## Agriculture and rural development

### Agriculture sector

The fourth quarter witnessed the approval of 27 projects (worth about \$1.3 million) thus, bringing the total cumulative number of projects to 52 (worth around \$2.7 million). The projects focus on rain-fed agriculture and livestock and completing the implementation of the fourth step of the project cycle in the rain-fed agriculture project in 11 districts selected for work in 2008 within the five targeted governorates (Hajjah, Al-Hudaidah, Lahej, Sana'a and Al-Mahweet). This step is represented in the composition of rural producer groups (both sexes), with the field activity implemented by 22 consultative teams (for a period of 17 days).

Among the results was targeting 92 local communities in the selected districts and the formation of 621 and 709 male and female producer groups (respectively) as well as 103 mixed groups (with the total reaching 1,433 groups).

In addition, a project is being implemented aiming to contribute to building extension capacities at the national level.

### Integrated intervention Program

Two projects were approved during the quarter at an estimated \$41,000, with the cumulative number of projects mounting to 138 projects (worth approximately \$9.4 million).

During the quarter, a workshop was carried out in Al-Hudaidah with the participation of all SFD's branch-office managers along with the project officers nominated to work under the program (within the branch offices). The workshop aimed to discuss the expansion of the program in terms of criteria for the selection of new areas, the work mechanism between the relevant branch and the unit and the 2009 executive plan related to this expansion.

In addition, a training course was carried out in agro-forestry, targeting agriculture committees' members in Al-Mashareej sub-district (Tour-Al-Baha / Lahej). The course aimed to give participants the knowledge on the importance of agro-forestry and skills in agro-forestry plantation. Outputs of the course included the establishment of demonstrative educational nursery. Also, a two-month sewing course is being held in the same area, targeting 15 women.

Moreover, a course was held in agricultural awareness, targeting agriculture committee's members in Bani Ma'anes (Wesab Al-Safel / Dhamar) and aiming to enable trainees to acquire the skills and knowledge about vegetables and fruits cultivation.

On the other hand, two training courses were conducted for male and female facilitators of the targeted areas, benefiting 62 trainees from the districts of Al-Luhaiyyah (Al-Hudaidah governorate), Al-Gabeen (Raimah) and Maoyah (Taiz), Al-Qafr (Ibb), Tour-Al-Baha (Lahej) and Wesab Al-Safel (Dhamar). The courses aimed to give the participants the basic skills in reading methods and their application. Also, two training courses were organized to prepare local trainers in literacy, targeting 28 female and male consultants and aiming to create a qualified cadre to work in this area.

Finally, training was provided to water projects management / operation and maintenance unit in Outnah on the operation and maintenance of projects to ensure their continuity.

### Rural roads

Four projects were approved at an estimated cost of about \$357,000. Thus, the cumulative total number of rural road projects (1997–end 2008) mounts to 517 projects and the total estimated cost reached approximately \$87.6 million. The length of rural-access roads that have been improved and protected or constructed and rehabilitated exceeds 3,127 kilometers, while the total area of paved roads and streets reached approximately 1.6 million square meters. It is expected that these projects would benefit directly some 3.3 million people, with the temporary employment generated by these projects mounting to 5.3 million working days.

### Community Contracting

Two training courses were carried out for volunteer students in community contracting within SFD's branch offices in Taiz and Dhamar, in which 49 trainees participated (during 11–17 October 2008 and 15–20 November 2008 respectively). In addition, a training course was carried out (on 20–25 December 2008) in the same field for 25 engineers in SFD's Sana'a branch office, in addition to two of the branch project officers.

### Third phase indicators – Water and Environment Sectors\*

Indicators	Target (2004–08)	1 <sup>st</sup> year (2004)	2 <sup>nd</sup> year (2005)	3 <sup>rd</sup> year (2006)	4 <sup>th</sup> year (2007)	5 <sup>th</sup> year (2008)	Total
Water harvesting projects	250	61	49	51	64	46	271
Additional small dams capacity (m <sup>3</sup> )	3,000,000	867,250	1,113,250	1,044,257	355,230	596,250	3,976,237
Piped-system projects	100	22	13	20	10	16	81
Small dams	40	15	13	10	5	7	50
Hygiene and environment awareness campaigns	150	54	15	20	5	103	197
Wastewater management projects	15	10	4	3	9	13	39
Solid waste management projects	7	9	3	2	2	4	20
Soil and water conservation projects	3	4	2	3	6	5	20

\*Includes only under-implementation and completed projects as of 31/12/2008

### Third phase indicators – Feeder Roads Sector\*

Indicators	Target (2004–08)	1 <sup>st</sup> year (2004)	2 <sup>nd</sup> year (2005)	3 <sup>rd</sup> year (2006)	4 <sup>th</sup> year (2007)	5 <sup>th</sup> year (2008)	Total
Projects financed**	125	20	33	46	64	73	236
Beneficiaries	800,000	101,924	219,342	285,386	283,567	229,150	1,119,369

\*Includes only under-implementation and completed projects as of 31/12/2008  
\*\*projects do not include street pavement