SUCCESS STORY

United Nations Development Programme

Providing emergency employment in Taizz Governorate to support vulnerable families

Although the armed conflict has placed tremendous hardships on the population of Taizz Governorate and local actors, UNDP's emergency employment programme has continued to deliver assistance in partnership with the Social Fund for Development, placing a particular focus on the inclusion of vulnerable groups such as youth and women.

In Khadeer district, the village of Nemrin has been struggling since March. Labor migration to urban centers was one of the main sources of income for residents. This came to a halt nine months ago, as insecurity forced breadwinners to return to their village for safety. As a consequence, income and savings dropped, and many sold their assets to afford basic needs. Khalil Haza, a beneficiary targeted by the UNDP-SFD intervention reports “I used to work in Sana’a, as a laborer. I was able to provide for my family’s needs, thanks to God, food, medicine, everything. But now, since the war started, I came back to my village. I can’t go anywhere. We sold our sheep for a bag of wheat which now costs YER 11,000 plus YER 1,000 for transportation.” Khalil’s family is one of the 98 households receiving emergency employment solutions that build community-based assets such as cisterns for rain water harvesting, in addition to cash injection to revive markets and reduce vulnerabilities.

UNDP and the Social Fund for Development adapted their operations to the local context and sent teams to the project areas to ensure monitoring and timely implementation, close to beneficiaries. Materials needed for the labor-intensive work programme were also selected from the local area to mitigate the high transportation costs and market inflation. The project will provide a total of 5,000 working days to the affected families which have lost their incomes, including internally displaced persons.

“Thanks to God, the project has helped us a lot. People were jobless and idle in their homes after selling their sheep for food. But then we worked. I received YER 80,000 in exchange for my labor, and my family purchased corn and grain,” says Khalil.

Through its Labor-Intensive Cash-for-Work Programme (LIWP), SFD provides assistance to over 42,000 rural poor households spread over 94 villages, 60 sub-districts, 45 districts, covering 15 governorates. UNDP provides emergency employment to build the resilience of most vulnerable and conflict-affected groups, as a first step towards economic recovery and the revitalization of local economies. In Taizz Governorate, UNDP supports 6,300 individuals through community-based cash-for-work with support from the Government of Japan and its core funding.

For more information, please contact Ms. Farah Abdessamad, Programme Specialist (farah.abdessamad@undp.org) or Ro’a’a Kubas, Donor Relations Officer at the Social Fund for Development.
SUCCESS STORY

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1 Woman building cistern for rain water harvesting, Khadeer District, Taizz Governorate