



SIERY | STRENGTHENING
INSTITUTIONAL AND
ECONOMIC
RESILIENCE IN
YEMEN
مشروع تعزيز المرونة المؤسسية والاقتصادية في اليمن



STRENGTHENING INSTITUTIONAL AND ECONOMIC RESILIENCE IN YEMEN (SIERY)

OBJECTIVE

The SIERY project supports the resilience of Yemen's local governance systems and helps enhance the recovery of conflict-affected communities.

A multi-year initiative, at the local level, it aims to develop and increase the support for responsive and accountable governance led by authorities toward inclusive economies that are driven by smallholders and Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs).

SIERY'S STRATEGY FOCUSES ON TWO COMPONENTS:

- Institutional resilience (IR): A focus on local service delivery needs of populations and the role that governance can play in rebuilding peace and stability.
- Economic resilience (ER): Enables economic recovery and aims to strengthen livelihoods and access to inclusive productive services by working with smallholders and SMEs through a value chain approach and networking with financial institutions to enable a better environment for economic recovery.

Budget

EURO 69,800,000

Location

Aden, Hadramaut, Hajjah,
Hodeidah, Ibb,
Lahj, Marib, Sana'a, Taiz

Duration

August 2020 - August 2025



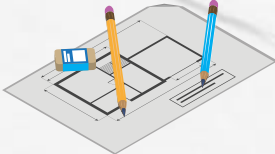
INSTITUTIONAL RESILIENCE COMPONENT

Aims to empower district authorities through capacity development, technical support, and discretionary funding to devise and implement recovery plans, in partnership with communities and local influential actors.

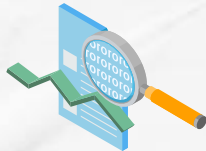
Key Achievements [January 2023 - June 2023]

1.1 Capacity Development for Local Authorities

45 districts in nine governorates in Yemen have selected the nominees for “Community Structures” consisting of representation of community committee, civil society organizations (CSOs), local actors, and local influential individuals.



259 members of Community Structures¹ in DFA areas participated in a four-day training on “Community Participatory Planning”.



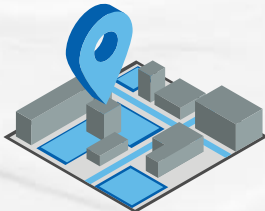
35 districts (22 districts in IRG, 13 districts in DFA) have completed district-level capacity assessments and the development of District Capacity Development Plans (DCDPs).



50 members of the District Facilitation Team (DFT) in DFA area capacitated on gender and youth related topics. Similarly, for IRG area, 60 members² of DFT also capacitated on gender and youth sensitivity approaches.

1.2 Local Collaborative Development Planning

45 districts in Yemen have developed their 2023 district development plans. As a result of an intensive processes, the plans have been approved by the local authorities and a hard copy of the plans has been distributed to districts, governorates, and the Ministry of Local Administration.



¹ This round of trainings targeted the members of Community Structures, representing the community committee element. Total: 259 (76 women, 183 men). Hodeidah: 100 (37 women, 63 men); Ibb: 99 (27 women, 72 men); Taiz: 60 (12 women, 48 men).
² Completed and reported in November 2022.



30 representatives of 30 CSOs from 6 governorates in IRG area (5 CSOs per governorate) attended the a workshop on “**Social Accountability Initiatives.**” Thanks to this avenue, the CSOs now have a better understanding of social accountability, advocacy and communication, and networking and collaboration with other organizations.

1.3 Local Resilience and Recovery Fund (L2RF)

67 local priorities have been selected for funding across 9 governorates in Yemen (L2RF Year 2). Assessments, site verification, development of technical specifications and bill of quantities (BoQs) have completed in several targeted areas.



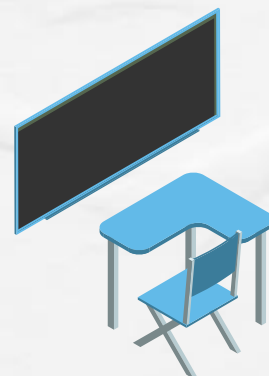
1.4 Support to Educational Capacity Building

482 educational personnel from 230 schools and education offices (41% women) were trained on Vocational Guidance Training. As a result of training, the educational staff is able to guide students in accessing their career development or increasing career options/paths as per their field of studies.



943 personnel (44% women) from 230 schools, 23 district education offices, governorate level education offices and the Ministry of Education participated in a practical training on safety and risk mitigation and management. To complement this practical training, a set of safety and security equipment was provided. The items included: fire extinguishers, instruction boards, of using fire extinguisher, safety and security dashboards, and first aid boxes. The school teachers, school administrators, and staff of education offices were also trained on using the equipment.

The education offices and schools in IRG areas³ were equipped with furniture. Thanks to this intervention, the education offices and schools are able to enhance the services to community.



³ Ministry of Education office, six (6) governorate education offices, 23 district education offices, and 230 schools. The office furniture included wooden office tables, chairs and meeting tables. The majority of educational offices have limited equipment.

1.5 Local Economic Development (LED)

Six Collaboration Platforms for Local Economy Recovery (CP4LER) were established in Aden, Lajh, Hadramaut (valley and coastal), Marib and Taiz governorates. The collaboration platforms comprise of **10-12** members per governorate, **4-5** representatives of the local authority, **4-5** representatives of the private sector, and **2** representatives of CSOs active in development in the local society.



68 members of collaboration platforms (**25** women, **43** men) from Lajh, Hadramaut, and Taiz governorates were capacitated on key topics⁴ on local economic development. As a result of the intensive training, members are now qualified to contribute to a diagnostic study on local economy.

ECONOMIC RESILIENCE COMPONENT

Aims for an improved Local Economic Development (LED) environment, and supporting smallholders and SMEs with capacity development, technical support, network opportunities, and access to local Micro-Finance Institutions (MFIs) and financial resources.

Key Achievements [January 2023 - June 2023]

2.1 Value chains and feasibilities studies

Four value chain studies (sector: dates, fish, henna, wheat) have been finalized. The studies will be disseminated through UNDP and SMEPS webpages and other channels.



Seven feasibility studies for various sub-sectors: fish farming, hydroponics, livestock, poultry eggs and meat, animal waste & leather recycling have been finalized.

⁴ The main topics include: (1) concept of local economic development; (2) understanding the local economy (conducting local economic assessment); (3) develop, implement, and review LED strategies; (4) public-private partnership, (5) revenue generation.

2.2 Capacity Building and Technical Support for Smallholders and SMEs

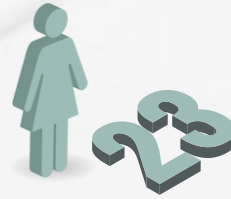
600 women livestock breeders received grants which included equipping, restoring, and building barns in Beit Al-Faqih - Al-Sukhnah - Al-Munira districts, Hodeidah Governorate.



88 women livestock breeders received 5 sheep/goats for each woman in the Beit Al-Faqih district of Hodeidah Governorate.



23 trainees from women livestock breeders received customized training in technical and financial in Beit Al-Faqih, As Sukhnah, Al-Munirah districts, Hodeidah Governorate.



As for Bani Hushaysh district, Sana'a, the following interventions were provided:

- 15 famers were trained in Hydroponics
- 120 grape farmers received production equipment (grant)
- Technical and mentorship support to grape farmers

154 coffee farmers were trained on the recent agricultural technicalities as well as financial and administrative trainings (Manakhah district, Sana'a).



3,254 long terms jobs supported and sustained through smallholders and SMEs (accumulative: 3,254 jobs).



2,040 smallholders from the henna sector are benefiting from the construction of four irrigation channels in Ghail Bawazir district of Hadramaut. The rehabilitated irrigational canals were able to reduce the draining water (water loss) to 60%. The irrigation cycle doubled to twice a month per farm while the timing of each cycle reduced to more than half, especially for farms distant from the canals.

45 coffee cuppers (23 private sector companies, 14 coffee associations and unions, and 8 members of the national tasting team) were trained in coffee cupping. Out of 45, eight coffee cuppers (two females), have passed the final evaluation phase to join a coffee cupping certification in Amman in mid-July 2023.



2.3 Market Infrastructure



Technical assessments for the **four** targeted central markets have been completed (fish market in Aden, honey market in Hadramaut, fish market in Mukalla, and central market of Hadramaut valley).

WOMEN AND YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

Aims to scale up support to local authorities to maintain and increase equitable access to public services and foster social cohesion to achieve a sustainable recovery.

Key Achievements [January 2023 - June 2023]

3.1 Women and Youth in the Development Planning Process

Women and youth continued to engage in many activities and structures/platforms (e.g., Community Structures, Collaborative Platform for Local Economy Recovery, and others).



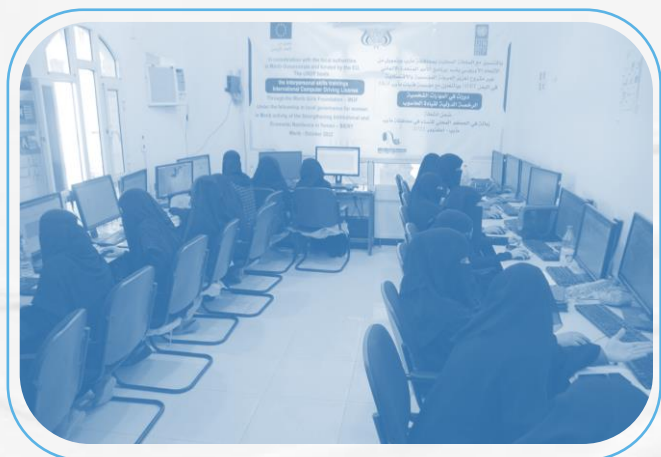
One assessment⁶ on institutional and capacity-building support to Women's Affairs Units and women staff has been completed for IRG area. Similarly, one assessment was also completed for DFA area.

38 participants (**35** women, **3** men) from the Directorate of Women's Development and Ministry Local Administration participated in a 5-day strategic planning workshop to discuss the findings from the assessment and to develop a strategic plan for women's development at central and governorate levels.



⁶ The results of the assessment serve various purposes: (i) providing guidance in addressing the challenges facing women and enhancing access to local decision-making positions; (ii) developing a strategic plan of the General Directorate for Women's Development in the Ministry of Local Administration and its offices in the governorates administration; (iii) reference point to set-up capacity building plan for Women's Affairs Units.

3.2 Women for Local Governance Fellowship in Marib



The Marib Women Fellowship Initiative⁷ to increase the number of women employed at the local authorities in Marib concluded with 70 participants. Thanks to the Initiative, eight graduates are employed with a full-time contracts in various government offices in Marib. In addition, five of the graduates will also be considered in coming recruitment opportunities for full-time contracts with local government offices.

3.3 Engaging Women in the Value Chain

86 women from dates, henna, honey, and fish sectors from Aden and Hadramaut enrolled in a 12-day entrepreneurship training covering the following topics: (i) entrepreneurship and its importance; (ii) business plans and ideas; (iii) business management and financial management; (iv) market study and business needs.



One bazaar day in As Shihr district of Hadramaut was organized with the participation of 20 women-led smallholders (14 in fish sector, 6 in henna sector). Thanks to the promotional event organised, sales were generated.



Of **86** women, 19 women producers from Al-Buriqa, Aden received an additional training on the standards and specifications required to enhance the quality of products produced in collaboration with the General Authority for Standardization, Metrology and Quality Control of Aden.



⁷The Fellowship Initiative comprised of trainings and a three-month internship for the recent graduates. The initiative included a total of 70 participants (35 female governorate and district staff and 35 recent female graduates).