

Yemeniate

يَمَنِيَات

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YEMENIATE MEANS YEMENIZING OUR WORKS AND PROGRAMMES FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE YEMENI PEOPLE



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The First National Human Rights Moot Court Competition

Cover photo by Wael Hashim

The First National Human Rights Moot Court competition



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Sana'a, Sunday 18 April 2010

The First National Human Rights Moot Court competition was held in Sharia and Law University auditoriums in Sana'a in the presence, and under the patronage, of H.E. Judge Issam AbdulWahab Al-Samawi, chairman of the Supreme Judicial Council. The Moot Court was organized by the UNDP project "Enhancing National Human Rights Capacity in Yemen". The

universities of Sana'a, Hodeidah, Taiz and Aden participated in the contest.

The moot court's principle is to run a contest between law universities students. After a fictional case with human rights relevancy illustrated, contestants have to debate the case either as lawyers or prosecutors.

Such contests aim at confirming the importance of human rights laws, and their vital role in solving judiciary conflict. They raise awareness on the international human rights laws, and encourage using these laws in the defense pleadings. In addition, they acquaint the new generation of lawyers with the international Human Rights law and encourage them to use it in national court. In short, the competition will help develop young lawyers and give them the awareness, competence and ability to use International Human Rights law in the court rooms.

The organizers took "early marriage", and "demonstration right", as two pillars of the pleadings. Representatives from the students defended their roles by using national laws, in addition to ratified international laws by the Government of Yemen. Students showed a notable pungency and a high level of professionalism. Furthermore, and as part of their evaluation, each team submitted written arguments for the hypothetical cases.

In the main ceremony, H.E. Judge Al-Samawi confirmed that all citizens have the right to go to courts (locus standi): "this right is granted for all citizens, with no exception", he said. He also praised the role of women, as judge and lawyer, and he urged women to join the High Institute of Justice.

In her Turn, H.E. Dr. Huda Al-Ban, Minister of Human Rights, praised the role of UNDP as a key and active partner for human rights in Yemen, and she confirmed the importance of human rights education among all the population in general, and among universities students in particular.

Mr. Walid Baharoon, UNDP Good Governance Team Leader, said that UNDP will keep on supporting the government of Yemen, represented by the Ministry of Human Rights, through the "Enhancing National Human Rights Capacity in Yemen" Project. He also emphasized the important roles that are played by the UNDP's partners such as the Supreme Judicial Council and the Ministry of Justice.

Dr. Khaled Tomaim, University of Sana'a Dean, said that the High Board for Universities is trying to raise the acceptance ratio in the universities to 80%, taking into consideration the importance of knowledge for students, so they build a better future for their country.

The University of Sana'a won the competition, and University of Hodeidah came second.

Winners!



Mid-Term Review of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2007 – 2011



Sana'a, Saturday, 3 April 2010

The Government of Yemen and UN Country Team held a joint meeting to discuss the findings of the mid-term review of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2007 – 2011 at the Mövenpick hotel. The meeting was co-chaired by the H.E Mr. Abdul Karim Ismail Al-Arhabi, Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs, Minister of Planning and International Cooperation and Ms. Pratibha Mehta, UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator; in attendance were the representatives of the Parliament, Cabinet, Government and all the UN Agencies in Yemen.

While the UN system is supporting both development and humanitarian needs in Yemen, the mid-term review focused on the UN system contribution towards development outcomes to help achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in the first three operational years (2007- 2009) of the five year UNDAF.

At the beginning of the cycle, the UN System committed US\$ 274 Million for development support to Yemen; the mid-term review highlighted that, in the past three years, the UN system allocated a total of \$189 million or 69% of the 5-year commitment and successfully disbursed \$151 million or 79.6 percent of the allocated resources. In addition, the UN System mobilized and disbursed nearly

USD 65 Million to respond to the humanitarian needs of Refugees, IDPs and other civilians affected by war, flood and high food prices.

Ms. Pratibha Mehta, United Nations Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator said that: *“The Midterm review is an opportunity to jointly take stock of the UN system contribution to Yemen and ensure continued relevance of UNDAF priorities to the current context of the country. The UN system will continue to work with all partners to help the country achieving MDGs by reducing poverty, malnutrition, diseases, all forms of inequalities, food insecurity and effect of climate change as well as in responding to the immediate life saving needs of people affected by various crisis”.*

Finally, it is important to highlight that the UN System in Yemen developed its United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF 2007 – 2011) in collaboration with the Government of Yemen, multi-lateral and bi-lateral partners and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs). The aim of the UNDAF is to provide a collective and integrated UN System response to national priorities within the framework of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and other international conventions using a human rights based approach; it focuses on four broad outcome areas: (i) Democratic Governance (ii) Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment; (iii) Population and Basic Social Services; and (iv) Pro-Poor Economic Growth that generates employment for the poor population.

Mission: Survival of Socotri language



*By: Bohdana Rambouskova
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Socotra Governance & Biodiversity Project
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The reason why Ismael joined the GEF project aimed on conservation of biodiversity of the Socotra island was simple: he wanted to drive a good car. He did not expect that cruising the island in a brand new Toyota will be his first step on his journey to European academic research centers. Even in his most daring dreams he did not anticipate that Socotris would once call him “Professor”.

An English teacher who has changed my life

Back in 1998, the Socotra Biodiversity Project (SBP) bought three new vehicles becoming a driver of one of them was an easy way to get your hands on a brand new steering wheel and on a stable income. But joining the project staff opened a

completely new world for Ismael who originally comes from Hassen, a village deep in the mountains. In the 1980’s, he walked two days with his mother to Hadibo in order to be able to attend school.

However, it was only after meeting Richard Boggs, an English teacher employed by SBP and later by the following UNDP-GEF Socotra Conservation and Development Programme (SCDP), that Ismael got his best education. . “Richard has changed me,” recalls Ismael when describing his beginnings with the project: “Not only did I start to study English but soon I was teaching Richard his first local Socotri words”. A close relationship developed between the two of them based on their mutual interest in each other’s language and on discovering Socotra as Ismael was guiding Richard, also a passionate photographer, around the island. Many photos in Richard’s recently

published book *The Lost World of Socotra* were the results of these excursions and of Ismael’s deep knowledge of his land.

And it was Mark Geoffrey, another photographer seeking his ultimate shot on the island, who first called Ismael “a tourist guide”. Ismael was driving him around the island and helped him also to get in close touch with local people. After some years of working as a driver, Ismael expressed his interest in obtaining higher qualification focused on environment and eco-tourism. The project provided corresponding training and Ismael spent two weeks in protected areas in Jordan and Syria.

Ismael’s secret hobby

It was by chance that specialists from SCDP learned about Ismael’s secret hobby: collecting traditional Socotri poems, legends, language. “My heart still loved the countryside but when I went



back to my village, I was not one of the people anymore. “As a half-stranger, I decided to learn the old wisdom,” explains Ismael about the origin of his idea. His first records date from early 1990s. The Socotris speak an ancient Socotri language of pre-Islamic origin related to the Mahri language spoken in Mahra region in the Southern Arabia. The Socotri language is unwritten and quite different from the modern Arabic which is taught at schools nowadays. Along the coast, the inhabitants speak both languages fluently but in the mountains, old folks and uneducated people still communicate in Socotri. And the language itself contains big differences. Socotri spoken in Hadibo differs from the one spoken by centenarians from inland villages so much that modern folks from the

town will not be able to understand. The local language obviously reflects specific Socotri reality. It has a whole range of expressions describing colors of goats. Some people say there are more than twenty but Ismael has discovered not more than ten so far. Getting the valuable traditions on a tape was not easy though. Local people are extremely shy and it was not possible to reveal to them that he came to their community to learn and record. Getting their trust was always delicate. The only people whom Ismael could ask directly were his mother and his grandfather who is 100 years old. His narration of old legends belongs to the most precious parts of Ismael’s collection.

Preserving an endangered language

Working in SCDP Ismael learned that the Socotri language is endangered. Experts explained to him how important his recording and collecting of old wisdom is. Under their guidance, he bought new cassettes and plunged with a new drive into his hobby. Before switching to digital technology, he has accumulated a collection of more than 300 cassettes. His work was not amateur anymore.

Meanwhile, his gathered knowledge has become sought by experts. When Peter de Geest working in the Karst project studying Socotra cave complexes discovered from an analysis of stalactites that a decade of drought used always be followed by a decade of rain, Ismael provided stories told by an old man confirming the scientific findings. Problems started after Peter wanted to know the man’s age. All they were able to find out was that the old man was born in the year called in Socotri “dmendo”.

Ismael’s work recognized by European academics

Ismael was requested as a guide by a French TV channel shooting a short documentary on local culture and later on by a German GEO TV channel producing a 52-minute long documentary on Socotri language. After this encounter, he got an unexpected invitation. In October 2009, he was asked to give a lecture on endangered Socotri language by the Vienna University. Thirty researchers and students of linguistics were hungry for his explications, examples of the curious language and recordings. Did he enjoy speaking to such academic audience? “Not for the first five minutes,” Ismael laughs.

But his travel to Europe did not end in the city of waltz. He continued to Max Planck Institute of Psycholinguistics in Nijmegen in Netherlands where he spent one week working in their international archive for endangered languages. He was trained in using software and was given a computer, a device for digital recording and a machine to digitalize his old cassettes. He was



invited to leave some of his recording there to be digitalized professionally. Now he can access them online in the archive's special interface. He manages their rights because some of the stories are not yet to be broadcasted publically. And what has been doing "Professor" Ismael recently? He keeps recording and hopes that Vienna linguists will succeed in organizing an international conference on Socotri language. If it should be kept for future generations, it is time to start writing down the Socotri culture. But in that case, it is necessary to discuss what letters to use since Socotri is an unwritten language. We speak about a huge task here because the language is very complex and peculiar. "In translation from Socotri into English, most of the meaning dies," points out Ismael.

Every year's Socotri poetry competition

As a specialist on ancient Socotri language, Ismael is a member of jury for every year's poetry competition on Socotra organized by the Socotra Culture and Heritage Society. Reciting their own poems composed in the language of their ancestors is very popular entertainment of Socotris. A skilled poet cannot be missing at any wedding party or a public event.

The last round of the poetry competition was held in January 2010 and out of 16 enrolled participants 9 were allowed to present their skills publically. The four-day verbal tournament attracted audience of more than 2000 people and brought a big surprise because the youngest competitor got the prize. He was only 25 but his verbal skills and knowledge of the language were so excellent that he managed to beat out such rivals as his 70 years old superiors.

The next round of the poetry competition is scheduled for December 2010 and Ismael stresses that in order to attract women to the audience and

among competing poets, a woman will be a member of the jury.

Time to focus on culture

Speaking about life on Socotra, Ismael recognizes four stages of its history: the sultanate, the socialist time, the reunification and... UNDP. He praises results of UNDP projects crowned by listing Socotra as the UNESCO Natural World Heritage Site in 2008. "UNDP has opened the door to Socotra," he says, "but helped only on one side – nature. Now we should focus on local culture." And that is what he is trying to do.

This year's windy season started quite early on Socotra. Inhabitants try to escape from strong winds coming from India to the mainland or at least to the southern part of the island. Ismael is spending this period in his village in the mountains.

He will surely supply his collection with some new Socotri stories.



The Quality Control Laboratory for Fish/Fishery Products is Launched in Hodeidah

Hodeidah, Tuesday, 18 May 2010

The Quality Control Laboratory for Fish/Fishery Products in Hodeidah, which is established under “Fishery Quality Control for Export Promotion” project, is inaugurated by H.E. Dr. Ali Mohammed Mujawar, the Prime Minister of the Republic of Yemen. The project is co-funded as follows: the UNDP provided USD 326,000,

Integrated Framework provided USD 300,000, Ministry of Fish Wealth (MoFW) provided USD 244,000, and the Royal Netherlands Government provided USD 210,000.

With a total budget of USD 881,449, the five-year project was designed to support MoFW in setting up a laboratory facility in Hodeidah Governorate with the aim to improve the quality of fish products.

The project has provided seafood industry personnel training on Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) and has raised the awareness of fishermen communities on fish quality, control & hygiene issues. Besides, it helped in supporting the introduction of international food safety quality standards within the fish supply chain and strengthening the institutional and technical capacity of MoFW.

In line with the MoFW objectives and UNDP’s poverty reduction initiatives, the project resources have been utilized to improve the quality and hygiene of the fish, throughout the supply chain with stakeholders representing fishermen, seafood industry and MoFW staff, to promote fish exports and support the Government of Yemen’s efforts in diversifying its economy.

As part of ‘Quality Assurance Program’ for fish/fishery products, the Hodeidah Fish Quality Control Laboratory has vital functions to ensure fish/fishery product quality and safety. The laboratory facility will strengthen the institutional capacity of MFW. Thus, it will assist fisheries export sector by supporting the issuance of the Health Certificate that is compliant with the International food quality and safety Standards. This will involve the physical, chemical and microbiological examinations of fish and fish products. The results of analyses

will be used as guide/basis on the issuance of the Health Certificate. Under the UNDP’s “Economic Diversification Support Programme (EDSP)”, the laboratory will be prepared for ISO-17025 accreditation to support the fish/fishery product chain, in particular, the export sector.

Besides, EDSP will facilitate the development of Yemen’s fisheries sector by conducting fisheries resource management studies, conceptualizing sustainable livelihood enhancement strategies (i.e. promoting aquaculture, fish feed industries and potential fishing zone (PFZ) advisories), enhancing fisheries trade potentialities through export promotion, assisting the fishermen communities and fish cooperatives in adopting best practices of fishing technology and fishery management, and empowering the women’s participation in the sector. Furthermore, it will assist and support MoFW’s efforts to develop a National Fisheries Strategy, Fisheries Information Management System and to improve Harbor/Landing centre Management.

The event was attended by H.E. Ahmed Salem Al-Jabaly, Governor of Hodeidah, Mr. Selva Ramachandran, UNDP Country Director, and officials from the Government, UNDP, and others.



Continued from Yemeniate Issue 3:

Gender and Economic Empowerment in Hdranut

2/2



*By: Suvira Chaturvedi
Conflict Prevention Adviser (Gender)
UNDP Yemen*

The Gender and Economic Empowerment project will target economically and socially disadvantaged women and youth, the under and unemployed, and the working poor. It aims to empower them in market oriented technical, entrepreneurial and managerial skills, confidence building and empowering skills, necessary to improve their access to productive resources and sustainable earning potential. Training will be systematically linked and integrated with other critical interventions such as

group formation for enterprises, access to markets, appropriate technology, microfinance, entrepreneurship development and follow up technical assistance.

The programme strategy is comprehensive, market driven, gender responsive, and community-based. It involves strategic partnerships with Hdranut Governorate, Local Councils, religious leaders, Sheikhs, NGOs, private sector including the Wadi Hdranut Chamber of Commerce and communities. It will strengthen their capacity as responsible service providers, facilitators and advocacy actors. Effective monitoring and policy support based on



gender sensitive data collection will be provided by the Women National Committee (WNC) office in Seiyun, which will play a key role and will be backed by the WNC office in Sana'a. The programme will initially be implemented in Hdranut Wadi Governorate and expanded to other governorates based on concrete results and experience developed.

Imams in the Office of Endowment and Guidance in Seiyun give this initiative prime importance and have offered to be key actors in awareness raising and advocacy in the community. The support of male relatives of women participants and men in

the community is considered crucial, and will be mobilized through greater advocacy to bring to the forefront that women's active participation in economic life is not a zero sum game, but has far reaching implications and benefits for women, their families and society. A District Gender and Economic Empowerment Committee (DGEEC) will be established in each participating district as a mechanism/focal point for mobilizing participation of women, youth and the community, and for improving interactions and linkages between local council members and the communities. In addition the DGEEC in collaboration with UNDP will administer a small Community Fund to support initiatives that are identified and determined by the community themselves and complement the Gender and Economic Empowerment project. Community contributions to the fund in kind or cash will be between 10-15 percent of the cost of a specific undertaking and will ensure their involvement. The case in favor of economic rights and opportunities for women and youth can hardly be disputed. Economic empowerment offers a huge scope for bringing about real changes in the lives of women and youth. But earning an income or having access to credit and becoming active



players in the economic system cannot be assumed to bring automatic benefits unless this is sustained through political commitment.

Policy support and commitment is equally important to address the barriers poor women and youth face in entry into mainstream economic development, and in order to sustain the gains. As such the WNC office in Seiyun will be strengthened in the collection and analysis of a gender sensitive baseline survey and monitoring system to monitor the gender impact of the project. Policy issues and legal constraints will be identified and addressed e.g., women's equal access to and ownership of land, access to technology, mobility, market corners and market facilities. These issues will be discussed with

stakeholders in Hdrumut Wadi, advocacy promoted and policy proposals put forward to the Hdrumut governorate for action. WNC will also provide technical support to the Hdrumut Governorate to integrate gender dimensions in the Fourth Five Year Plan which is under preparation. Project impact will be assessed by the number of women and youth owned and managed viable and sustainable enterprises, increased household incomes, greater self esteem and confidence among women and youth, women's enhanced capacity to exercise their rights and their improved standing in the community. It will also be measured by the degree to which capacity of the institutional partners has been strengthened in applying a holistic strategy for economic empowerment that is gender sensitive and providing quality technical expertise to the target group.

Economic empowerment is about well-being, rights and justice. As such, it is imperative that initiatives to empower women and youth aim not only at bringing about financial gain, but also, critically ensure rights, equality and dignity.

More information on the project is on pages 12 & 14

Special Coverage:
UNDP Director of the Regional Bureau for Arab States Ms. Amat Al-Alim Alsoswa visits Yemen



UNDP Director of the Regional Bureau for the Arab States Amat Al-Alim Alsoswa visits Yemen

Ms. Amat Al-Alim Alsoswa, Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations, Assistant Administrator of United Nations Development Programme and Director of its Regional Bureau for Arab States, visited Yemen for a ten-day official mission (from 23 April until 3 May 2010).

During the mission, she met with senior leaders and government officials, at the central and local levels as well as None Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and other related parties and discussed several aspects of UNDP's support, including launching vital development programmes.

Ms. Amat Al-Alim was accompanied by Mr. Amin Al-Sharkawi, Senior Programme Advisor – Yemen Desk Officer, at the UNDP Regional Bureau for Arab State.



الوحدوي

مساعدة أمين عام الأمم المتحدة بصل صنعاء بعد غدا الجمعة
الموضوع: الأخبار المحلية



تصل إلى صنعاء يوم الجمعة 23 لقادمة السيدة أمة العليم الموسوية، مساعدة أمين عام الأمم المتحدة - مساعدة مدير عام برنامج الأمم المتحدة الإنمائي -

Yemen Observer: <http://www.yobserver.net>

Yemen will discuss its MDG report at the end of this year, Alsoswa

Written By: Afrah Nasser
Article Date: May 11, 2010 - 11:56:10 AM

The many laicly launched projects which genuinely aim at empowering economic and gender sectors in several parts of Yemen lure nothing but prosperity. However, a number of challenges face those projects' progress. To name one challenge is corruption which is regarded as the biggest obstacle. For insightful look at sources and solutions of Yemen's challenges, Ms.Amar al-Alim Absoswa, Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations, Assistant Administrator of United Nations



Ms. Amar al-Alim Absoswa

توقيع وثيقة تنفيذ مشروع التمكين الاقتصادي بحضور مودت بامليونوني دولار

للمم المتحدة بمساعدة مدير عام برنامج الأمم المتحدة الإنمائي أمة العليم الموسوية كل الجهود التي بذلت للإسهام في مراحل الإعداد والتشروع - مسجورة إلى أن نجام هذا المشروع يتم لتلبية احتياجات أخرى مختلفة وتأمينها لها المعافاة

وأوضحت أن المشروع يستهدف الإعمار التكاليف 400 مليون دولار وسيمتد 10 أشهر من البناء في بين 18 حتى 25 سنة من تدمير منازلهم العشوائية وسماهمتهم في تمكين إرضاء احتياجاتهم المحلية

والقمة الموسوية لاستعداد برنامج الأمم المتحدة الإنمائي لتعزيز إسهامات السطة العليا من أجل القيام بأعمالها على القمة الأسفل الذي يتخلل إليه جميع

محضر التوقيع وكيل المحافظة المساعد لشؤون الرزاق والمصمرا، محمد صلاح الأحمر رئيس اللجنة القومية لسكان ريفية المصمرا ورئيس اتحاد أساء

الأمين بديرة الأقليمي والممثل الأمين لبرنامج الأمم المتحدة الإنمائي في اليمن برانيا سيمونا، وعدد من المسؤولين والعين في الجهات ذار المعافاة



مع دولة والشباب للتصميم على البراءة الإنتاجية وأفضل المستمر في المستقبل وسيمتد المشروع لثلاث سنوات خلال تدمير منازل على الصارات الفنية والتأهيلية والإيرانية

وقبل توقيع الكه وكييل مسانظا مسيرين لشؤون الرزاق والمصمرا، مسير مبارك مسير إن السطة العليا بالرزاق والمصمرا، تسوي في أولويات مهامها العملية مسألة تمكين إرضاء

من جانبها شنت الأمين العام المساعد

الكلوب

العدد رقم : (14006) ، الموافق 3 مايو 2010 ، يوم الإثنين

رئيس الجمهورية يبحث مع الموسوية محالات التعاون بين اليمن وبرنامج الأمم المتحدة الإنمائي



مساعدة أمين عام الأمم المتحدة أمة العليم الموسوية تزور اليمن في مهمة رسمية

صنعاء/أسيا
تصل إلى صنعاء غدا الجمعة مساعدة أمين عام الأمم المتحدة - مساعدة مدير عام برنامج الأمم المتحدة الإنمائي السيدة أمة العليم الموسوية في زيارتها لليمن لمدة 10 أيام

وأوضح المسؤول الإعلامي بمكتب البرنامج الإنمائي للمساعدة بصنعاء، بزن حضوره الصحفي لردساءه أن الموسوية ستنطلق خلال الزيارة بهند من الزوراء والمسؤولين في المحافظات والسلطة المحلية في عدد من المحافظات ومفادات من مختلفات المجتمع المدني لمناقشة بين برنامج الأمم المتحدة الإنمائي واليمن وأفاق تعزيزها .. ولفت إلى أن فعاليات تدشين عدد من المشاريع التنموية والتحفية التي نفذ



Althawrah Daily

الثور

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قائمة للاشتراكات

السوسوة تتفقد أوضاع النازحين في مخيم المزرق اجتماع موسع في منطقة الملاحيطا يناقش الجرح المبذولة لتنفيذ النقاط الست وإعادة اعمار صعدة



دار الحياة

8 دول عربية لن تتمكن من تحقيق أهداف التنمية للألفية الثالثة

الأربعاء، 12 مايو 2010
صنعاء - إير أيم محمود

أعلنت اللجنة العامة للمساعدة التنموية للأمم المتحدة السيرة المساعدة التنموية للألفية الثالثة لكاتب الدول العربية لور لوائح الأمم المتحدة الإنمائي أمة العليم الموسوية أن العالم العربي -خلع لوباً كبيراً في تحقيق التنمية البشرية في العقود الثلاثة القادمة، لكن شباب الأمم العجز في المنطقة يفتقر وضعف في حقبة التنموية.

وأوضحت في حديث إلى «الصحافة» على هامش زيارتها الأخيرة صنعاء افتتاح مشار في بولها لبرنامج الإنمائي، ولقد أوضح أن حين في مسعده، أن دول مجلس التعاون الخليجي ذات الدخل المرتفع -حفظت أعلى مستويات التقدم في تحقيق الأهداف الإنمائية للتنمية، في وقت لن تتمكن الدول الأقل نمواً مثل جزر القمر وجمهورية موريتانيا والنمور والصومال واليمن، إضافة إلى العراق وفلسطين من تحقيق هذه الأهداف بحلول عام 2015. فيما صنفت «الفرق في فقرات معظم دول العرب والشرق ذات الدخل المتوسط على خلفه بعض الأهداف التنموية».

www.etaphye.net

إيلاف

توجه سيمونا السوسوة

على هامش زيارة مساعدة الأمين العام للأمم المتحدة لليمن برنامج الأمم المتحدة الإنمائي يعول تحويل نظام السطة المحلية إلى حكم محلي

على هامش الزيارة الرسمية التي تقوم بها مساعدة الأمين العام للأمم المتحدة - مساعدة مدير برنامج الأمم المتحدة الإنمائي - مدير المكتب الإقليمي للدول العربية، أمة العليم الموسوية والموجودة حالياً في اليمن، شهدت وزارة التخطيط والتعاون الدولي الأولى «الأحد» مراسم التوقيع على مشروع مشترك ينفذه برنامج الأمم المتحدة الإنمائي و«مفروق الأمم المتحدة للتنمية رأس المال، والذي تصل موارده إلى 12 مليون دولار أمريكي بهدف مساعدة الحكومة اليمنية على تحويل نظام السطة المحلية إلى نظام حكم محلي، بموجب «الاستراتيجية الوطنية للانتقال إلى الحكم المحلي»، والتي وافق عليها مجلس الوزراء عام 2008.

Two new projects to strengthen Local Governance and Gender and Economic Empowerment in Yemen

Sana'a, Sunday 25 April 2010



The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Government of Yemen (GoY) signed two project documents at the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC).

H.E. Abdul Karim Ismael Al-Arhabi, Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs – Minister of Planning and International Cooperation, H.E. Dr. Rashad Al-Alimi Deputy Prime Minister for Security and Defense – Minister of Local Administration, and Ms. Pratibha Mehta, UNDP Resident Representative signed on the projects.

Ms. Amat Al-Alim Alsoswa, Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations, Assistant Administrator of United Nations Development Programme and Director of its Regional Bureau for Arab States, who is currently in Yemen for an official visit, witnessed the ceremony and expressed her satisfaction for the launch of these important development initiatives to support two of the most urgent national priorities. She was pleased that UNDP and the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) were able to continue their joint support to the government's ongoing efforts to improve local governance in the country as well as to promote economic empowerment of women in Seiyun.

The USD 12 million Joint Local Governance Support Project (LGSP) is jointly supported by UNDP and UNCDF and aims to assist the Government to transform its Local Authority System to a Local Governance system, as articulated in the National Strategy for Transition to Local Governance (NSTLG) approved by the Cabinet in 2008 and will provide technical assistance to build institutional and human capacity at national and sub-national level, including communities. Furthermore, the Local Governance Support Project (LGSP) will support the development of a comprehensive legal framework for the local governance system including the amendment of relevant articles of the Country's

Constitution, the formulation of a new Local Government Law, and the alignment of relevant primary and sector policies with this new law.

Building on the experience of the UNDP Decentralization and Local Development Support Project (DLDSP), the project will continue to support participatory Local Development Planning processes, with an increased emphasis on integrating Local Economic Development and Natural Resource Management to accelerate achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) at local level. UNDP will provide assistance of USD 2 Million for the project to promote Gender and Economic Empowerment, which aims to contribute to the economic and social empowerment of disadvantaged women and youth, improving livelihoods, rights, and gender sensitive policy support in Hdrmut Governorate (AlWadi).

The project strategy is comprehensive, gender responsive, market driven, and community-based focuses on building capacity of women and young men to access productive resources and sustainable earning potential and will train them in market oriented technical, entrepreneurial and managerial skills. The project will be implemented in partnership with the local government, religious

leaders, NGOs, private sector and communities.

In addition to Ms. Alsoswa, the signing ceremony was attended by: Mr. Selva Ramachandran ,UNDP Country Director, Mr. Mohammad Naciri, UNDP Deputy Country Director, officials from Government, UNDP, and others.



Clarification from UNICEF on the World Water Day 2010 article which was published on Yemeniate Issue 3:

With reference to the article on World Water Day 2010, published on Yemeniate Issue 3, page 1, I would like to highlight that UNICEF has fully funded the internal water supply systems in Mazrak 1 & 3 IDP camps, and OXFAM GB were the implementing partners.

Regards,

*Marwan Husseiki. PhD
WASH Cluster Coordinator*

“Economic Empowerment and Gender” Project Activities are Launched, in Hadramout Governorate



Seiyun, Tuesday 27 April 2010

In the occasion of the visit of Ms. Amat Al-Alim Alsoswa, Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations, Assistant Administrator of United Nations Development Programme and Director of its Regional Bureau for Arab States, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Government of Yemen, represented by Hdranut Governorate, launched the “Economic Empowerment and Gender

(EEG) Project activities. The launch ceremony started with the Deputy Governor for Valley and Desert Mr. Omair Mubarak Omair signing on the project document.

After that, an interactive meeting was held. The meeting was attended by leaders of Governorate, Local Authority, UNDP, Women National Committee (WNC), Yemen Women Union (YWU), GTZ, representatives from the Chamber of Commerce, NGOs, women and youth, and others.

At the beginning of the meeting, Ms. Pratibha Mehta, UNDP Resident Representative, delivered a speech to highlight the project activities. She expressed her happiness to meet the stakeholders in Seiyun, and congratulated all for the launch. She also expressed that UNDP is committed to continue this effective partnership with the Government of Yemen, represented by Hdranut Governorate, as well as with WNC, YWU, local communities, and women and youth.



In her turn, Ms. Alsoswa confirmed that UNDP gives gender the utmost importance. It is a major issue that cross-cuts all UNDP projects and programmes. *“This project will support the economical and social development in the governorate. And despite of its symbolic resources, it is expected to be a model in empowering the targeted groups economically and socially.”* Ms. Alsoswa said.

Throughout the launch, an interactive discussion with the project stakeholders

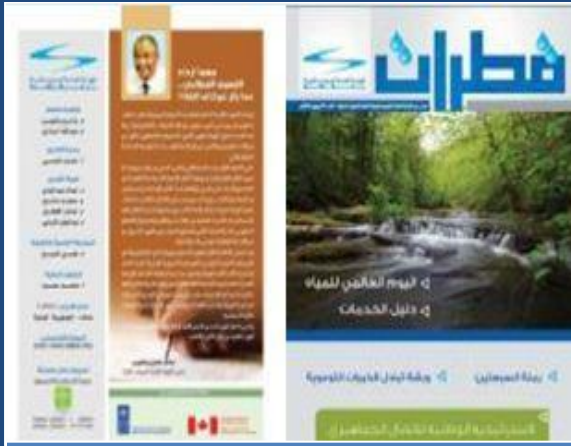
took place. They thanked the UNDP for its continuous efforts to support gender issues in Yemen. In addition, they confirmed the importance of continuing this support towards economical and social support of women and youth.

The project is a result of several field visits and studies to the Governorate, conducted by the UNDP. The collected data and statistics, showed a high percentage of poverty and unemployment among the population in general, and women and youth in particular, the thing that led UNDP to initiate this vital project to support a targeted group of Hdramut women and youth, ages 18-25 years.

It will be implemented in four districts of Hdramut Governorate (The Valley: AIWadi). After that, based on the experiences and results, it will expand to cover other districts and governorates.

It is worth to mention that the UNDP and the Ministry of Planning and international Cooperation signed the Project Document on Sunday 25 April 2010, in Sana’a.





Qatarat is back!

Qatarat (Drops) newsletter, published by the National Authority for Water Resources, has been reissued again after stopping for more than two years. Qatarat is supported by UNDP and CIDA.



Goodbye Selva!

Dr. Selva Ramachandran, the former UNDP Yemen Country Director, left Yemen, and moved to New York to serve as the Chief of the North East Asia & Mekong Division in the UNDP Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific.

Selva had served in Yemen for almost three years, and he had numerous achievements in the UNDP's programmes and operations.

Yemeniats wish Selva all the best in the new journey he embarked.

**Why Can't we get all the people together in the world that we really like and then just stay together?
I guess that wouldn't work.
Someone would leave.
Someone always leaves.
Then we would have to say good-bye.**

Postcard designed by:
UNDP/ UNFPA/ UNOPS
Staff Association

For more news, please visit www.undp.org.ye
For feedbacks on the newsletter, please contact:
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About UNDP:

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is the UN's global development network, advocating for change and connecting countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life. We are on the ground in 166 countries, working with them on their own solutions to global and national development challenges. As they develop local capacity, they draw on the people of UNDP and our wide range of partners. In 2000, at the Millennium Summit, world leaders pledged to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, including the overarching goal of cutting poverty in half by 2015, achieving universal primary education, promoting gender equality and empower women, reducing child mortality, improving maternal health, combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases, ensuring environmental sustainability and developing a global partnership for development. UNDP's network links and coordinates global and national efforts to reach these goals.