

**Meeting of PPCR Pilot Countries and Regions
October 30, 2012 - Istanbul, Turkey**

Progress Updates from PPCR Pilots

Country/regional pilot: YEMEN

Strategic Program for Climate Resilience (SPCR):

- X Endorsed
- Endorsement date: April 30, 2012/ October 23, 2012

Briefly outline three major advances, challenges and lessons learned arising from your SPCR programming or implementation process since the last meeting of PPCR pilots.

Advances:

1. **Institutional Arrangements:** Regular meetings of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Climate Change chaired by the Minister of Planning and International Cooperation. High level government support to the PPCR process all of which was also reconfirmed as a high priority of the Unity Government.
2. **Investment “Pilot Scheme to Improve the Resilience of Rural Communities to Climate Change in Yemen”** has been prepared based on continued stakeholder consultation process and has been submitted for approval by mail and was subsequently endorsed on October 23, 2012. The same decision also confirmed the endorsement of the Strategic Program for Climate Resilience in Yemen, thereby re-confirming the decision from April 2012.
3. **Preparation of Investment “Climate Information System and PPCR Program Coordination”** has been initiated and comprehensive consultation with all relevant stakeholders is shaping the preparation process.
4. **Awareness and Communication:** Local and regional workshops have been carried out in several Governorates. This process allowed assessing the capacity needs as well as strengthening the awareness of all relevant stakeholder groups. All of which was well documented in Yemeni media and well received.
5. **Studies and Assessments:** Further Terms of Reference have been developed and the hiring process is well on its way.

Challenges:

1. Level of capacity among different stakeholders still not enough to understand the issue

which require more time and efforts.

2. Consultation workshops and meetings generate a sort of good understanding, while at the same time it creates high expectations from vulnerable groups for which the resources to date approved for the SPCR will not be sufficient to provide adequate support. Thus reiterating the need for more resources to allow for full funding of the SPCR.
3. Priorities and needs vary amongst various vulnerability groups and it will not be feasible to address given the resources available.

Lessons learned:

1. **Communication and Participatory Process:** The more involvement of stakeholders and consulting them at different stages the more cooperation you get from them. The consultation process provided enhanced engagement and communication amongst stakeholders. Consequently ownership is increased when stakeholders are involved in identification of what their problems are and what are the needs and solutions for such problems.
2. **Awareness and Information Dissemination:** A wealth of accumulated knowledge exist within local communities who require some sort of stimulation and encouragement to provide such knowledge.

What is the most striking value added or benefit from the PPCR process in your country?

The most benefit and added value from the PPCR process is the noticeable coordination and cooperation between different relevant agencies/stakeholders, and the increasing level of awareness on the importance of climate change issues. PPCR interventions and activities carried out so far have paved the road for mainstreaming climate change into the national and sectoral development and planning process. Through the PPCR process, stakeholders recognized the need to look at climate change issue as a development issue which requires collective efforts by all relevant stakeholders in the country.

Briefly outline the institutional arrangements for the coordination and oversight of the implementation of the SPCR as a program. What works and what needs improvement?

In order to carry out and conduct the PPCR process and the SPCR as a program effectively and to ensure the success of such cross-sectoral program, coordination and cooperation between different sectors is a must and essential. For this reason, the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Climate Change (IMCCC) as one of the best institutional structures and arrangements in the country was established in 2009. Membership of IMCCC is as high as Minister's level of the most relevant institutions to insure the required coordination. IMCCC role is to provide guidance, leadership and oversight for PPCR and SPCR specifically and for all climate change related activities in order to mainstream climate change issues into national and sectoral development and planning process.

The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) is the implementing agency of PPCR Phase I. EPA will be the coordinating body for SPCR interventions which will be implemented by relevant institutions such as Civil Aviation And Meteorological Authority (CAMA) Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation (MAI), Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) etc. based on the legal framework and mandate of each institution.

If you have an endorsed SPCR, which of your projects have progressed the most in terms of preparation/implementation and what are the 3 main factors that have contributed to this progress?

Yemen has an endorsed SPCR which provides funding for 3 investments at present. The third investment “Pilot Scheme to Improve the Resilience of Rural Communities to Climate Change in Yemen” with a funding of US\$ 11 mil has only been endorsed in October 2012 following the April 2012 decision which requested a submission by mail. Due to the process requesting endorsement since November 2011 – which was granted only in April 2012, the preparation of the 2 investments could only start after the PPCR-SC meeting in April. All of which has taken time and efforts from the preparation phase as it was needed to work on submitting the SPCR for endorsement. Nevertheless, the preparation of Investment I: “Climate Information System and PPCR Program Coordination” is moving well.

What are the 3 major tasks ahead for your SPCR during the next 6-12 months?

1. Completion of preparation stage for Investment I, the next World Bank mission is scheduled for November 2012.
2. Commence preparation for the other two investments.
3. Enhance implementation process for Phase 1.