

**Meeting of PPCR Pilot Countries and Regions
May 1-3, 2013 – Washington D.C., United States**

Progress Updates from PPCR Pilots

Pilot Country: Yemen

Please describe any advances made in the following areas, arising from your SPCR programming or implementation process since the last meeting of PPCR pilots.

<p>Institutional arrangements</p>	<p>Regular meetings of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Climate Change (IMCCC) chaired by the Minister of Planning and International Cooperation and in participation of the Ministers of all line-Ministries to ensure inter-sectoral coordination of PPCR activities as well as mainstreaming climate change into core development planning.</p> <p>Also during the ongoing National Dialogue continued and strong commitment by the GOY to the PPCR. Noticeable attention and support and follow up is given to the strategic programs and activities such as PPCR, as is also documented by wide media coverage. Such support reconfirms the high level importance of the PPCR to the country as a strategic cross-sectoral program.</p> <p>The PCU established under PPCR Phase I, located at the Environment Protection Authority, will be strengthened and equipped with additional staff to continue coordinating activities to support the three investment projects under Phase II. In addition two female experts have been seconded to join the PCU and targeted technical training will be provided. Continued collaboration as well as stakeholder consultations are being carried out as well as the donor community being consulted.</p> <p>The recently established Implementing Committee (IC) for investment I of SPCR consisting of representatives of the key implementing institutions is an additional step forward in the successful coordination and cooperation process.</p>
<p>Capacity building</p>	<p>The PPCR demonstrated a good example of capacity building through its comprehensive consultation process at all stages in which all stakeholders engaged and participated actively and for which targeted training and capacity building was provided. This process led to a noticeable increase in the level of knowledge and awareness of climate change issues. All of which is also</p>

	<p>noticeable in regular media clippings.</p> <p>One of the key activities within PPCR Phase I is the institutional capacity assessment study to identify the level of capacities, gaps and needs of related agencies. This study is at its final stage and has been accompanied by a range of national workshops.</p>
<p>Analytical work and technical studies</p>	<p>Several technical assessment studies and analytical work undertaken, including the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Awareness climate change strategy and materials. The objective of this activity is to support the Government to prepare a long-term enabling strategy on how to prepare for climate change and strengthen resilience through the targeted awareness raising activities. The study is at the final stage of preparation for which a series of workshops and stakeholder consultation meetings have been carried out. A final national workshop to discuss the results and findings of this study was held on April 15, 2013. 2. Institutional capacity assessment study to identify the level of capacities, gaps and needs of related agencies. The objective of this study is to assess existing capacities of the line ministries and agencies and to identify short, medium and long term needs and requirements of relevant institutions in relation to their institutional, human, training, equipment, financial, regulatory and legislative capacities. This study is at its final stage. A final national workshop to discuss the findings of this study was held on April 24, 2013. 3. Rapid risk assessment of climate change on water, agriculture, health and coastal zones. The objectives of these studies are to undertake evaluation of climate change impact on these key sectors in a participatory approach with the vulnerable communities in selected pilot areas in order to determine the levels to which the communities are vulnerable to adverse climatic events, and identify options for adaptation measures through a participatory mechanism with local communities in the selected pilot areas. These sectoral studies are progressing well. 4. Climate Information System for Enhanced Climate Resilience. This study is focusing on assessment of developing a national framework for climate services, which identifies the roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders providing or utilizing climate data and information which include among others establishment of a national standard for climate data and information systems, establishment of communication channels and cooperation mechanisms for data exchange, information dissemination and knowledge

	<p>sharing;identification of hardware and software needs;and identification of training needs. This study is progressing well.</p> <p>5. Assessment studies on mainstreaming climate change into the national and sectoral plans and strategies, integration of climate and risk into curricula and non-curricula activities, andassessment on how to include gender aspects across all investments in Phase II and develop a gender monitoring framework to monitor and evaluate in a regular basis the gender inclusion on the identified targeted training aimed at females.</p>
Stakeholder engagement	<p>Stakeholder engagement and participation in consultation meetings at national and regional levels is one of the key principles of PPCR in Yemen. Since the inception of PPCR Phase I, several workshops, meetings and round tables were held at national and sub-national levels. Such engagement and coordination with stakeholders at different stages proved its effectiveness and creates strong ownership, synergy and support for PPCR activities. Some examples of previous meetings can be found on the PPCR-Yemen web page. (www.ppcryemen.com).</p>
Procurement and recruiting	<p>PPCR Project Coordination Unit (PCU) has been undertaking all procurement and recruiting activities for Phase I following the World Bank guidelines. For Investment I of Phase II (Climate Information System and PPCR Coordination), necessary steps already undertaken to equip the PCU with additional procurement officer in order to ensure the smooth transition to Phase II.</p>
On-the ground activities (please specify)	<p>All above analytical and assessment studies and activities are undertaken through surveys, field visits and consultation meetings with stakeholders and local communities in the pilot areas. Therefore, engagement of vulnerable groups on the ground at this stage including community leaders, women, CSOs, NGOs will pave the road to involve them effectively in the implementation of all investments in Phase II.</p>

<p><i>Please describe any challenges encountered in the following areas, arising from your SPCR programming or implementation process since the last meeting of PPCR pilots.</i></p>	
Institutional arrangements	<p>At the onset of PPCR Phase I it was not clear on how institutional arrangement would be best carried out, given the fact that coordination between relevant institutions was not well defined. Now, it becomes evident that the PPCR process supported the preparation and executing of a clearer institutional arrangement and coordination mechanism. This included the establishment of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Climate Change</p>

	<p>(IMCCC) and its Technical Secretariat and the set-up of the PPCR PCU. Also the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the participating entities of the Climate Information System and PPCR Coordination Investment I of Phase II for data sharing in addition to establishment of Implementation Committee IC provides good evidence for a well prepared and working mechanism.</p>
Stakeholder capacity	<p>PPCR Phase I contributed and provided opportunity to improve and build the capacities of stakeholders as a result of its comprehensive consultation process where needs and requirements for capacity building have been identified. Nevertheless, the challenge remains in order to meet the expectations and needs at all levels in terms of providing institutional, human, technical, equipment support and services.</p>
Data availability	<p>Data availability, accessibility and data sharing have been identified as one of the major challenges in the assessment studies undertaken under Phase I. The Climate Information System and PPCR Program Coordination Investment I of phase II will therefore supplement the ongoing efforts by enhancing the national observing network for weather and climate data relevant to the management of critical climate-sensitive sectors, improve sharing of data and coordination between all agencies involved in climate services through provision of a single entry point of contact and develop and disseminate targeted knowledge products that are relevant to a variety of stakeholders and provide better access to climate data and information.</p>
Coordination and Stakeholder engagement	<p>The PPCR process provides a successful model and demonstrates a solid coordination mechanism due to the comprehensive country wide consultation and extensive coordination meetings at different technical and political levels. This coordination mechanism created a strong ownership and encouraged stakeholders to participate and engaged actively in the PPCR process.</p>
Financing	<p>Yemen SPCR was designed from the beginning for the full amount of funding of USD 110M (grant and loan) suitable for a diverse country like Yemen in terms of population area, and extreme vulnerability. However, it will not be possible to cover all needs and requirements to build the resilience of all vulnerable sectors and communities within the available financial resources. It was therefore considered to select pilot areas to implement Phase II investments and activities which could be scaled up and replicated in other areas once more resources become available.</p>
Mainstreaming	<p>Assessment and analytical activities for mainstreaming climate change issues into national and sectoral plans, policies and strategies is undertaken during Phase I. The challenge in this respect is to what extent it would be possible to take into consideration and reflect the findings and recommendations of these assessments in the specific plans and policies as</p>

	there would be, as always, different priorities from sector to sector.
Sustaining momentum	In order to sustain the momentum, the PPCR will continue to work closely with all stakeholders and communities in vulnerable sectors and areas and focus on longer term and coordinated set of interventions which address the challenges that climate change imposes and thereby aimed at enhancing climate resilience in Yemen.

Please provide any additional information you wish to share on impacts or lessons learned from the implementation of your SPCR.

- Although the PPCR still undertaking Phase I, it started significant preparation steps for Phase II investments to allow moving directly and smoothly from project preparation and planning to implementation.
- The Yemen PPCR is designed to interact with different sectors and to deal with several cross cutting issues for which many institutions are involved; consequently it was designed as a programmatic approach rather than project approach. This approach will allow maintaining synergy with ongoing and future activities and programs.