



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



FAO Regional Forum on: **The Future of Farmer Field Schools** for Sustainable Agri-food Systems in the NENA Region

Minya, Egypt, 29–30 May 2023



FFS in Yemen

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Farmer Field School in Yemen



Brief on FFS in Yemen

- First training of FFS in Yemen conducted in **2009** by the AREA and supported by the FAO within project of Farmer Study Groups on Wheat Rust Management (OSRO/GLO/901/USA).
- There are more than 10 projects involved the FFS in Yemen.
- 357 FFS implemented from 2015 to 2021.
- 460 FFS planned to be implemented in the period from 2022 to 2027.
- Yemen Gov supports the FFS within FAO projects through AREA and Extension services



Farmer Field School in Yemen

Project Title	Donor	Number of FFS	From
Farmer Study Groups on Wheat Rust Management	USA	NA	2009-2010
Management of Tomato Borer: Tuta absoluta in Near East Region	TCP	10	2012-2014
Emergency Response to Enhance Technical Capacity For Early Warning, Monitoring And Management Of Fall Army Worm In Yemen	TCP	10	2019-2021
Enhanced Rural Resilience in Yemen (ERRY I)	EU	51	2016-2019
Supporting Resilient Livelihoods and Food Security in Yemen (ERRY II)	EU and Sida	171	2019-2022
Yemen Smallholder Agricultural Productivity Restoration and Enhancement project (SAPREP)	WB	105	2017-2021
Yemen Food Security Response and Resilience Project- - FSRRP	WB	122	2021-2025
Rural Livelihood Development Project (RLDP)	IFAD	190	2022-2023
Sustainable Watershed Management through Reinforced Governance, Resilience and Regenerative Agriculture in Yemen	Netherlands	10	2022-2027
Consolidating the Decentralized Integrated Water Resource Management System in Sana'a Basin, Yemen	Netherlands	4	2021-2024
Supporting Resilient Livelihoods and Food Security in Yemen Joint Programme: Phase 3 (ERRY III)	EU	104	2022-2025
FAO Resilience Programme in the Irrigation and Agricultural Sector	Germany KFW	30	2020-2023

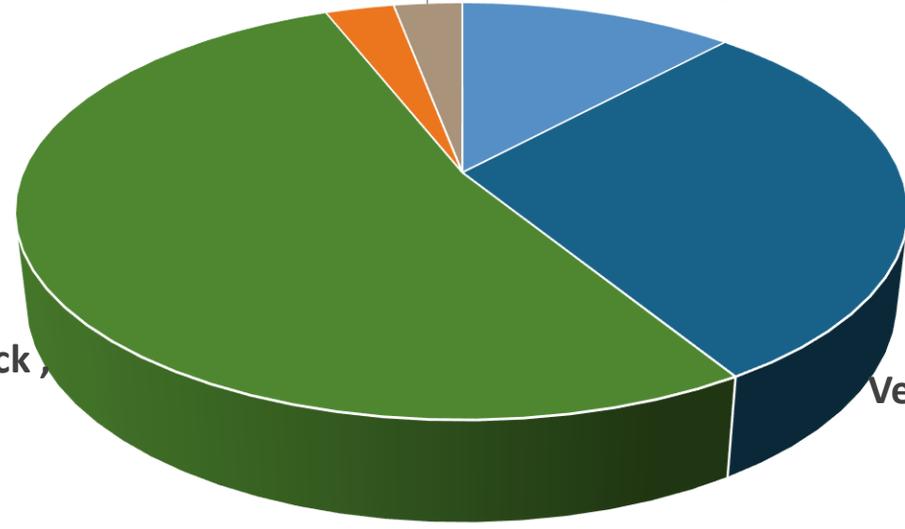


Farmer Field Schools in Yemen

Carried out FFSs in Yemen

Completed FFSs

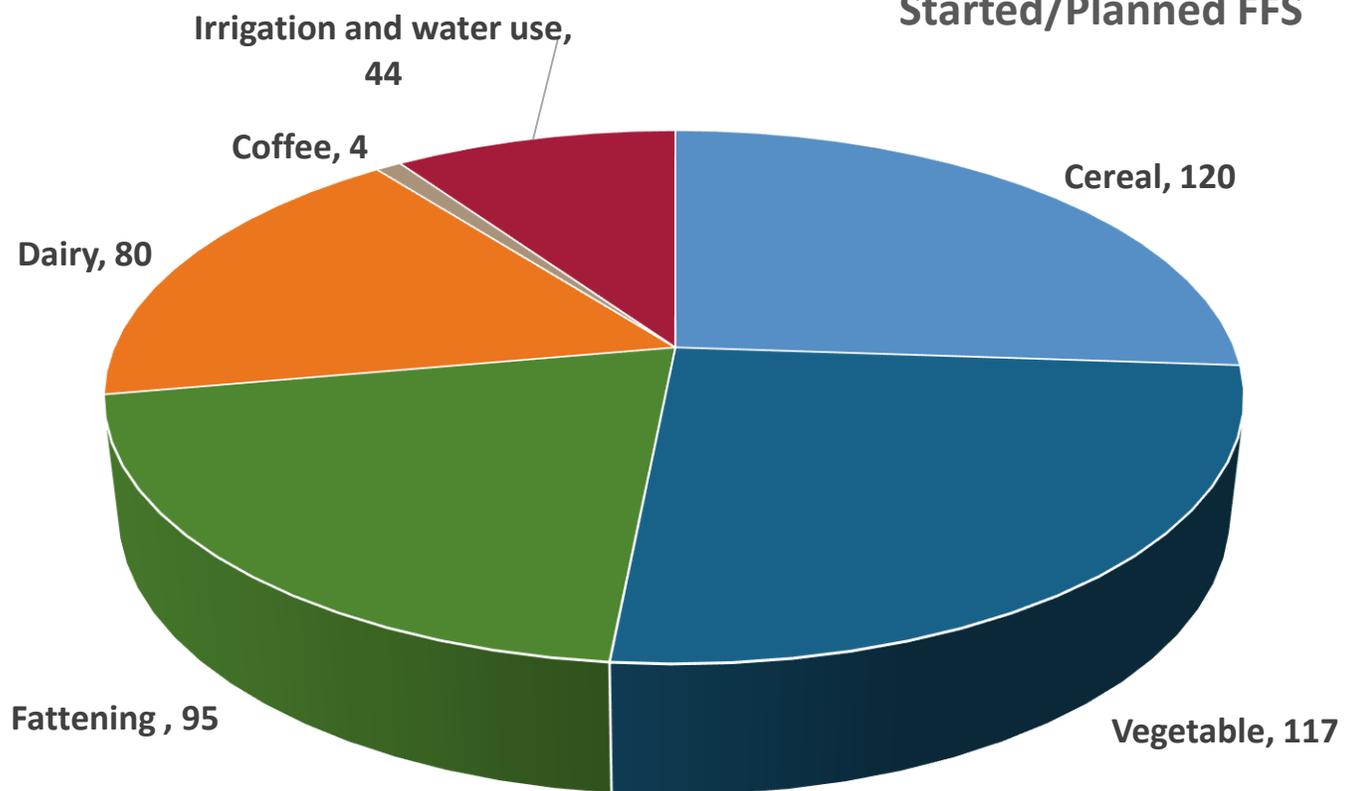
Coffee, 10 IPM, 10 Cereal, 40





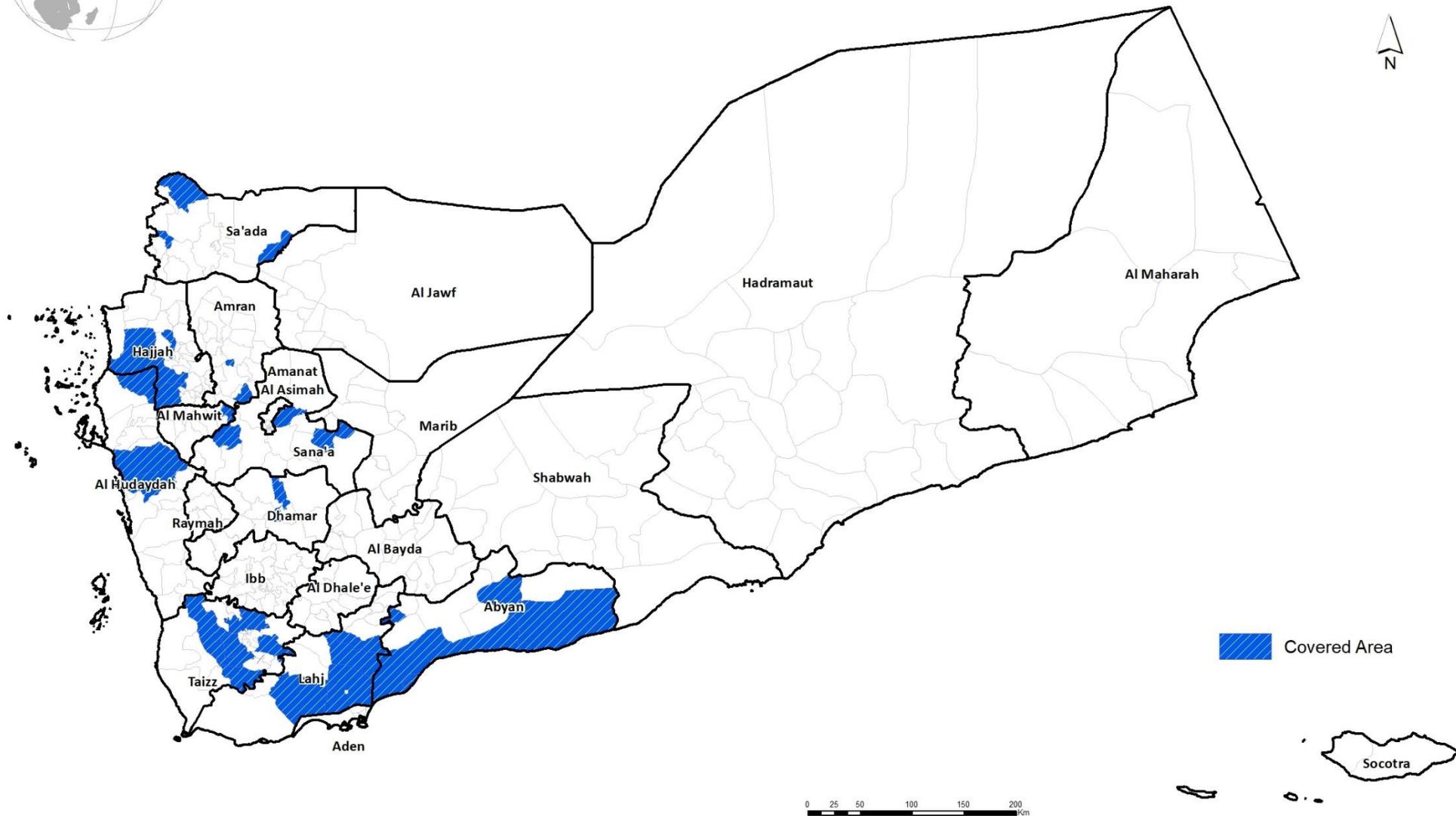
Farmer Field School in Yemen

Started/Planned FFS



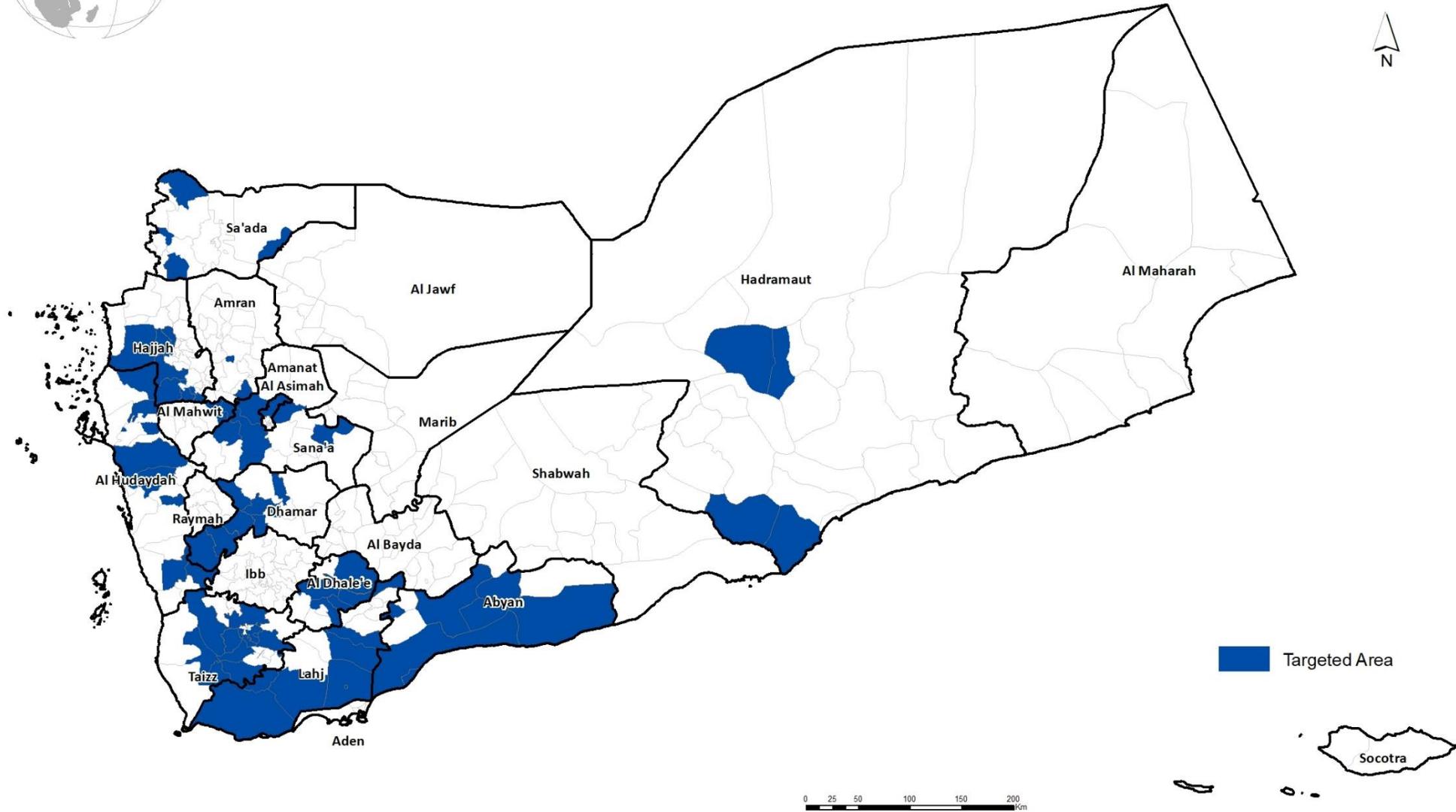


FFS Targeted Districts (Completed)





FFS Targeted Districts





Farmer Field School in Yemen

Capacity building

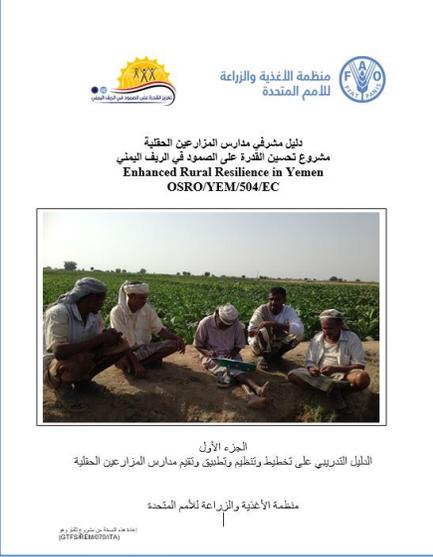
- One international Staff and two national Staff supporting FFS programs of FAO Yemen.
- More than 60 trainers/Facilitators have been trained in FFS before 2018 within IPM and ERRYI Projects.
- 120 Trainers/ facilitators have been trained in FFS in 2019 with the SAPRP project.
- 80 Trainers/ facilitators have been trained in FFS in 2021 with the ERRYII project.
- 169 Trainers/Facilitators have been trained in FFS in 2023 within IFAD, FSRRP and ERRYIII projects.





Farmer Field School in Yemen

Capacity building



Exchange of knowledge

WhatsApp is the best communication method to exchange of knowledge in Yemen

Every training has a special group on WhatsApp to facilitate the information and exchange knowledge.

5 WhatsApp groups were created during 2023 for facilitators.

Every FFS has a WhatsApp group that included the facilitator



Partnership with Government



2 LoAs with the Extension Department

2 LoAs signed with AREA

Partnership with government to create the FFSs:

- Extension Department of MAIFW and the Agricultural Research and Extension Authority (AREA) supported the FAO through FFS intervention in Yemen.
- Extension Department and AREA facilitated and nominated their staff from the targeted governorates and districts within FFS activities.



FFS and Gender



Women's participation in livestock FFS exceeds more than 60%, while in crops or vegetables less than 30%.

The main challenges for reaching out to women

- **Cultural challenges**
- **Lack of awareness.**
- **Education level.**
- **Movement and travel restrictions.**
- **Security challenges.**
- **Women's obligations with their families.**



FFS and Gender



The mechanisms and solutions to facilitate women's participation in FFS

- **Implementing activities conducted by women.**
- **Raise awareness to the communities and community leaders.**
- **Women training to improve their skills in the knowledge of FFS approach.**
- **Ensure participation of women in TOF and TOMT as a selection criteria, at least 30 % of FFS members are women.**
- **Technical backstopping for the FFS facilitators during training the beneficiaries including women.**



FFS and Gender

Cultivating Change: How Farmer Field Schools on livestock and dairy are empowering rural Yemeni women





• **FAO Partners in FFS**

Partnerships: MAIF, AREA, GEDAT, NAMC

International organizations: IFAD, World Bank, KFW, EU Netherlands... etc.

NGOs:

IP Name		IP Name	
YWU	Yemen Women Union	Steps	Steps Foundation For Civil Development
SRA	SRA Foundation for Sustainable Development	TYF	Tamdeen Youth Foundation
MOZN	MOZN Charitable Social and Developmental Foundation	FMF	Field Medical Foundation
SADA	SADA Foundation for Building and Development	Ghadaq	Ghadaq for Development
ARD	Alatta for Relief & Development	MFD	Millenium Development Foundation
Bena	AlBena	RADF	Rawabi AlNahadhah Dev Foundation
YADE	Yemen Association For Development and Environment		





Monitoring and evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation of FFS; Kobo, Before, during, after, M&E, TPM

- The results and impact of FFS interventions are measured through monitoring and evaluation assessments/studies with comparative analysis of baseline and endline indicator values (data). These baseline and endline/follow-up data provide us information before and after the farmers participate in an FFS to determine the change caused by the FFS and its impact.
- The indicators for measuring FFS results are selected based on many factors such as adoption of technology/practices, crop health & productivity, etc., and these indicators should be SMART.



Monitoring and evaluation

Indicators for monitoring and evaluating FFS interventions

1. Process/performance monitoring indicators used (FFS process and impact)

- Number of farmer field schools implemented/ strengthened
- Number of targeted beneficiaries attending FFS sessions
- Number of targeted beneficiaries participating in look and learn/ exchange visits.

2. Results/impact assessment indicators

- % of farmers that demonstrate improved knowledge and farming practices (adoption)
- % of farmers with increased production, productivity, incomes, engagement in markets (opportunities).





Constraints of FFS



- **Constraints, obstacles, or difficulties faced or facing the FFS implementation in the country**
- **Facilitator quality efficiency**
- **Time of training**
- **Procurement and logistics arrangements**
- **Clearance from related authorities.**
- **Costs of inputs in Yemen as a result of the war.**
- **Security constraints.**
- **Field and sites access**
- **Lake of field visits and monitoring**



Expected support to FFS in Yemen

- **Expected support from FAO global and regional levels**
- Increase engagements at global levelSupport Increase the engagements at global level institutionalization and extensions services .
- **Priority support needs to implement quality FFS**
- Support the capacity-building programs and create more experts in FFS through long-term trainings either in Yemen or outside Yemen.
- Exchange more knowledge at regional and international levels.





Expected support to FFS in Yemen



- **Technical expertise:**
- **Capacity building for the local trainers of FFS especially women in the technical fields for a long period.**
- **Support capacity building for the research and extension staff to strengthen the FFS approach.**
- **Develop training materials**
- **Linking the FFS and FBS with business management.**
- **linking the FFS intervention with other productive interventions such as horticultural production centers, dairy production centers, seedling centers, and community seed banks to maximize the benefits for the FFS farmers.**

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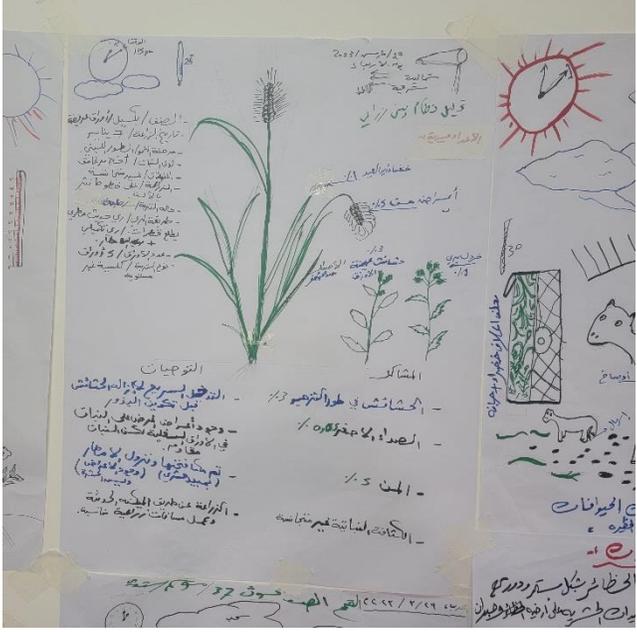
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THANK YOU!





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