

**Project Evaluation Series**

# **Final Evaluation of the Project on Decentralized Supply and Water Use Management in the Sana'a Basin to Sustain Water Resources and Rural Livelihoods**

**Project code: GCP/YEM/036/NET**

**Follow-up Report**

**FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS**  
Rome, 2021

Accepted evaluation recommendations	Action agreed in the Management Response	Description of actions actually taken, or reasons for actions not taken	MAR score	Impact of, or changes resulted from taken actions
<p><b>Recommendation 1</b></p> <p><b>Accepted</b></p> <p><b>To FAO, donors and project designers</b></p> <p><b>To ensure continued progress and positive outcomes in applying integrated approaches to water resources management in Yemen, government and external support agencies should implement an integrated approach in the entire Sana'a basin.</b></p>	<p>FAO has already prepared and submitted to donors the second phase of the project document that addresses this recommendation.</p>	<p>The actions were not taken as Sana'a basin Project phase II will start only in 2021. However, the IWRM approach has been adopted in many other projects at FAO Yemen.</p>	<p><b>ADVANCING</b></p> <p>Implementation of the recommendation is partial.</p>	<p>As a result of applying the IWRM approach the groundwater draw down has been reduced by 30% which the main objective of the Sana'a Basin IWRM approach.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 2</b></p> <p><b>Accepted</b></p> <p><b>To FAO, government partners and project designers</b></p> <p><b>Project funds to support research, development and promotion of new climate smart crop varieties to farmers should be informed by analysis and focused on several varieties likely to provide the greatest impact toward desired results.</b></p>	<p>FAO has addressed this issue in the second phase of the project document.</p>	<p>While Sana'a Basin project phase II design is taking into consideration this recommendation FAO Yemen has been applying this recommendation in other projects.</p>	<p><b>ADVANCING</b></p> <p>Implementation of the recommendation is partial.</p>	<p>Climate-smart agriculture has been widely implemented in Sana'a Basin and promoted among farmers. New varieties that are drought and salt tolerant were introduced as a result of FAO Yemen cooperation with the Northern Agriculture Research Station.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 3</b></p> <p><b>Accepted</b></p>	<p>FAO has addressed this issue in the second phase project document.</p>	<p>The water efficiency concept was introduced through the promotion of drip irrigation systems</p>	<p><b>ADVANCING</b></p> <p>Implementation of the</p>	<p>The impact of FAO Yemen projects that promoting water efficiency has a</p>

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<p><b>To FAO, donors and designers of water efficiency projects</b></p> <p><b>Groundwater abstraction projects need to be designed with longer duration and include effective monitoring and evaluation frameworks from project commencement to enable regular monitoring of performance and to inform timely project adjustments.</b></p>		<p>along with other modern water-efficient irrigation systems. Meanwhile, the Sana'a basin project phase II is further emphasizing the concept of water efficiency that also includes changing farmers behaviour and community-based water monitoring</p>	<p>recommendation is partial.</p>	<p>positive impact on the water budget in the Sana'a basin. Drawdown in groundwater has been reduced.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 4</b></p> <p><b>Partially accepted</b></p> <p><b>To FAO as the implementing partner and designers of irrigation rehabilitation projects</b></p> <p><b>GIS should be necessary to support evidence-based decision-making, more accurate monitoring and assessment of project progress and results.</b></p>	<p>While GIS training was conducted to members of the project national partners, the use of GIS was not a requirement in the first phase of the project. The project team provided GIS maps on the change in the irrigated land among other parameters. These maps were available after the evaluation was conducted since the evaluation process started some 8 months before the project ended. However, in the second phase the use of the GIS to support evidence-based decision-making was emphasized.</p>	<p>GIS concept will be widely used in the Sana'a Basin project phase II. IN Phase one comprehensive training of stakeholders was carried out in preparation for Sana'a Basin phase II. Also, FAO Yemen has consolidated its expertise in the GIS application.</p>	<p><b>ADVANCING</b></p> <p>Implementation of the recommendation is partial.</p>	<p>GIS, while it is currently adopted in different FAO Yemen projects, Sana'a basin phase II will consolidate the concept in Sana'a Basin.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 5</b></p> <p><b>Rejected</b></p> <p><b>To project designers, implementing partners and FAO</b></p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>

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<p><b>While there is inherent tension between the urgency of delivering results to satisfy community needs and allowing sufficient time for members to gather and cooperate effectively, the latter should be prioritized early in project implementation as a basis to identify priorities and address local problems.</b></p>				
<p><b>Recommendation 6</b>  <b>Partially accepted</b>  <b>To donors, FAO and project designers</b>  <b>Changing weather patterns are increasing vulnerability in rural livelihoods and therefore, mitigation and adaptation interventions need to be prioritized in groundwater and livelihood projects.</b></p>	<p>Climate mitigation and adaptation measures were addressed in changing the crop pattern and the adoption of climate smart agriculture concept. In addition, the introduction of new agriculture varieties that are drought, and salt tolerant is another way to address climate change adaptation measures. Another was the introduction of rain fed modified plants to cope with the climate change impact. These measures were well within the project document. However, in the second phase climate change mitigation and adaptation measures were farther emphasized.</p>	<p>FAO Yemen is currently responding to weather changes and rain patterns. FAO Yemen has responded to the recent floods that show clearly the climate change impact and the change in the rain pattern in Yemen.</p>	<p><b>ADVANCING</b>                      Implementation of the recommendation is partial.</p>	<p>Climate change mitigation measures are a long-term process. FAO Yemen's response to this issue has been recognized in developing project proposals that address this issue. Also, FAO Yemen implemented several projects focusing on water infrastructures to sustain the changes in the rain pattern and to minimize the flood damages.</p>