CREDITS

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About This Report
This Overview of the IBSA Fund Project Portfolio summarizes the accomplishments of the IBSA Fund through 31 December 2014 and serves as the annual report for 2014 activities. It presents information submitted by project managers to the IBSA Fund secretariat by 1 April 2015. For the latest information on the IBSA Fund, visit http://tcdc2.undp.org/ibsa.

Disclaimer
The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of the United Nations, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation or governments. The designations employed do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever concerning the legal status of any country, territory or area, or its frontiers or boundaries.

Cover Photos
Left: Functional Literacy Course. Anita Simão Siga “Alanam”, Tcherna N’Tchialá, N’Quiga Tambá and Sábado Latna practising their newly acquired skills during a level-two functional literacy course at Tamara village in Biombo region, Guinea-Bissau. IBSA’s project has comprehensively supported rural communities in Guinea-Bissau, including enabling about 1,000 adults, mostly women, to read, write and understand basic math. Top right: Harvesting greater rice yields thanks to improved rice seeds introduced by IBSA in Quidjogro, Guinea-Bissau. Centre right: A member of the water users association observes the rising water level of the Nam Phou reservoir in Lao People’s Democratic Republic, where fish farming activities have yielded the first crop of fingerlings released during National Fish and Wildlife Conservation Day. Bottom right: Drip irrigation of watermelon fields with desalinated water made available through IBSA’s project in Cabo Verde.

Back Page Photos
Top left: Ribeira Brava resident Vladimir collecting drinking water for household consumption at the São João public fountain in São Nicolau. IBSA’s project in Cabo Verde increased the water supply for the inhabitants of this remote island through the desalination of sea water and its distribution to local communities. Bottom left: Excavation works cleared the site for the construction of a centre for persons with severe intellectual disabilities in Nablans, State of Palestine. Right: Fingerlings farmed in Nam Phou reservoir thanks to IBSA’s support for water management and development of agricultural livelihoods.
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DEVELOPMENT IMPACT ACROSS THE WORLD INCLUDES:

- 39,000 yearly reproductive health consultations enabled (Burundi)
- 12,000 residents provided access to safe drinking water (Cabo Verde)
- 6 doctors and 11 paramedics trained (Cambodia)
- 13,000 farmers’ diets enhanced (Guinea-Bissau)
- 25 villages afforded access to solar energy (Guinea-Bissau)
- 1,000 adults, mostly women, attained functional literacy (Guinea-Bissau)
- 180,000 residents to benefit from better solid waste management practices and infrastructure (Guyana)
- 400 livelihoods supported in waste management activities (Haiti)
- 7,700 farmers’ agricultural yield improved thanks to irrigation structures (Lao People’s Democratic Republic)
- 1,200 youth engaged in sports and team activities (State of Palestine)
- Presidential Cabinet and 5% of ministerial staff trained (Sierra Leone)
- 4,500 labour-intensive jobs generated within waste management and roads sectors (Sudan)
- 4,000 household livelihoods enhanced through improved rice production (Viet Nam)
THE INDIA, BRAZIL AND SOUTH AFRICA FACILITY FOR POVERTY AND HUNGER ALLEVIATION

The India, Brazil and South Africa Facility for Poverty and Hunger Alleviation (IBSA Fund) is a remarkable example of cooperation among three developing countries and constitutes a pioneering initiative to implement South-South cooperation (SSC) for the benefit of other Southern countries in partnership with the United Nations system. Its purpose is to identify replicable and scalable projects that can be disseminated to interested developing countries as examples of best practices in the fight against poverty and hunger. It was established in 2004 and became operational in 2006. The IBSA Fund supports projects on a demand-driven basis through partnerships with local governments, national institutions and implementing partners. Initiatives are concrete expressions of solidarity and objectives range from promoting food security, to addressing HIV/AIDS, to extending access to safe drinking water – all with the aim of contributing to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. Important concerns of IBSA partners in the design and implementation of the Fund’s projects include capacity-building among project beneficiaries, built-in project sustainability, and knowledge-sharing among Southern experts and institutions. The IBSA Fund was the recipient of the United Nations South-South Partnership Award in 2006, an MDG Award in 2010 and the South-South and Triangular Cooperation Champions Award in 2012.

HIGHLIGHTS

3 Southern leaders in South-South cooperation

29 million US$ in contributions

14 Partner States, mostly least developed countries

8 MDGs advanced: poverty and hunger eradication, education, gender equality, child and maternal health, HIV/AIDS prevention and care, environmental sustainability and global partnerships.
ACCOLADES FROM GLOBAL LEADERS

“I am heartened by the many achievements of the IBSA Fund…[its] impact goes far beyond the support it delivers on the ground…the Fund embodies a spirit of solidarity and demonstrates the resolve of emerging economies to contribute to global development.”

Ban Ki-moon, UN Secretary-General

“[IBSA] established an approach which makes full use of the UN development system to advance, reinforce, and implement South-South cooperation, and which ensures the projects are initiated, owned, and led by partner developing countries.”

Helen Clark, UNDP Administrator/UNDG Chair

THE IBSA FUND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The IBSA Fund Board of Directors comprises the Ambassadors of India, Brazil and South Africa to the United Nations in New York. The Board approves summary proposals and detailed projects and continuously provides strategic direction to IBSA projects to ensure their successful implementation through strong South-South partnerships. The Fund’s Directors are assisted by technical experts who closely monitor project progress and the Fund’s portfolio. The United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation serves as the Fund Manager and Secretariat of the Board of Directors.
PROJECT PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

Financial Contributions to the IBSA Fund (US$)

![Graph showing financial contributions to the IBSA Fund from 2004 to 2014.]

Financial Implementation of IBSA Fund Projects (US$)

![Graph showing financial implementation of IBSA Fund projects from 2004 to 2014.]

Cumulative Contributions
Contributions by year

Cumulative Implementation
Implementation by Year
THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION

Among its various functions, the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) serves as Fund Manager and secretariat of the Board of Directors of the IBSA Fund. UNOSSC was established by the United Nations General Assembly in UNDP in 1974. Its primary mandate is to promote, coordinate and support South-South and triangular cooperation for development on a global and United Nations system-wide basis. To advance these objectives, UNOSSC has designed a 4-in-1 service support architecture through which it operationalizes its policy directives and supports the development community. Besides its key functions supporting intergovernmental policy processes, as secretariat to the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation of the United Nations General Assembly, UNOSSC manages:

- the Global South-South Development Academy, an online platform through which information on hundreds of Southern development solutions and experts has been identified, codified and managed;
- the Global South-South Development Expo, a yearly United Nations system-wide event that serves to showcase selected successful development solutions, bringing together development practitioners and representatives of the United Nations system, government, the private sector and civil society; and
- the South-South Global Assets and Technology Exchange, a mechanism that facilitates the transfer of proven Southern development solutions through its physical and Internet-based platform, matching Southern solution seekers and providers for the transfer of technologies, development solutions and financing within a secure environment.

It has been a real delight to see the IBSA Fund portfolio of projects grow in partnership with implementing partners across the United Nations system and with the support of UNOSSC’s fund management. Working with IBSA and partner countries to advance initiatives under the principles and methods of South-South cooperation has enriched the UN system and strengthened South-South partnerships.

Francisco Simplicio, Assistant Director for Funds and Programmes at UNOSSC

As Fund Managers, we are pleased to provide this consolidated report presenting a detailed account of the Fund’s numerous achievements to date. For updates, please visit: http://tcdc2.undp.org/ibsa.
ACADEMIC REVIEWS AND REFERENCES

“…policymakers officially hail the IBSA Fund as a centerpiece of the [IBSA] grouping…The IBSA Fund — one of the IBSA groupings’ few elements that produced tangible results — is a great idea that may not only alleviate poverty, but also enhance the debate about innovative ways of poverty reduction and South-South cooperation in general.”

**Oliver Stuenkel**, Assistant Professor of International Relations at the Getúlio Vargas Foundation (FGV) in São Paulo

“…the Fund could become IBSA’s flagship and its interface with the developing world.”

**Lyal White**, Senior Lecturer at the University of Pretoria

“…the most important takeaway from the IBSA trust fund is the light it sheds on the quiet evolution that has unfolded in the UN’s development machinery tracking the mid-1990s transition from an earlier-generation New International Economic Order-oriented politics of third world solidarity to the contemporary politics of South-South cooperation.”

**Francis Kornegay**, Senior Researcher at the Institute for Global Dialogue

“South Africa could push to use the IBSA Fund as a model for future peacebuilding and post-conflict reconstruction and development processes. [It] could utilize its experience with the IBSA Fund to make use of multilateral cooperation on a bigger scale…”

**Naomi Kok**, Researcher at the Institute for Security Studies

“The IBSA Fund is the most strategic element of the IBSA alliance, which has enabled them to assert their South-South approach in the multilateral setting through concrete development projects across various developing countries.”

**Folashadé Soule-Kohndou**, Post-doctoral Fellow at the London School of Economics, associated with the Global Economic Governance Programme at Oxford University
ONGOING PROJECTS
1 GUINEA-BISSAU

Support for Lowland Rehabilitation and for Agricultural and Livestock Processing (Project III)

Overview

This project reduced poverty and enhanced food security by rehabilitating low-lying coastal lands for rice cultivation and distributing better varieties of rice seeds to increase agricultural productivity. It supported hydraulic infrastructure works that improve lowlands, such as small dams, canals, drainage and plot levelling. Among other benefits, these improvements help to reduce and compensate for increases in the salt content of the soil, thereby enabling the continuous use of these lands for rice production. These anti-erosion measures also constitute an effort at climate-change mitigation and reduce the practice of shifting cultivation that results in continuous deforestation.

In addition, this project has provided equipment and training in simple food processing, conservation and commercialization techniques. The project has enhanced the capacity of women farmers to add value to products in local markets, to avoid waste and to better account for and manage their incomes.

Results (Intended Outcomes)

- Significant improvement for almost 20,000 rural inhabitants in food security, quality of their diets and poverty reduction.
- Broadened and improved livelihood opportunities available in 24 villages through sustainable natural resource management, enhanced farming and processing of agricultural products.
- Rehabilitation of 300 hectares of lowland, which continue to be used for farming activities.
- Increased self-reliance of rural populations and reduced vulnerability to weather conditions.
Summary of Accomplishments

- **Technical expertise**: Partner communities, working closely with the project’s technical assistants, improved their knowledge of agricultural techniques, thereby enhancing their production methods and diets.

- **Equipment**: Tools for food preservation, transformation and transportation were supplied to partner villages, including 24 rice peeling machines, 24 mills, 6 fruit driers and 80 donkey carts. Three motorcycles and one 4x4 vehicle were purchased in support of project activities.

- **Rehabilitation of agricultural fields**: Limited-productivity lowlands were improved through PVC tube-based, small-scale hydraulic enhancements that assist the management of water and saline content. Over 800 farmers were trained and involved in the rehabilitation of rice fields.

- **Knowledge products**: A water management plan was developed for partner villages’ rice fields, based on an assessment of local soil, climate and water conditions. Over 320 farmers improved their water resource management skills.

- In addition, through a survey, data were collected in the 24 partner villages on crop yields of current agricultural practices and village needs, priorities and challenges. These data served to better target IBSA cooperation and help to benchmark the progress of the project.

Challenges Encountered

- This project has an ambitious scope of activities ranging from water management to agro processing. The technical shortcomings of project staff in these diverse technical areas had to be partly compensated for through short capacity-building activities in specific areas in cooperation with government specialists and with support from technicians.

- The illiteracy rate in partner villages remains high. The training offered by the project was adjusted and simplified so as to better reach the participants and facilitate absorption of content shared; literacy classes were offered in all 24 rural communities simultaneously.
2 › GUINEA-BISSAU

Rural Electrification through Solar Energy Systems (Project VI: Roll-out)

Overview

This initiative has brought solar energy to 20 villages. It has expanded the solar energy component of a finalized IBSA project in Guinea-Bissau, incorporating lessons from the pilot 5 villages that received and have since been using solar equipment.

By providing access to energy, this project has improved village life enormously. For example, indoor lighting in schools enables adult study and other village activities during the evening. Solar water pumps reduce the hardships of obtaining water from wells, making it accessible at fountains or as running water. Street lighting and portable lanterns for village leaders provide enhanced security, and cell phone chargers in community centers facilitate connectivity and sometimes even serve as a source of income for village associations.

Results (Intended Outcomes)

- Broadened access to energy for 20,000 individuals in a vulnerable group category: rural populations, with a particular emphasis on women and children.
- Improved environment for education, sanitation, safety and an enhanced quality of life.
- 24 teachers have been trained in a partnership programme with the Ministry of Education, and about 1,100 people have had access to functional literacy courses in their respective villages, with female participation at almost 90%.
- About 600 families, comprised of more than 6,000 people, have gained access to drinking water through a water pumping system powered by solar energy.
- Increased engagement of the community in more inclusive governance practices, particularly in the management of its solar power and micro-utilities.
Summary of Accomplishments

- **Sharing of solar technology**: 20,000 villagers benefitted from solar equipment including street lights, indoor lights for schools and community centres, cell phone chargers and other light battery-operated equipment and solar water pumps.

- **Capacity-building**: 120 beneficiaries (5 per village and 62% female) participated in workshops on village mobilization and proactivism, with a focus on the management of solar energy systems. “Solar grandmothers” trained by the Barefoot College in India shared experiences in micro-utility operations and maintenance.

- **Infrastructure development**: Civil works necessary for the installation of the solar equipment were advanced by partner villages as their contribution to this project. These included construction of fountains to be linked to solar water pumps, repairs to school and community-centre walls or ceilings in order to host equipment, and fencing for protection against theft.

- **Female empowerment**: Guinea Bissau’s illiteracy rate hovers around 45%, and the rate is even higher in rural areas, where it affects mainly women. The adoption of solar energy in youth centres and schools has helped women — many of whom had no opportunity to study — to learn how to read and write during the evenings. When village associations were constituted, priority was given to the participation of women.

- **Sustainable development**: The adoption of solar energy for street lighting, common access areas and houses has contributed to human development through environmentally sustainable processes, enabling communities to engage in nighttime activities and increasing village security.

Challenges Encountered

- This project benefits from the lessons learned during the first IBSA projects in Guinea-Bissau, particularly the pilot initiative providing solar energy equipment. It has incorporated concerns about community organization for the management of micro-utilities as well as the safety and security of solar energy systems.

- Heavy rains have damaged solar panels in one of the partner villages. The external infrastructures for hosting the equipment have subsequently been reinforced, and a partnership has been established with the Secretary of State for Energy to assist in reviewing and maintaining solar panels installed by the project.
3 GUYANA

Solid Waste Management Improvement Project

Overview

This project enhances the ability of the Government of Guyana to address current solid waste management challenges so as to reduce environmental impact and ameliorate urban sanitation. It builds the local government’s capacity to deliver an improved solid waste management system. The project procures appropriate waste management machinery and equipment consisting of two waste collection compact trucks and two mini excavators.

It also expands and rehabilitates seven markets and four market tarmacs, thereby providing alternatives to illegal vending, which is the source of much improperly disposed urban waste. The new or refurbished markets and market tarmacs supported by the project will meet sanitation standards and have waste collection points that will be covered by waste collection routes. In addition, the project raises public awareness of better individual and commercial solid waste disposal practices, thereby supporting efforts of local communities to improve their urban settings; reduce, recycle or better dispose of waste; and improve their sustainability.

Results (Intended Outcomes)

- Strengthened capacities of municipal and other local government bodies to manage an improved solid waste system through enhanced expertise and adequate equipment.
- Improved solid waste management facilities in partner townships and neighbourhoods, including rehabilitation and expansion of seven public markets and construction of four market tarmacs.
- Greater public awareness of good solid waste management practices.

Summary of Accomplishments

Capacity-building of local government to manage solid waste

- Two garbage compactor trucks and two mini excavators were procured to assist local government authorities and institutions in seven of the ten Administrative Regions of Guyana, namely, Regions 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9 and 10. The equipment has been put to use to improve the sanitary conditions and drainage of municipal and other markets in the named regions.
• The equipment is currently being used by 26 Neighbourhood Democratic Councils and 3 municipalities, with a combined population of over 180,000 residents.

• The newly procured mini excavators will also provide priority services to remote islands in Region 3, particularly the islands of Leguan and Wakenaam. Additionally, the excavators will be utilized along the coast of Region 4, where residents of Mon Repos/La Reconnaissance, approximately 40,000, will benefit both economically and socially through the opening up of 100 square miles of drains.

Improved solid waste management facilities

• Civil works have begun on seven markets and two market tarmacs that were identified to undergo rehabilitation, expansion and/or construction.

• Three of the seven markets and one of the two tarmacs have been completed meeting the required standards and are being utilized to a greater extent by vendors as well as market goers. Over 100,000 residents are being positively impacted by the construction and improvement of these markets and tarmacs.

Challenges Encountered

• Guyana’s public procurement procedure is complex and requires a substantial number of lengthy procedures. This brought about major delays in the procurement of the project’s equipment and in the awarding of civil works to the various contractors.

• Lack of project implementation capacity from the local implementing partner resulted in a number of delays in the implementation process of the project. It also resulted in the lack of adequate monitoring of activities and recordkeeping on the part of the implementing partner.

Link to National Strategies and Priorities

Municipalities and Neighbourhood Democratic Councils are faced with many constraints to administering and managing solid waste disposal services. In a determined effort to address the solid waste management issues in Guyana, the Government has allocated about US$5 million in its 2014 budget (with US$500 million injected into the capital city, Georgetown) to implement a national clean-up and environmental enhancement initiative to restore the country’s physical landscape and the public image of what was once known as the Garden City.
4 LAO PEOPLE’S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Support to Integrated Irrigated Agriculture in Two Districts in Bolikhamsay

Overview

The project aims at improving the overall livelihoods and food security of local communities in the two poorest districts of Bolikhamsay Province by supporting the development of irrigated agriculture and the community-based management of watershed resources such as forests and fisheries. It aims to benefit over 7,700 farmers, expanding rice cultivation from 150 hectares to 500 hectares in the dry season. It will accomplish this by repairing 3 small irrigation schemes. It will also set up water, watershed, fishery and village forest management and user groups within the communities, which will serve to promote more sustainable management of watershed resources by partner communities.

Furthermore, the project intends to improve shifting cultivation practices and promote village forest management and diversification, guaranteeing economic and ecological sustainability for farmers even in a climate-change scenario.

Results (Intended Outcomes)

- Increased and diversified incomes of rural households in two districts through enhanced irrigated agriculture and fisheries activities.
- Development and implementation of a watershed management plan.
- Ensured water-supply availability in both seasons for irrigation of the area under cultivation.
- Co-management of irrigation projects by government authorities and the water users associations, with women’s participation.
- Improved fisheries in Nam Phou reservoir through the establishment of their co-management.

Summary of Accomplishments

- Three irrigation infrastructure works were completed in Nam Ser, Nam Yang and Nam Phou, providing water to an agriculture extension area of 630 hectares.
A. ONGOING PROJECTS

- Watershed Management Plans were developed with community participation at the district and provincial levels and made publicly available.
- Over 300 farmers were trained in watershed management; rice-seed preparation, selection, storage and transportation; dry-season vegetable extension; after-harvest conservation; and techniques for growing nine selected cash crops.
- 40 households in four villages piloted the introduction of cash crops across 7.4 hectares.
- Water user groups were created and their activities supported, optimizing water management and improving agricultural practices.
- A fisheries co-management committee was establishment in Nam Phou, and several workshops were held, including on policies, practices and the country’s new fishery regulations.
- Farmers’ capacity for sustainable fisheries management was enhanced through a study tour.

Challenges Encountered

- Improvement of irrigation infrastructure took longer than expected owing to heavy rain in late 2014 and the thick layer of hard rock found in the Nam Phou subproject site, causing delays in other technical activities.
- Current gold mining concessions and uncontrolled timber logging practices in and around the Nam Phou watershed area are the key constraints and risks for the implementation of the Watershed and Forest Management Plan, undermining sustainability, ownership and adequate natural-resource management awareness.

Link to National Strategies and Priorities

The Government’s Agriculture Sector Strategy focuses on achieving self-sufficiency in food production, promoting crop diversification and expanding irrigation development. This project responds directly to these objectives by supporting the people in the project area, the majority of whom rely on agriculture for both food and income, to enhance their rice cultivation and expand their agricultural activities through the repaired irrigation infrastructure.
5 STATE OF PALESTINE

Construction and Equipping of a Centre for Persons with Severe Intellectual Disabilities

Overview

This project is building and equipping a centre to serve individuals with intellectual disabilities in Nablus in the West Bank. The centre will be about 1,900 square metres and will include consultation, physical therapy, multipurpose and staff rooms as well as general services and reception facilities. Once operational, it will run a protection and rehabilitation programme for adults with disabilities in order to provide care, technical aids, vocational training for various types of disabilities, rehabilitation services and, in some cases, temporary accommodation. As part of its comprehensive approach, the centre will also operate a referral system for services from other providers.

Palestinians with disabilities are a key target group for the Ministry of Social Affairs, which seeks to provide them with protection, care and rehabilitation services. The Ministry extends services to around 10,000 Palestinians with disabilities each year but faces major constraints delivering care and supporting their rehabilitation. The building of this facility will enable the Palestinian National Authority to expand its reach and provide people, in particular adults with special needs in the West Bank, with adequate health-care services.

Results (Intended Outcomes)

• Increase access for the population of Nablus and the north area of the West Bank to health-care services for people with severe intellectual disabilities.
• Design and build a centre that caters to youth under the age of 18 years with intellectual disabilities.
• Support and advance the rights of people with disabilities.

Summary of Accomplishments

• The design for the centre was finalized, incorporating the concerns of the various partners, who reached agreement on the characteristics of the facilities.
• The construction works were put out for bid and the contract was awarded.

• The excavation of the site was concluded and hard rock soil removed.

• The skeleton construction for the basement and ground floors of the facilities was built, and most of the interior block wall partitions on these two floors were erected.

• The ground floor works are being finalized.

• IBSA approved a budget increase for this project, which enabled keeping the planned size of rooms and facilities despite budget challenges. It also permitted expansion of the centre and its capacity for services from the initially planned 1,000 square metres to 1,900 square metres by adding a physiotherapy unit, a necessary electro-mechanical room, general services on the basement level and some essential external works.

**Challenges Encountered**

• Despite diverging perspectives on the minimum requirements for the centre to be fully functional, agreement on the design for the facility was reached.

• The land provided by the municipality of Nablus for the construction of the centre proved difficult to excavate owing to hard rock soil.

• The review of bids for the construction work revealed that overall costs for construction of the facility were higher than initially predicted.

• Delays in the planned construction schedule were encountered.

**Link to National Strategies and Priorities**

This project falls within the Palestinian National Authority Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) core strategy and programmes to protect and rehabilitate persons with disabilities. The approach of MoSA is to provide protection and care services either directly or through a referral system, with services purchased from other service providers. Currently, MoSA is confronting a very limited ability to provide shelter and infrastructure to care for people with special needs, in particular in the northern area of the West Bank. This project will directly address this constraint while also ensuring compliance with Palestinian Disabled Rights law.
6 STATE OF PALESTINE

Rehabilitation of the Cultural and Hospital Centre (Project II)

Overview

This project extends IBSA’s first initiative of rebuilding the Cultural and Hospital Centre for the Palestinian Red Crescent Society in the Gaza Strip by expanding the building’s rehabilitation and upgrading the medical capacities of the facility. The first IBSA project regarding this centre refurbished the nine-storey building, enabling the operation of most outpatient medical services and some internist health care.

This second IBSA project is establishing, equipping and furnishing an operating room in this hospital to enable surgical procedures, including open-heart surgery, emergency response and medical interventions for chronic diseases. It is also increasing patient rooms in the hospital by an additional 50 to 60 beds.

The Gaza Strip has 24 hospitals, but at the time that this project was approved, 12 had interrupted health services owing to severe damage to their infrastructure. By rendering this hospital operational once again, enabling the performance of surgical procedures and the intake of a greater number of patients for onsite care, this initiative is ensuring the continuous reach and scope of health-care services to the population of the Gaza Strip.

Results (Intended Outcomes)

- Essential infrastructure for economic and social development, in particular health-care infrastructure, is improved.
- The national health system is better able to prepare for, and respond to, emergencies and chronic disease requirements affecting the Palestinian population’s general health.
- Palestinians in the Gaza Strip have improved, equitable access to quality health services provided by the national health system, including urgent care, surgery and psychosocial treatment.
A. ONGOING PROJECTS

Summary of Accomplishments

- Most of the civil construction works for the building were completed, including block and concrete structures that are all finalized.
- The finishing work such as plastering, painting and tiling is advancing.
- Mechanical and electrical service works are in progress. The patient bedrooms were completed and are waiting for the furnishings and equipment to arrive in Gaza for installation.
- Thanks to the successful reopening of the Cultural and Hospital Centre for the Palestinian Red Crescent Society in the Gaza Strip and its provision of continuous services, additional resources were mobilized to establish an operating theatre and other additional improvements through this project.
- An additional US$14,700 were mobilized to repair damage caused by exchanges of fire in 2014.

Link to National Strategies and Priorities

These projects were designed under the Palestinian National Health Strategy, which has the objective of assuring the rights of all citizens to quality, sustainable primary, secondary and tertiary health services. In line with this strategy, these two interrelated initiatives seek to strengthen partnerships so as to ensure access for all Palestinians to health services.
7  SUDAN

Creation of Job Opportunities for Youth through Labour-intensive Work

Overview

The project pilots a labour-intensive work model to rapidly create employment opportunities for unemployed, unskilled and semi-skilled young labourers. The project facilitates on-the-job skills training, generates demand for 2,000 youth as local resources in road maintenance and waste management sectors, and contributes to urban infrastructure development. The project youth beneficiaries will be linked with long-term employment and livelihood opportunities.

Results (Intended Outcomes)

• Rapid job creation for 2,000 young, unemployed unskilled and semi-skilled labourers by developing their technical capacities to undertake road maintenance and waste management work as well as manage small businesses and facilitating access to finance.
• Establish a labour-based coordination unit within the Ministry of Labour, Public Service and Human Resources Development to increase the demand for youth employment opportunities; link the unskilled young labourers with training centres; and establish an information database for labour-intensive opportunities.

Summary of Accomplishments

Institutional mechanism

• The Labour-based Coordination Unit (LBCU) successfully generated demand for young labourers: the Khartoum State Higher Council for Environment and Urban Promotion and the Ministry of Infrastructure of Khartoum State have committed to employing a considerable number of the project targeted youth in the state waste management works and in road maintenance, water, sewage and sanitation works.
Partnerships and coordination

- Key partnerships have been forged with the Sudan Contractors Association for mass employment opportunities in road maintenance, with microfinance institutions that committed to finance 1,000 of the beneficiaries by the end of their training and labour-intensive work, and with the Sudan Workers Trade Unions Federation.

Knowledge products

- Three baseline studies have been prepared on:
  - mapping the unskilled and semi-skilled youth in Khartoum State to determine the number and percentage of targeted groups by size, sex, location, background and qualifications;
  - employment-market demand for road maintenance and waste management to assess the labour-market demand for employment in the two sectors and identify their employment gaps; and
  - inventory and assessment of available training institutes in Khartoum State to identify the existence and adequacy of skills and relevant courses.

Challenges Encountered

- Piloting a labour-intensive approach to urban employment in Sudan is a relatively new concept, particularly in road maintenance and waste management work. The project will pave the way by building strong linkages with key development partners and raising public awareness of the benefits of labour-intensive work in addressing youth unemployment.
- Project implementation fell behind the target schedule owing to the difficulty in identifying suitable and competent staff given the technical nature of the project.

Link to National Strategies and Priorities

The project is part of the national strategic response to unemployment. It is aligned with the Sudan National Strategic Development Plan, the National Employment Strategy and the Interim Poverty Reduction Strategy. These strategies aim to reduce poverty through rapid, sustainable and shared economic growth, with a special focus on actions to build the foundation for rapid, broad-based economic growth, structural transformation and diversification of the economy over the medium and long terms. They respond to four broad pillars, of which the promotion of economic growth and employment creation has been robustly emphasized and underscored.
8 HAITI

Promote the Socioeconomic Integration of Vulnerable Children and Youth

Overview

This project aims to promote the socioeconomic development of vulnerable youth through the elimination of child labour and promotion of decent employment for youth in the Bel Air and Cité Soleil zones of Port-au-Prince. The project contributes to better employability and development of the entrepreneurship capacity of vulnerable youth and facilitates their access to decent jobs. Democracy and citizenship values are also promoted within the targeted communities. The project proposes a holistic approach. The trained beneficiaries will receive a state certification and then will be placed as interns, apprentices or regular employees in formal and informal enterprises. In parallel, some beneficiaries will receive support for their basic education.

Results (Intended Outcomes)

- Employability and entrepreneurial capacities of supported female and male adolescents and youth are improved.
- Female and male adolescents and youth improve their access to the labour market through placement services.
- The National Institute for Professional Training and training centres strengthen their capacity to develop training adapted to the labour market needs and to offer job placement services for adolescents and youth.
- The capacity of the community and institutions to address the worst forms of child labour and violence-related issues is strengthened.

Link to National Strategies and Priorities

This project falls under the Strategic Development Plan of Haiti, which outlines the strategies and priorities of the Government. These include economic reform to increase labour productivity and employability of the workforce, including youth, as one of the strategies for the development of employment, and social reform, which involves meeting the basic needs of the population, universal access to basic education, and qualifications derived from a relevant vocational training system.
9  SAINT LUCIA

Poverty Reduction through Livestock Development

Overview

This project will increase the production and commercialization of quality livestock products through the establishment of appropriate infrastructure and introduction of relevant technologies and support systems. The project will establish Beausejour Agricultural Station as a national centre of excellence through infrastructure improvement and the breeding and multiplication of quality animals to enhance local livestock breeding programmes. It will also focus on training and on transfer of technology to enable farmers to become more productive. Complementary activities will include the establishment of communal production facilities and the rehabilitation of pastures and fodder banks for livestock feeding. The technical and managerial capacity of livestock farmers’ organizations and extension officers and veterinarians will also be strengthened.

Results (Intended Outcomes)

- The Beausejour Agricultural Station is established as a national centre of excellence, with training, management and agricultural extension and research facilities.
- Farmers improve their livestock breeding through the adoption of best practices, enhancement of their technical skills and management capacities, and the introduction of quality animals.
- The characteristics of local livestock are improved through an artificial insemination programme.
- Organizations of small ruminant farmers are strengthened by establishing two community-based feeding systems and training.

Link to National Strategies and Priorities

This project responds to the Saint Lucia National Agricultural Policy, which seeks to promote economic development; generate employment; increase the efficiency of the island’s agriculture; promote improved and appropriate technology; and expand the agricultural production and market base, thereby enhancing national food security.
10    STATE OF PALESTINE

Reconstruction of Atta Habib Hospital Medical Centre in Gaza City

Overview

This project aims to rebuild and enhance access to public health infrastructure through the reconstruction of the totally damaged Atta Habib hospital medical centre in the eastern Gaza City neighbourhood of Al Shujaia. The building will also be supplied with the necessary equipment to run the primary health-care clinic.

The planned works include maternity and child health wards as well as facilities for dental and lab services. Furniture and communication systems to enable the operation of these services will also be provided. The newly constructed medical centre will serve almost half of the population of Shujaia, estimated at 180,000 inhabitants.

Results (Intended Outcomes)

• Strengthened quality and availability of medical attention by improving infrastructure and hygienic conditions, facilitating patient flow, and permitting the continuous delivery and expansion of certain health-care services.
• Reconstruction of a total area of 1,000 m² of Atta Habib hospital medical centre including maternity ward, blood lab, biochemistry lab, dental services, pharmacy and administrative offices.
• Equipped hospital with necessary furniture and communication systems.

Link to National Strategies and Priorities

This project responds to the Palestinian National Authority’s immediate priority of providing emergency support to the health sector in the Gaza Strip and restoring a sense of normalcy. It will provide a common platform for the Government and partners to advance the “Gaza Early Recovery and Reconstruction Plan 2014-2016”. The initiative is part of the Ministry of Health call to address chronic shortages in medicine, medical supplies and equipment in Gaza as well as rebuild primary health centres and hospitals.
TIMOR-LESTE
Conservation Agriculture, Permaculture and Sustainable Fisheries Management

Overview

This project will improve current cropping and fisheries practices in the districts of Dili and Lautem through the broader adoption of conservation agriculture, permaculture and integrated fisheries techniques that promote sustainable production, intensification and diversification of smallholder farming and fishing systems. This will increase the food security of about 1,850 farmer and fisher families in these areas while also improving their nutrition and livelihoods. Core groups of farmers and fishers will be trained in rainwater harvesting, conservation agriculture, agroforestry, school gardening, beekeeping, integrated fisheries and food-processing technologies and good practices. In addition, the capacities of the Government and of private-sector providers will be enhanced.

Results (Intended Outcomes)

- Effective and sustainable conservation agriculture technologies and practices are adopted and practised by smallholder farmers.
- Effective and sustainable permaculture techniques are adopted and practised by farmer families through education-for-sustainable-development approaches.
- The reliability of fish stock for coastal communities is increased through community-based co-management of coastal and marine resources.

Link to National Strategies and Priorities

This project directly contributes to achieving the Government’s Action Plan for a Hunger- and Malnutrition-free Timor-Leste, in particular outcomes promoting: the practice of sustainable and climate-resilient agriculture; cross-sectoral policy coherence for food security; and a 100-per cent increase in smallholder productivity and income, including youth and women farmers. The initiative is also closely linked with the Timor-Leste Strategic Development Plan 2011-2013 and with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Plan 2014-2020, which focuses on promoting agricultural growth and sustainable food security.
12 › VIET NAM

An Innovative e-Learning Approach for Health

Overview

This project will develop electronic training modules for medical students and in-service health professionals of the northern coastal region of Viet Nam to improve the coverage and quality of health services for prioritized issues of non-communicable diseases such as cardiovascular diseases or cancer and marine medicine. In addition, it will facilitate the access of medical students and other health staff of the northern coastal region to health information through a digital learning resources centre located within Haiphong Medical University.

Results (Intended Outcomes)

• Improved coverage of, equal access to, and quality of health-care services for the poorest and most vulnerable population groups in the northern coastal region of Viet Nam in the areas of non-communicable diseases and marine medicine.
• Improved knowledge of pre- and in-service health professionals regarding current developments in the field of medicine through the use of the digital resources centre and e-learning modules.
• A replicable model of e-learning for health for other regions in Viet Nam.

Link to National Strategies and Priorities

This project will contribute directly to the health outputs and outcomes that have been agreed by the Government and the United Nations under the United Nations One Plan for 2012-2016. In particular, it will help to improve access to quality and equitable health services at the grass-roots level, especially by the poor, the ethnic minorities and those living in hard-to-reach areas, and thus make a significant contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals in Viet Nam.
COMPLETED PROJECTS
13 › BURUNDI

Strengthening Infrastructure and Capacity to Combat HIV/AIDS

Overview

This project built and equipped a centre for HIV/AIDS prevention, testing and treatment. This centre is providing various health-care services, covering reproductive health, sexually transmitted diseases, prenatal care and family planning. The facility supports and expands existing operations providing care and preventive services by the NGO Society of Women against AIDS in Africa (SWAA), Burundi Chapter.

Moreover, this project strengthened the capacity of the Government of Burundi and civil society to respond to the HIV/AIDS pandemic and to care for people living with it through training workshops, technical exchanges, a study developing a new national communication strategy and tools, and capacity-building activities in various regions of the country.

Results (Intended Outcomes)

- Reduce lack of adequate infrastructure to prevent HIV and care for HIV-positive individuals by the construction of a health centre focusing on reproductive health.
- Provide greater and more inclusive access to quality health care for vulnerable populations, particularly groups at risk of HIV infection, as the health centre built by this project enables around 39,000 consultations per year.
- Strengthen Government capacity to plan, communicate and implement strategies for HIV and AIDS prevention and care.
- Reduce technical limitations and capacity gaps to prevent and treat HIV and AIDS through training and closer collaboration, thereby increasing access to care for HIV-positive individuals.

Patients receiving health education

PARTNERS
- Ministry of Health of Burundi
- SWAA Burundi
- UNDP Burundi
- UNFPA Burundi

APPROVED BUDGET
- US$1,145,630
- Duration: January 2010 to December 2012
Summary of Accomplishments

- **Infrastructure development:** A three-storey health centre was built and inaugurated in Bujumbura. It is currently hosting prevention and treatment services for HIV, AIDS and other reproductive health matters.

- **Capacity development:** Training sessions were conducted for government and civil society actors on several HIV and AIDS topics, including the more severe impact of the AIDS epidemic on women, combating stigma and discrimination, and community-based approaches for prevention and care. Four technical exchanges have taken place: in Bujumbura, Brasilia, Dakar and New Delhi.

- **Enhancing local capacity to monitor, programme and deliver:** Three monitoring and support missions with a feedback workshop were conducted in the regions of Gitega, Ngozi and Bururi. The project also supported the world journey against AIDS and HIV in Kirundo. A Steering Committee was established and approved the terms of reference for a national internal and external communication study on HIV and AIDS.

- **Equipment:** Vehicles were purchased for the Government and the partner NGO. Information technology and medical equipment have been purchased and will be delivered when the building is ready to accommodate it.

Challenges Encountered

- Delays were experienced due to lack of a legal framework for engagement of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) as an implementing partner for a UNDP fund. These matters were resolved. Coordination among the Government, SWAA and the United Nations agencies also caused some challenges.

- The geotechnical study revealed conditions that resulted in a minor reorientation of the building.

- During the duration of this project, the Ministry of Health and the (sub-) Ministry to Combat HIV/AIDS were first separated as two Ministries but subsequently re-merged. These processes had an impact on the project, but challenges were overcome.
14  › CABO VERDE

Delivering Safe Drinking Water

Overview

This project increased the availability of safe drinking water on the island of São Nicolau, where water meeting World Health Organization standards for human consumption is scarce and its supply is unreliable. This constant availability of safe drinking water, through the desalination of sea water and its transportation to the communities, is helping to reduce or eliminate the health risks associated with intake of poor-quality water. It is improving the overall health and quality of life of these communities. This project constitutes a climate-change adaptation measure since global warming is making the water supply in Cabo Verde increasingly scarce.

Results (Intended Outcomes)

- Over 13,500 individuals benefit from clean drinking water, rendering this basic public service more inclusive and enhancing the scope of its delivery.
- Vulnerable groups increase their sustainable access to, and use of, safe water, resulting in health, nutrition and sanitation benefits.
- Safe drinking water is produced through desalination methods, thereby releasing existing scarce water resources, which are used for sanitation and enhanced agricultural activities.

Summary of Accomplishments

- **Access to safe drinking water for all:** Increased supply of safe drinking water for the inhabitants of São Nicolau, with a constant supply assured throughout the year for human consumption, household use and agricultural purposes.
- **Water infrastructure:** A water desalination plant was built and connected to the main water distribution system. This included:
  - two containerized reverse-osmosis desalination units and filters capable of processing 1,200 m³ of sea water per day;
  - a 1,000 m³ reservoir for water storage;
  - office and support facilities for operation and maintenance;
- a power transformer unit; and
- high-pressure pipes connecting the sea, the production plant and the reservoir and transporting the water to the main water distribution infrastructure in Ribeira Brava.

- **Knowledge products:** Feasibility and technical studies were conducted and informed the project engineering works and layout. A study on non-billed water was conducted with funds mobilized from other partners so as to support the sustainability strategy of the project.

- **Ownership and partnership:** The project was launched and subsequently inaugurated with the presence of Cabo Verde's Prime Minister, Jose Maria Neves. Additional resources were mobilized for this project by the Municipality of Ribeira Brava (US$150,000), the Government of Cabo Verde (US$80,000) and UNDP Cabo Verde (US$60,000).

## Challenges Encountered

- Difficulties relating to the lack of consultation with Southern providers during the procurement of the desalination plant were settled.
- Additional resources to connect water to the delivery infrastructure were required and were mobilized locally and used to purchase high-pressure connection pipes.
- Commercial difficulties with the supplier of the desalination plant and related accessories concerning contractual terms caused some delays but were overcome.
- The two wells drilled to provide water intake to the desalination plant presented technical problems, delaying the start-up of the plant. The municipality, in partnership with the central government, mobilized additional resources to drill new wells.
- The installation of high-pressure pipes was critical and complex owing to the changes in elevation and pressure. The pipes were successfully installed.

## Link to National Strategies and Priorities

Cabo Verde is extremely water-scarce, facing a number of challenges in the water and sanitation sector. To address water scarcity, a US$41.1 million water, sanitation and hygiene project is being implemented to facilitate delivery of water and sanitation services to Cabo Verdean households and businesses. The Government and the municipality of Ribeira Brava believe that the support of IBSA is of paramount importance and will pave the way for the sustainable management of water resources and create enabling conditions for ecotourism, agriculture and small industries to flourish.
15 CABO VERDE

Refurbishment of Health Infrastructure (Small Grant Project)

Overview

This project grant rehabilitated and equipped two health-care centres in remote areas of the island of São Nicolau, one of which was no longer operating owing to its dilapidated state.

Results (Intended Outcomes)

• Two rehabilitated health centres.
• Improved access for 230 inhabitants in a remote area to health care in an infrastructure adequate for the provision of health services.
• Enhanced infrastructure for the provision of health-care services, which directly benefited 221 additional individuals, mainly elderly.

Summary of Accomplishments

This project was completed in 2008. After their refurbishment, both health-care centres opened to provide services to their communities, including women, pregnant women, children and the elderly.
16  ›  CAMBODIA
Empowering Children and Adolescents with Special Needs and Their Families

Overview

This project supports the development of infrastructure and capacity to provide quality services for children and adolescents with special needs. The project built and equipped a pavilion at the Chey Chumneas Hospital to serve these patients and their families.

The project is also training, through residency programmes, 17 health professionals in specialties servicing children with special needs. It also engages in public-information and various community or group training activities to prevent some disabilities and support the provision of care for children with them.

Results (Intended Outcomes)

• Established capacity to provide medical care for children with disabilities by training through residency programmes six doctors and 11 paramedics. This constitutes the first generation of Cambodian professionals in this specialized field, which is expected to train subsequent generations of specialized medical professionals.

• Built appropriate infrastructure necessary to care for children with special needs by the construction of a dedicated hospital pavilion.

• Provided 2,000 children and adolescents with special needs and their families with comprehensive services towards maximum independence and inclusive development.

• Popularized best practices for prevention and care by empowering parent organizations and other groups (an estimated 200,000 individuals) to avert disabilities or care for children living with them.
**Summary of Accomplishments**

- **Infrastructure development:** The hospital pavilion was built, equipped and inaugurated. It is hosting services for early stimulation, special education, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, multiple handicaps, epilepsy, and art and drama therapy.

- **Capacity development:** Six physicians and 11 paramedical professionals were recruited and received on-the-job coaching to build their skills through specialized training in Cambodia and/or abroad. Twenty villages and thousands of community and family members were trained in inclusive practices, supporting and caring for children with special needs.

- **Awareness campaigns:** Informational materials were produced, published and distributed. Workshops were hosted on learning development and on various disabilities and techniques for care. Awareness days were held on Down syndrome and on autism.

- **Prevention:** Iodized salt was distributed. Destigmatization campaigns were carried out.

- **Establishing minimum standards:** Thousands of consultations for neuro-psychiatric, developmental, psychological, physical and intellectual disabilities were supported as well as check-ups for children and adolescents.

**Challenges Encountered**

- Delays in obtaining a building permit were resolved.

- Capacity-building activities experienced some delays, partly due to the challenge of medical and paramedical staff obtaining the necessary English language proficiency level for training abroad.

**Link to National Strategies and Priorities**

This project falls within the objectives of the National Disability Strategic Plan of Cambodia, which establishes as a key outcome improving services for people with disabilities through partnerships between the government, non-governmental and private sectors. It represents a new milestone in the disability policy and strategies of Cambodia as it fulfils the unmet needs of the most vulnerable among the disabled, namely, children with developmental disabilities who are marginalized, unable to raise their voices and lobby for their rights.
17-18 › GUINEA-BISSAU

Development of Agriculture and Small Animal Herding (Project I)
Agricultural Development and Services to Rural Communities (Project II)

Overview

These projects improved agricultural production in partner villages by training over 4,500 farmers in enhanced agricultural techniques for rice cultivation. They also offered them alternatives for new crops, thereby supporting diversification of production. Moreover, they introduced new seed types that improve yield and permit agricultural production even during the Guinea-Bissau rainy season.

In addition, these projects conducted training in water management and in the processing and conservation of agro-products. Furthermore, they provided solar energy equipment to 5 villages, trained over 600 adults to become functionally literate, and introduced short-cycle animals for reproduction. These activities enhanced household diets and livelihoods.

Results (Intended Outcomes)

- Enhanced the livelihoods of 4,500 farmers (60% women) through improved and diversified agriculture and enhanced the raising of small animals.
- Increased rice yield by 12%, improving local diets and enhancing villagers’ food security.
- Provided 3,000 individuals in 5 villages with access to solar energy.
- Enabled 966 adults (85% women) to attain usable literacy, numeracy and other basic education competencies.
Summary of Accomplishments

- **Agricultural development:** Farmers in partner villages were trained in agricultural techniques that enhance yield. They were also supported to plant a greater number of crops and use enhanced seeds, thereby diversifying and improving agricultural production. Farmers were also trained in water management and in simple agro-processing techniques (project I).

  In addition, 24 villages received continuous and progressively advanced training in agricultural and agro-processing methods (project II).

- **Literacy:** 966 adults, mostly female, in partner villages learned to read and write to a functional level and learned simple mathematics. Twenty-four teachers were trained to conduct literacy courses.

- **Enhanced animal herding:** Short-cycle animals were provided as well as sanitary products and vaccinations to improve animal health.

- **Solar electrification:** Five villages installed and are using solar energy equipment, including public lighting and indoor lighting in schools, community centres, health centres and public administration buildings, as well as water-pumping solar systems. Five Guinea-Bissau technicians were trained in India in solar system installation and maintenance. They were capacitated to provide qualified services to partner villages that benefited from solar systems and raise awareness of the use of renewable natural resources.

- Partner villages organized themselves to receive training and to manage solar energy equipment.

Challenges Encountered

- Some solar panels were stolen or temporarily out of use due to insufficient security infrastructure. Remediation measures included enhanced security requirements for the solar panels and support to communities to ensure that they developed the necessary infrastructure to safeguard the equipment.

- Difficulties in identifying technical capacity regarding local biofuels were overcome.
19 › HAITI

Collection of Solid Waste as a Tool to Reduce Violence

Overview

This project organized and mobilized a community with a history of violence and gang clashes around the labour-intensive process of its waste collection and recycling. It developed a culture of waste disposal and collection, thereby providing livelihood opportunities, reducing the incidence of disease, preventing flood risk from garbage-clogged canals, and reducing environmental impacts (particularly by introducing cooking briquettes from recycled paper products). This collaborative community work built local capacity and aided pacification.

Results (Intended Outcomes)

- Improved the quality of life and working conditions in Carrefour Feuilles through the establishment of a waste-management system.
- Contributed to the pacification of a security red-zone area and the reduction of its gang violence.
- Improved livelihoods through the creation of sustainable income-generation opportunities for 400 heads of household.
- Enhanced sanitation, sanitation awareness and sanitation infrastructure.
- Reduced and mitigated environmental impact through the recycling of 30% of the community’s waste.

Summary of Accomplishments

- **Pacification and reduction of urban violence**: Thanks to pacification initiatives, including this project, Carrefour Feuilles was reclassified in 2009 from a security red zone to a yellow zone.
- **Livelihoods**: The project offered decent employment to 400 heads of household.
• **Sanitation:** 70% of the neighbourhood’s waste was regularly collected and removed, thereby reducing the incidence of diseases transmitted by waste, insects and rodents.

• **Environmental impact reduction:** 30% of the community’s waste was recycled. Cooking briquettes made out of recycled paper products provided an alternative to charcoal as a source of energy.

• **Building local capacity and enhancing democratic governance:** The project organized the community and furthered collaborative work through waste-management activities, thereby building capacity and improving its governance.

• **Sanitary awareness and education:** Workshops were held in schools, churches and associations.

• **Improvement of urban infrastructure:** 50 waste-collection points were established as well as collection routes for waste removal.

• **Gender empowerment:** 57% of project workers were female. Two females were on the project’s community board.

• **Resilience:** This project withstood the 7.0 magnitude earthquake that struck Haiti in 2010.

**Challenges Encountered**

• Expansion activities planned as a response to the earthquake faced many challenges, did not prove to be feasible and hence were not undertaken.

“Urban aesthetics and cleanliness are a side effect of this project; its main objectives are employment generation, sanitation and good governance. Its impact is a lot greater than its official title.”

*Mr. Jean Yves Jason, Mayor of Port-au-Prince, 2007*
20 › SIERRA LEONE

Leadership Development and Capacity-building for Human Development and Poverty Reduction

Overview

This project strengthened the capacity of key State institutions in Sierra Leone to implement macroeconomic reforms and good governance practices for poverty eradication. It supported human-resource planning and management, strategy and policy development, implementation and monitoring of delivery.

Through South-South cooperation knowledge-sharing activities, the capacity of the Office of the President and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation was enhanced in order to support the further betterment of leadership to advance human development and poverty reduction.

Results (Intended Outcomes)

- Strengthen ministers and senior government officials’ capacity for strategic and modern management and decision-making.
- Enhance the Ministry of Foreign Affairs’ institutional and functional capacity through the establishment of a planning and policy unit, an in-house training unit, and an information and telecommunications platform.
- Enhance the results-based management platform, strengthen a system of performance monitoring and train public officers in their use.
- Enhance the Cabinet Secretariat’s technical and advisory functions.
Summary of Accomplishments

• **Capacity development:** Designed and rolled out learning, knowledge, networking and retooling initiatives:
  - Mounting of a reform initiative for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, with a specific focus on revamping its Policy, Planning and Research Unit;
  - Establishment of institutional “surge” capacity support to the Cabinet secretariat;
  - Design and roll-out of competency and skills development on results-based management for technical staff of ministries, departments and agencies; and
  - Design and roll-out of training in performance contracting in the public sector starting in seven pilot ministries.

• **Technical exchanges:** A joint commission of cooperation between the Government of Sierra Leone and the Government of Kenya was established. Its work was complemented by South-South exchanges among senior government officials of these two countries.

  Sierra Leone Presidential Cabinet officials undertook technical missions, meeting their counterparts in the Governments of Ghana and India. These study tours enabled learning from partner countries and enhanced capacity to deliver public services.

  Experience-sharing exercises took place among Sierra Leone ambassadors and between them and the Nigerian Foreign Service Academy.

• **Knowledge products:** A roster of experts was built through the WIDE platform for effective sourcing and management of technical expertise.

• **Equipment:** Information-technology equipment was provided to the Government of Sierra Leone Ministry of Foreign Affairs and to the Policy, Planning and Research Unit.

Challenges Encountered

• Since it supports capacity-building at the Office of the President and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, this project calls for political sensitivity, but no major challenges materialized.

“The project enabled significant learning, knowledge networking and experience-sharing within the South-South framework, including exchanges between Sierra Leone and Kenya on performance contracting; a study tour by the Cabinet Secretary to Ghana to share experiences on good practices to support the cabinet business processes; and technical input by the Nigeria Foreign Service Academy to Sierra Leone’s reform efforts.”

Mr. George Pessima, Sierra Leone Chief of Staff at the Office of the President, chairing the project’s Steering Committee, 2013
STATE OF PALESTINE

Supporting Programme Opportunities in Recreational and Team Sports

Overview

This project built and equipped a 1,000-square metre multipurpose sports complex in Ramallah. The complex offers indoor soccer, fencing, snooker, gymnastics, table tennis, volleyball and badminton facilities, a fitness room, a clinic and spectator stands. The project also organized and set up youth sports leagues.

Results (Intended Outcomes)

- Increased access for youth in the State of Palestine to sporting activities that encourage team-building, positive role models and the development of leadership skills.
- Established youth sports leagues, with the participation of over 1,000 boys and girls in various sports. The leagues supported volunteer coaching of teams by families.
- Enhanced participation in sports by the construction of a sports facility.

Summary of Accomplishments

- Infrastructure development: The sports facility was completed. Since June 2013, over 23 organizations and over 6,600 persons have used it.
- Leadership development: Youth sports leagues (ages 5 to 17) were launched and members are playing soccer, basketball and volleyball; swimming; and participating in track and field events, with family involvement through volunteer coaching. This is promoting team and skill development, enhancing leadership qualities, promoting volunteerism and acting as a catalyst for social unity.

Challenges Encountered

- Ownership/sale issues for the land where the centre was built were addressed.
- Proposals to enlarge the scale of the sports centre that were presented after all approvals had been obtained were withdrawn.
- Soil conditions at the building site caused delays and price increases, but a slight increase in budget was approved and construction was completed.
22  ▶  STATE OF PALESTINE

Rehabilitation of the Cultural and Hospital Centre

Overview

This project rebuilt the Cultural and Hospital Centre for the Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS) in the Gaza Strip. Seeking to support the provision of health-care services to the community in Gaza, the initiative refurbished the nine-storey building, which was in a highly deteriorated state following damage suffered during armed confrontations, and rendered it operational once again. The rehabilitated hospital includes patient recovery rooms, administrative offices, a cafeteria and rooms for psychosocial support activities.

Results (Intended Outcomes)

- Improve access for the population of Gaza to health-care services, including urgent care, surgery and psychosocial treatment.
- Reduce the lack of adequate infrastructure to provide health care.

Summary of Accomplishments

- The work was completed and the building was handed over to the PRCS on 25 April 2013.
- Entry of the necessary construction materials into the Gaza Strip was once an important challenge and therefore constitutes a notable accomplishment.
- The planned operation theatre was not completed owing to budget limitations.

“I convey the President’s appreciation for the support provided by the three IBSA countries to the Palestinian people.”

H.E. Mr. Hussein Al Araj, Palestinian Authority, Chief of Staff at the Office of the President, 2011
C. COMPLETED PROJECTS

23 › VIET NAM

Establishment of a Rice Seed Production Hub in Hoa Tien

Overview

This project established a hub for the production of rice seeds that are improved and appropriate for the local conditions in Hoa Tien commune, Hoa Vang District of Da Nang City. This hub enhanced agricultural yields of local farmers, developing their livelihoods and reducing poverty and hunger among communities in the area. This initiative strengthened rice cultivation by improving farmers’ knowledge and production capacity in the fields and by enhancing the post-harvest processing methods and activities of the community. These heightened farming and agro-processing techniques resulted in higher-quality rice and value-added products for both consumption and sales. In addition, the project established a seed quality-control and certification system for the city and improved farmers’ marketing tools and sales channels.

Results (Intended Outcomes)

- 4,000 households directly benefiting from enhanced livelihoods.
- Strengthened rice-seed production, storage and quality conservation in Hoa Tien.
- A rice seed quality-control and certification system established.
- A “Seed of Hoa Tien” brand developed and marketed.
- Farmers’ livelihoods enhanced through capacity-building in farming, processing and trade.

Summary of Accomplishments

Increased agricultural productivity and quality

- Rice productivity at the project site increased to 6.63 tons per hectare, representing an increase of 0.78 ton per hectare. In addition, the cost of production materials was reduced by US$73,100 per hectare.
- 12 new rice-seed varieties were tested and two successful varieties were identified.
- A marketing strategy for the new seed varieties was developed with the support of the public and private sectors.
Improved farming practices

- 249 households were trained in seed production, irrigation, fertilization, integrated pest management, and impurity elimination and monitoring.
- 100 households were engaged in the demonstration of new techniques in rice fertilization, plant protection and water saving for 6.2 hectares of paddy land.
- Organic fertilizers were introduced and substituted for chemical fertilizers, thereby improving the environmental quality of Hoa Tien communes.

Infrastructure and equipment

- A seed-testing laboratory, based in the local Fisheries Agriculture Forestry Extension Centre, was renovated and equipped with new facilities. The lab plays an important part in the certification of seed.
- Seed driers were procured and handed over to the cooperatives.
- Seed warehouses for seed preservation were built.

Capacity-building for field inspection and laboratory operation

- Field inspection capacities of extension staff and officials of the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development in Danang improved through two hands-on training courses and fieldwork.
- Good practices and lessons learned were documented and shared.

Challenges Encountered

- In Viet Nam, the licensing process of a seed-testing lab is complex and time consuming, requiring at least three months for necessary certification including ISO verification.
- Time and budget proved limited for marketing strategy and trademark development.

Link to National Strategies and Priorities

The project follows the Government of Viet Nam Socio Economic Development Plan for 2011-2015, under the Social Economic Development Strategy for 2011-2020. It helps to implement this strategy for three key issues pointed out in Communist Party Central Executive Committee Resolution No. 26-NQ/TW and Government Resolution No. 24/2010/NQ CP: agriculture, rural areas, and farmers. In particular, it advances the Prime Minister-approved scheme for restructuring the agricultural sector towards agricultural value addition, linking the crop production subsector to large-scale production, preservation, processing and consumption while boosting the application of advanced science and technology in productivity and quality improvements.
MANAGEMENT EFFECTIVENESS
Quality Assurance Project

Overview

This project supports the development of the IBSA Fund, in particular formulation, management, monitoring, evaluation, communications and ad hoc activities. Initiatives are individually approved by the IBSA Fund Board of Directors as the need arises in support of IBSA Fund partners and project activities.

Results (Intended Outcomes)

• Support to partners on the ground in their formulation of effective IBSA projects to alleviate poverty and hunger.
• Oversight of the IBSA Fund portfolio, including project evaluations, audits, additional monitoring and cross-portfolio analysis.
• Establishment of quality standards for the Fund and support to quality enhancements at the project level.
• Promotion of South-South knowledge transfer through technical exchanges or ad hoc activities.
• Awareness-building and communication of the IBSA Fund mission and project portfolio.

Summary of Accomplishments

Project formulation

• Formulation of the IBSA project in Saint Lucia “Poverty Reduction through Livestock Development” through a Fund Manager-led multi-stakeholder formulation mission and workshop.
• Design of the IBSA project in the Lao People’s Democratic Republic “Support to Integrated Agriculture in Two Districts in Bolikhamxay”, including the undertaking of a comprehensive feasibility study comprising geo-technical, topographic, hydraulic and technical feasibility assessments as well as economic viability and environmental impact studies.
• Formulation of two IBSA projects in Guinea-Bissau: “Support for Lowland Rehabilitation and Agricultural and Livestock Processing” and “Rural Electrification through Solar Energy Systems”.

STRENGTHENING THE IBSA FUND PORTFOLIO:

• Project design;
• Monitoring;
• Evaluation;
• Communication;
• Risk management

PARTNERS

UNOSSC
IBSA Fund Project Teams

APPROVED BUDGET

Guinea-Bissau: US$298,540
Lao PDR: US$200,241
State of Palestine: US$32,100
Timor-Leste: US$33,057
Global: US$134,836

An extensive feasibility study supported the design of IBSA’s project in Lao PDR
• Formulation of the IBSA project in the State of Palestine “Rehabilitation of the Cultural and Hospital Centre”, including preparation of the detailed design work and bill of quantities.

Monitoring and oversight
• Support for cross-portfolio monitoring, oversight, reporting, evaluations and audits.
• Assignment of a United Nations Volunteer to support IBSA activities in Guinea-Bissau, in particular the implementation of agricultural development, literacy and solar energy initiatives.

Knowledge-sharing
• Three Timor-Leste officials participated in a technical exchange mission with Indian NGOs active in waste management issues to learn about their practices and methods.
• Production of discussion papers and engagements with researchers, academia and think tanks.

Awareness-building
• Advancement of the IBSA Fund vision for poverty and hunger alleviation worldwide by communicating the accomplishments of its project portfolio through exhibitions in global forums, publications, annual reports, photobooks, videos and panel discussions or events promoting the IBSA Fund, its values and activities.
• Events on the IBSA Fund have been held at United Nations New York Headquarters (annually); the Global South-South Development Expo (annually) in Washington, D.C., Geneva, Rome, Vienna and Nairobi; the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation in Nairobi; the Fourth IBSA Summit of Heads of State and Government in Brasilia; the United Nations Pavilion of the Shanghai World Expo; the United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries in Istanbul; the 69th Session of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) in Bangkok; the commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the Asia-Africa Conference in Jakarta; and several other high-level conferences in cities across the world.