



<b>1. Project Data :</b>
<b>OEDID:</b> C1983
<b>Project ID:</b> P005820
<b>Project Name:</b> Eastern Region Agricultural Development
<b>Country:</b> Yemen
<b>Sector:</b> Agriculture Adjustment
<b>L/C Number:</b> C1983
<b>Partners involved :</b> None
<b>Prepared by:</b> John English, OEDST
<b>Reviewed by:</b> Jock Anderson
<b>Group Manager:</b> Roger Slade
<b>Date Posted:</b> 06/25/1998

## **2. Project Objectives, Financing, Costs and Components :**

The project was approved in January 1989 and became effective in Sept. 1990. Its estimated cost was US\$27.9 million and its objectives were to:

1. establish an institutional framework to support agricultural development in the region;
2. provide for early use of the production potential created by the recently constructed Marib Dam; and
3. help increase agricultural productivity and farmers' incomes .

The project was restructured in 1991 because the failure of the Abu Dhabi Fund to fully finance irrigation canals reduced the scope for the planned irrigation works, and also because of the deterioration in the security situation in the region and in public finances. The revised components were:

1. strengthening recently established extension and research services;
2. developing an O&M service for the Marib dam, tertiary canals for the irrigation system, and on -farm water management demonstrations; and
3. supporting of extension activities, constructing feeder roads and establishing sand dune stabilization plantings .

The estimated cost of the restructured project was US\$ 21.2 million

## **3. Achievement of Relevant Objectives :**

1. Extension and research facilities were completed and programs launched;
2. An O&M service was established and proved effective in minimizing damage from major floods in 1996; and 75% of the revised target of distribution canals to serve 1,750 ha were completed; and
3. Yields and cropping intensities were increased in the region, leading to an estimated increase of about 25% in production and 12% in farm incomes.

Total expenditure was US\$18.4 million.

## **4. Significant Achievements :**

The project area is east of Sana'a and on the eastern slopes of the Asir Mountain chain and is home to a number of traditional tribal groups. This is a border region in which government activity had been limited and in which security is still tenuous. In a broader sense, although the project had to be scaled back, it has still played a significant role in the process of integrating this region more closely into the larger Yemeni economy and society and engaging local tribesmen in activities supported by government which are mutually beneficial . The estimated ERR of the program as completed was 13%

## **5. Significant Shortcomings :**

The extent of the cut-backs in project scope which were the result of the fall -out of the Gulf War could not have been foreseen. The principal design shortcoming of the project as designed was that it underestimated the difficulty of tackling development in this type of region . For example, an effort to develop on-farm demonstrations of water management had to be dropped because farmers would not cooperate . They were concerned that their farms might be visited by other groups with whom they might be in conflict .

6. Ratings :	ICR	OED Review	Reason for Disagreement /Comments
<b>Outcome :</b>	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	
<b>Institutional Dev .:</b>	Substantial	Substantial	
<b>Sustainability :</b>	Uncertain	Uncertain	
<b>Bank Performance :</b>	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	
<b>Borrower Perf .:</b>	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	
<b>Quality of ICR :</b>		Satisfactory	

**7. Lessons of Broad Applicability :**

None

**8. Audit Recommended?** ☐ Yes ☒ No

**9. Comments on Quality of ICR :**

The ICR is satisfactory. Since the project was restructured and the outcome is assessed against the amended project agreement, it would have been helpful if the revised cost of the restructured project could have been given in the cost table as well as the appraised and actual costs .