Concept Note
Quick Impact Projects
Yemen Context
2009

"Helping communities to help themselves"

Rationale:
Since the eruption of the conflict in Sa'ada which extended to other governorates, it is reported that over 342,000 persons are now displaced following the recent round in of conflict August 2009 which is referred to as the 'sixth war'.

Many displaced persons are living in camps, spontaneous settlement and within host communities of Sa'ada, Hajjah, Amran, Al Jawf and Sanaa Governorates. It is estimated that only 20% of the population reside in camps while the remaining 80% continues to face some difficulties in accommodation mainly in Amran Governorate coupled with the high economic hardship. Following the ceasefire in February 2010, it is estimated that 30% of the displaced population has returned in order to begin rebuilding their lives.

As a means to improve displacement communities and support the recovery programme in conflict-affected areas, small-scale projects referred to as QIPs will be supported to create peaceful co-existence between IDPs and host communities in coordination or consultation with host communities, IDPs and local authorities according to priorities; and create rapid conditions for durable solutions towards return/recovery.

- Cost of projects must not exceed US $50,000 and should be implemented within six months with positive impact
- Projects should be community-based to benefit the community
- Project should be within recovery plan within displacement-affected communities
- Projects should mainstream gender considering the needs of men, women, boys and girls
- Highly populated IDPs or return locations should be prioritized for QIPs
- Projects should also consider the needs of persons with specific needs including marginalized groups
- Projects should address environmental concerns and acceptable cultural practices
- Maximum participation of different communities groups in identification, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of projects
- Encourage community participation and contribution (material contribution, Land and workforce to be converted to monetary value)
- Encourage joint interventions and support from other agencies. Project can be complemented with other component in coordination with government, UN and other humanitarian agencies

Example:
UNHCR rehabilitates a school, MoE provides and pay for teachers, UNICEF provides furniture and books, while WFP provide school feeding, SC provide recreational materials/supports child-friendly spaces.

Benefits:
- Community decides on the project
- Creates ownership for community
- Community feels accountable
- Builds peaceful co-existence amongst communities
- Creates temporary employment for community members
- Builds capacity
- Improves living conditions
- Generates income through local purchase

Examples of QIPs:
- Rehabilitation of water points, schools, markets,
- Support to vocational/life-skill training institutions
- Support to farming activities
- Rehabilitation of sport areas with equipments/recreation center
- Cleaning up campaign (removal of rubble/cabbage collection)
- Small business initiative

Process in the identification of QIPs
- Create awareness on the concept of QIPs
- Meeting with local/community leaders/local Shierks
- Focus group discussions at community level
- Discussion with partners
- Community select a five person team as Project Management Committee (PMC) to be involved with the implementation of the project, For example, Chairperson, Vice chairperson, secretary, two members from cross section of the community (women, men, youth, elderly)
- Preparation of proposal by community and partner including community's contribution
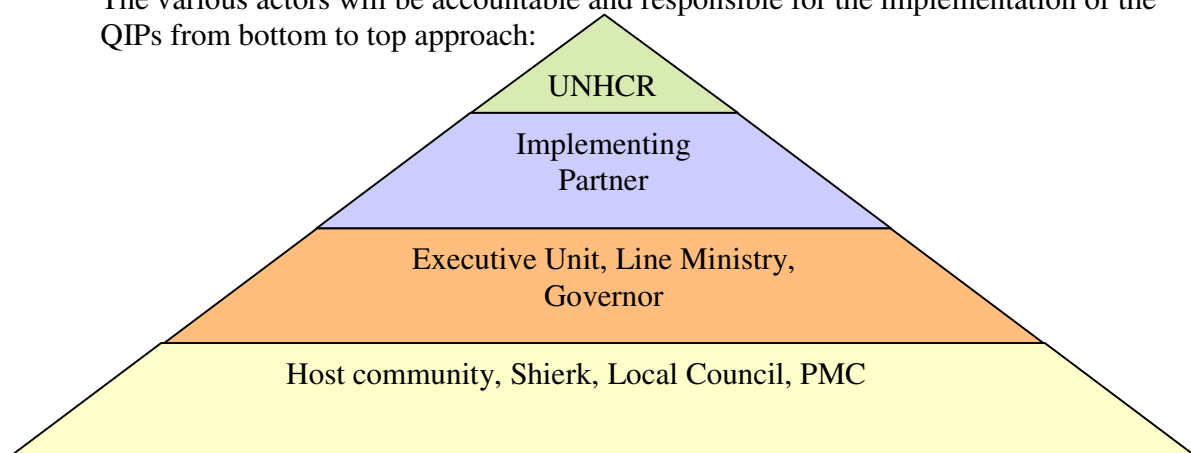- Submission to UNHCR for approval

Implementation of QIPs:
- Carryout activities according to project description and plan
- Regular monitoring jointly with PMC
- Evaluation of the project to ascertain the impact
- Community receives certificate of completion at the end of the project to serve as a motivation and create awareness for other communities to follow

Challenges:
- Security
- Funding
- Land

The Accountability Framework for QIPs

The various actors will be accountable and responsible for the implementation of the QIPs from bottom to top approach:

UNHCR

Implementing Partner

Executive Unit, Line Ministry, Governor

Host community, Shierk, Local Council, PMC

Local Council:
- Ensure full participation of community through out implementation process (identification, prioritisation, designing, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation)
- Establish Project Management Committee (PMC)- (Chairperson, Co-chair, secretary, treasurer, Advisor)
- Complete project application procedures (QIP Form)
- Agree upon representation and approval of the project
- Provide storage and security for project materials (if any)
- Encourage volunteerism and community participation
- Monitor project implementation in collaboration with PMC, IP, EU and UNHCR
- Community (representation of various groups in the community-gender balance) identify project

PMC:
- Ensure full participation of community through out implementation process (identification, prioritisation, designing, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation)
- Monitor project implementation in collaboration with LC, IP, EU and UNHCR
- Complete project application procedures (QIP Form)
- Provide storage and security for project materials (if any)
- Encourage volunteerism and community participation
- Community (representation of various groups in the community-gender balance) identify project

Implementing Partner:
- Help communities identify, prioritize project and facilitate the project design and submit to UNHCR approval
- Ensure technical capacity to help community verify plans, fill project submissions, etc.
- Once the project is approved, supply resources (procure and deliver materials) and assist community to implement project
- Inform communities of actual value of projects, and provide regular update on all expenditure on projects to communities and UNHCR
- Ensure full accountability to communities (and UNHCR) of the use of project funds
- Assist community to monitor and evaluate project, providing training where funds
- Create workplan (weekly, bi-weekly, monthly) and report updates on progress of all projects on a weekly and monthly basis and a final comprehensive upon completion
- Participate in periodic reviews of the programme

Executive Unit
- Participate in the project approval process
- Ensure that land (if necessary) provided by the community is documented according to legal standards to avoid future problems
- Ensure the participation and approval of lines ministries
- Coordinate the activities of agencies working with particular communities to avoid duplication

- Participate in the verification and monitoring of project outcomes
- Participate in community needs assessment
- Participate in informing, mobilizing and sensitization within the communities

UNHCR:
- Approve expenditure on each QIP at US$50,000.00 or less following verification by ensuring the standards
- Hold regular review interagency meetings with stakeholders
- Regularly monitor and evaluate projects
- Participate in mobilizing and sensitization within the communities

Line Ministry:
- Participate in project approval
- Provide technical support to appraisal projects in line with national policy
- Participate in project Monitoring and evaluation

Quick Impact Project Proposal Form

Name of Governorate:_____ District_____

Community_____ GPS location_____

Project Title_____ Project Number_____

Project Duration: _____ Starting date_____ Ending date_____

Total Cost $_____ Total beneficiaries:_____

Justification: (**W**hy do you need this project)

Objectives (What does the project hope to achieve)

Beneficiaries (Who will benefit)

Categories of benef	Boys	Girls	Men	Women
Host community				
IDPs				
Returnees				
Total				

Boys/girls below the age of 18 yrs

Activities/Strategies: (**H**ow will the project be implemented)

Sustainability: (**H**ow will the project be sustained)

Items and cost:

Description of Items	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost in YER	Total Cost in YER	Community/UNHCR/Other Contribution

Project Work-plan:

Activities	Dates	Responsibilities	Remarks

Community representative:_____
                                   Name   Signature   Date

Executive Unit:_____
                          Name   Signature   Date

IP (_____)_____
                          Name   Signature   Date

UNHCR (Approval)_____
                          Name   Signature   Date