


Fund for Gender Equality

GENERAL PROGRAMME INFORMATION				
Project Information				Morocco
Project Name	The Strengthening of Women's Role in Local Governance through Community Development Plans			Programme Type: Catalytic
Lead Org	Agence du Sud			Grant ID: 2541
Co-lead Org				
Thematic Area(s)	Political Empowerment			
Thematic Sub Area(s)	Gender-sensitive response to a sectoral policy (Local Development Plans) and Improve women's economic conditions			
Grant Amount	\$460,000	Grant Start Date	December 18, 2009	
Additional Gov't Funding		Grant End Date	December 31, 2011	
Total Budget	\$460,000			

Partner Agencies	
Government	Direction Générale des Collectivités Locales; Wilaya de Guelmim- Es-Semara; The governments of the three provinces of Tata, Geulmim et Assa Zag (covering 13 villages)
Civil Society	UNDP

Programme Summary
The primary objective of this programme is to support 13 rural and urban communities in the Guelmim-Es Smara region in drafting gender-sensitive Community Development Plans which include specific provisions for the socio-economic empowerment of women and in improving the role and status of women in community planning.

DETAILED PROGRAMME INFORMATION				
Contribution to Law(s)				
Name of Law	Law Type	Year Implemented	Type of Contribution	Expected Level of Contribution (High or Low)
Communal Development Plans	Plan	2009	Gender Mainstreaming	High

General Programme Goal
By 2012, women in oasis communities in Morocco are better able to understand and exercise their economic and political rights as articulated in Community Development Plans.

Expected Programme Outcomes
Outcome 1: Mobilization and monitoring to promote the integration of oasis women in the management of local and regional affairs. Outcome 2: The capacities of oasis women in the management of community affairs are encouraged and strengthened. Outcome 3: The development of income generating activities and women's economic empowerment. Outcome 4: Ensures programme monitoring, evaluation and communication.

Main Achievements
<p>To date, the programme has made the strongest advances with respect to its third outcome. Relevant national and local authorities helped launch the programme during the first months of implementation. In addition, the programme undertook a baseline study with women's cooperatives in oasis communities to identify their key priorities and needs, and ensure that overall programme activities were aligned with the findings.</p> <p>Subsequently, the programme has focused primarily on service to women in the oasis communities in Morocco, and particularly by ensuring their participation in income-generating activities as a means of securing a basic level of economic autonomy. This in turn, has been identified as a critical stepping stone for facilitating women's participation in political decision-making at household and local community levels. In addition, the programme has successfully begun training initiatives to elicit the interest in, awareness of and buy-in to initiatives identified in the Community Development Plans. To date, the programme has focused on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops to encourage information exchange and networking at the regional level among women politicians and raise their awareness of the newly-established Gender Equality programme in the Guelim-Tata region.

- Development of a training plan on the legislative, institutional and organizational aspects of governance and the management of local affairs.
- Implementation of training sessions on Community Development Plans for community development committees.
- Supporting strategic income-generating activities, as identified by Community Development Plans (i.e. funding childcare facilities; reading facilities; purchase of cattle, purchase of equipment for a women’s shelter; creation of a self-sustaining funding mechanism; equipment for a multi-media room; purchase of a communal oven and establishment a couscous manufacturing location).

Key Highlights

--