

Vitens-Evides International is providing technical assistance for a local water company in Yemen through a public-private partnership. Besides Vitens Evides the partners are the Ta'iz Water and Sanitation Local Corporation (TWSLC) and the Netherlands' Ministry of Development Cooperation. Vitens-Evides has developed a utility support programme that is consistent with the National Water Sector Strategy and Investment Programme of the Republic of Yemen. This programme covers the years from 2005 to 2009.

TWSLC suffers water losses of some 40% which are unaccounted for. Insufficient drinking water is available in Ta'iz. Depending on the season, TWSLC can sometimes only supply drinking water once every three weeks per district.

International cooperation



Yemen

Project description

The assistance provided by Vitens-Evides consists of:

- improved management of drinking water supply and sanitation services;
- reduction in non-revenue water;
- development of a maintenance programme;
- staff training and capacity building;
- improved customer service, billing and collection;
- support for the implementation of the investment programmes.

Additional water sources will also be sought in order to meet growing demand for drinking water. Vitens-Evides will provide a project manager for the duration of the project, and various other experts will provide support through short-term assignments.

Objective and envisaged result

The objective of the project is to gradually improve the operations of TWSLC and service to customers. TWSLC must become a sustainable and self-supporting drinking water company. In due course, TWSLC must also improve its performance against the national benchmark of the Ministry of Water and Environment.

Population

The project will benefit the town of Ta'iz, which has a population of approximately 800,000 inhabitants.

Financing

- Ta'iz Water and Sanitation Local Corporation (TWSLC).
- The Netherlands' Ministry of Development Cooperation.
- Vitens-Evides International.



Type of contract

Public-private partnership based on a performance contract.

Contract value

€ 1.65 million. The Netherlands' Ministry of Development Cooperation will contribute € 500,000 over a period of three years. The Ministry is providing a further € 450,000 for procurement of equipment. Vitens-Evides will invest € 500,000 in the form of man-hours. The Ministry of Water and Environment of the Republic of Yemen has allocated € 200,000 for equipment and additional personnel.

Contract period

2006 – 2009.

Vitens-Evides International

Vitens-Evides International is the international joint venture of the two largest water companies in the Netherlands: Vitens and Evides. Its focus is on projects for urban water supplies. The aim is to improve day-to-day operations within local water companies by serving as a manager, operator and consultant. Vitens-Evides International is active in countries such as Mozambique, Yemen, Mongolia, Vietnam and Ghana.

Available funds

Vitens and Evides make € 2 million available for international projects each year. This internal budget is leveraged by contracting public-private partnerships and deploying the financing opportunities of the various parties, such as the Netherlands' Ministry of Development Cooperation and Economic Affairs, the World Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the Asian Development Bank. Vitens and Evides have also formed the independent foundation 'Water for Life', which enables clients to contribute to international water projects via their water bills.

Millennium Development Goals

The Dutch government actively supports the UN target to halve the number of people without safe drinking water and sanitary facilities (1.0 billion and 2.5 billion people respectively) by 2015. In this context Vitens and Evides are doing all they can to share their expertise and experience in the operation and maintenance of water supply and sewerage with water companies in developing countries. Through the international alliance, Vitens and Evides are involved in providing safe drinking water to over 20 million people in parts of the world where reliable water services are not readily available.

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