

However, during 2006 the security situation in Wadi Salih has continued to deteriorate, further disrupting livelihood and coping systems of families, resulting in increased poverty, disease and hardship. Humanitarian access has decreased in the second half of 2006. Various security incidences involving local NGOs, including the serious incident involving the death of a Tearfund staff member, has limited movement and operational freedom due to the need apply heightened security measures. IDPs continue to congregate in the larger towns near to their areas of origin, putting an increasing strain on basic services and local resources. The hoped for large scale return of IDPs back to their home villages in Wadi Salih in the coming months is now unlikely.

Methodology

Purpose of the evaluation

The complete terms of reference can be found in Appendix 1

The main purpose:

The main purpose of the evaluation is to assess the appropriateness, relevance and impact of both planned and unplanned project interventions and produce recommendations for future operations.

(The evaluation will concentrate on the project covering the period January – December 2006.)

Specific purpose

To have an independent, structured evaluation of the planned and unplanned impact of the Tearfund feeding, health promotion and water and sanitation interventions

In addressing this purpose the evaluation will assess the project's effectiveness, impact, appropriateness, efficiency, coverage, sustainability and co-ordination.

Method

The team of three evaluators each focused on their specific sectors working independently. The impressions and findings were then compared and a consensus reached were issues cut across sectors.

Although the process applied was not strictly a 'participative' one, the findings are informed by both beneficiary and staff inputs. In the case of each sector the responsible sector manager was involved in the data gathering processes and discussions on the achievements of the programme.

One of the team was a woman which permitted a degree of gender sensitivity in the interviews.

The main methods applied were:

- Key informant interviews:
 - Community leaders (beneficiaries)
 - Government and relevant local agency and donor representatives
 - Staff directly involved in the different sector interventions, i.e. nutrition, health education and watsan.
 - Tearfund and project management
- Group discussions, including SWOT and PRA ranking exercises:

- These focused on beneficiaries (male and female groups separately) and staff (SWOT). These interviews followed a loose structure but were deliberately kept relatively open and exploratory.
- Observation:
 - This involved site visits, transect walks and visits to households within communities chosen at random. The aim was to visit at least two areas where each sector activity had been applied.
- Project documentation and secondary supporting data:
 - For example watsan baseline, nutritional and KAP surveys

The general findings were discussed with the team on site before leaving the field and adjustments were made in response to their observations.

Although it was not possible to randomly select a sample of the communities in which Tearfund is working, it did prove possible to visit four sites: Fugo North and South, Dar-es-Salaam, Amar Jidid and sites within Garsila town and the Garsila IDP camps. Dara-es-Salaam is a nomad community. In each of these sites interventions were observed, and discussions held with groups of beneficiaries, male and female, community leaders and some members of the Village Development Committees (VDCs). Government and INGO representatives were also interviewed in Garsila.

Presentation

The reporting has followed closely the objectives and indicators set in the project proposal's log frame, particularly in the assessment of 'effectiveness' (Appendix 2).

The findings have been presented by sector. With regard to each sector the issues of effectiveness, impact, appropriateness, efficiency, coverage, sustainability and co-ordination have been addressed. For each issue a score on a scale of 1 to 5 has been given where 1 = very weak and 5 = very strong.

A summary of the overall findings is presented at the end and in the executive summary.

The main recommendations have been listed separately. However, various specific recommendations are imbedded in the text following the discussion of the aspect they refer to. These recommendations are identified by underlined and italicized text.

Findings

Community Development

Effectiveness (3/5)

Outcome objective and indicator:

- Increased capacity of 15 targeted communities to manage and sustain social structures
 - 100% of communities have an active village committee to manage water, health and development issues by November 2006

The main method of achieving this objective was to form and train Village Development Committees in each of the 15 communities Tearfund intended to work. The VDCs were initiated to encourage eventual community ownership of the different development initiatives, thus helping ensure longer term sustainability of the development achievements and provide Tearfund with the basis for an exit strategy.

In all during 2006 18 VDCs were established and trained. These involved 203 people of which 43 were women.