



Enhanced Rural Resilience in Yemen (ERRY)

About ERRY

The Enhanced Rural Resilience in Yemen (ERRY) Program works to improve the resilience of communities to better cope with economic shocks. With funding from UNDP and WFP, CARE provided work and trainings to rural people to develop their skills and deliver short-term income. CARE also worked with many of those same people to help them establish their own small businesses, with a particular focus on the promotion of solar power. Ultimately, the program led to greater social cohesion within communities, who were better able to manage the economic fallout of future crises.

Program Name:

Enhanced Rural Resilience in Yemen (ERRY)

Program Country: Yemen

Timeframe:

May 2017 – February 2019

Through the ERRY program, CARE supported 1,760 people, residing in conflict affected areas of Tuban and Habil Jabar Districts of Lahj Governorate. 1,200 people were provided short-term employment to work on local projects to benefit their own communities in an approach known as “cash for work” (CFW). We focused on the most vulnerable people, such as women, the unemployed, youth, the Muhamasheen (a minority, socially segregated group, considered to be at the very bottom of the supposedly abolished caste ladder), internally displaced persons (IDPs), and economically stressed host communities.

CARE provided materials, equipment, training, and tools for the completion small-scale CFW projects. These included manual tasks like removal of bushes, minor rehabilitation of rural roads, and minor rehabilitation of school furniture. Following trainings CARE provided on livestock husbandry and management of crop pests, women were tasked with educating farmers on management of agricultural and livestock pests and ways to improve agricultural production.

450 of these people were selected to receive special training in life skills and finance literacy and small grants to establish businesses and 424 small businesses were established (either by individuals or jointly by working together and combining the grants). Following a market assessment into needs and availability of solar power products and services, CARE selected an additional 110 people to establish businesses and create a value chain focused on providing solar power. 25 solar power enterprises were established with CARE’s support, thus providing communities greater access to solar power equipment and helping communities build linkages and network with the private sector for decentralized, market-oriented solar services.

As a result of the ERRY program, targeted households have been able to diversify their incomes and their communities have benefited from an expansion of livelihood opportunities as well as improved markets. In addition to the positive impacts towards mitigating climate change, the role of solar energy in stabilizing access to health services and reducing the prospects of hunger and famine is an important input in the development and humanitarian responses in Yemen.