



Annual Report 2008

Vision Hope International


vision hope
international

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Dear readers,

"The financial crisis – for once a news headline that will not affect the Yemeni people immediately on the household level." This was the comment of our CEO Matthias Leibbrand, who is living with his family in Yemen. How could the banking crisis reach them? **The poorest of poor have nothing to loose** - No house, no loans to pay off, no wealth, no money in the bank that they could loose. Therefore most of them are not concerned about the global financial crisis.

THE REAL CRISIS FOR THE POOREST OF POOR IS NOT THE FINANCIAL CRISIS.

Of course we are all aware that this crisis will ultimately affect every country on this globe and even the poorest of poor will be affected indirectly. But the poor have more pressing problems to face in the meantime: how to survive with the little water that is available to them and how to find a way out of the prison of poverty through education.

Water and education are the main focus of our NGO "Vision Hope International" In fact, in most of our projects, water and education are inseparably connected.

WATER AND EDUCATION ARE INTERDEPENDENT

The lack of water in proximity to most mountain villages causes girls and women to hike to the valleys for up to four hours to fetch water and carry the 20 litre canisters on their heads back up to the villages. This is why we at Vision Hope International place an emphasis on the construction and rehabilitation of cisterns: we want girls and the women to have less hard work to do and to have more time for education. Over the long run we hope that this will lead to a sustainable flow of both water and education in these villages!

In our project reports you can discover how we partner with local communities to make this approach practical. You will also find information about our **involvement in social projects** like the prison and orphanage. Here, too, it is our main goal to help people learn to take responsibility for their lives and develop a vision for a dignified future.

And now we want to inform you about another great stepping stone for Vision-Hope International: we have received a **grant from the European Commission** and will now be able to implement a large new project beginning in January 2009!

Thank you very much for both your interest and your support – in spite of the financial crisis.

As we care for the needs of others and invest in the future of those who lives can be changed dramatically through small donations, we gain a different perspective on life and are better able to cope with our own problems, big or small.

SHARED RESOURCES RESULTS IN DOUBLE JOY!



In the name of the board of Vision Hope International and our CEO we want to thank you again very much!

Yours Alexander Mutschler,
Chairman of the board

About us

Vision Hope International was founded 2002 in Lahr/Black Forest with the goal of giving people in developing countries a vision for a better life. The starting point was personal contact with experienced development workers Matthias and Gertrud Leibbrand. We currently support projects in Yemen, one of the least developed countries worldwide.

The Vision Hope International NGO is registered with the city courts of Kenzingen/Germany (VR 382) and is accredited by the fiscal authorities in Emmendingen/Germany as a non-profit and charitable organization (Tax number 05070/50969).

Vision Hope currently has 41 full members, five of whom constitute the board. The board of directors is elected by the members' assembly and works voluntarily. The board manages and represents the charity; it also appoints, controls, and discharges the chief executive manager. Our CEO lives and works alongside two other members of Vision Hope International in Yemen. In order to save overhead costs, we do not currently maintain an office in Germany.

CONSORTIUM WITH WW.INNOVAID.CH

Vision Hope International is also registered with the Yemeni government as a development agency. Together with the Swiss NGO Innovoid (<http://www.innoid.ch/>) we have a country office in the capital of Sanaa and a project office in Hajja.

COOPERATION WITH YEMENI NGOs

We implement projects in cooperation with local NGOs such as Jamaiyya Mustaqbal, Jamaiyya Nahda, Jamaiyya Tadhamon and the Jamaiyya Al Kureibi.

Statutes in brief

§2 Purpose of the association

(1) The purpose of the association is: the **advancement of development aid** and the **support of people in need** in developing countries.

The association pursues its non-profit purposes in accordance with the German General Tax Code, especially through the advancement of development aid, public health care, training and education, youth assistance and environmental protection. The association pursues its charitable purposes by assisting people in acute distress and the support of persons who are dependant on the assistance of others due to their physical, mental or inner condition.

The purpose of these statutes is reached through:

- **Informing the public** and advancing activities that build awareness of the problems of developing countries. For this purpose the association can produce, acquire and distribute media of all kinds (books, CD's, audio, video etc.).
- Carrying out initiatives and **projects with a non-profit and charitable purpose** (for example in the areas of healthcare, social work with children, youth and adults, people with special needs, measures for improvement of living conditions and infrastructure, acquisition of aid supplies and its transport).
- Providing help in natural disasters, famine, crop failure etc.
- **Assisting self-help projects** and the advancement of self-initiatives (for example in the area of income generation)
- Implementing the rights of children as documented in the relevant **UN-convention**.
- Acting as a mediator for child and project sponsorships.
- Advancing measures for the **protection of the environment** through consulting the population and through project development (for example reforestation, measures against soil-erosion, biotope and species protection, waste management, development and utilization of alternative energy sources).
- Promoting a **sustainable supply of drinking water** and an environmentally friendly waste water disposal.
- Construction of **sanitary facilities**, accompanied by counseling in hygiene.
- **Teaching projects** for the transfer of knowledge and skills for specific trades (e.g. for Prisoners and Orphans)
- Measures which make it possible for women, in particular, to participate in the national, guaranteed **school education system**.
- **Occupational education** (e.g. Computer courses, training courses for tradesmen, etc.) which improve the income of the native people.
- **Further training to assist teachers** to improve the quality of teaching.
- Courses to instruct the basics of **preventative health care** and hygiene.
- **Training of health personnel**, e.g. Basic health workers and medical birth assistants.



Introduction of board

Alexander Mutschler *Chairman*
Dentist, Herbolzheim

Responsibilities:

- Overall coordination
- Public relationships
- Donors and members support

Alexander.Mutschler@vision-hope.org



Gerald Mall *Deputy Chairman*
Therapist, Mannheim

Responsibilities:

- Private donor relations
- Distribution of newsletter

Gerald.Mall@vision-hope.org



Angelika Linsin *Board Secretary*
Teacher, Schoeneck

Responsibilities:

- Public Relations
- Newsletter (editorial),
- Annual Reports

Angelika.Linsin@vision-hope.org



Dr. Jan Linsin *Treasurer*

Head of department in real estate market research, Schoeneck

Responsibilities:

- Financial Administration
- Fundraising
- Project proposals

Jan.Linsin@vision-hope.org



Jürgen Schmidtke *Board Member*
Engineer in water management, Koenigsbach

Responsibilities:

- Project Monitoring
- Assistance in water management issues

Juergen.Schmidtke@vision-hope.org



Matthias Leibbrand *Chief Executive Officer*
Consultant in development cooperation, Hajja/Yemen

Responsibilities:

- Overall management
- Project development
- Fundraising,
- Webpage
- Annual Reports

Matthias.Leibbrand@vision-hope.org



Introduction of staff

Berno Heitmann *VHI country representative Yemen, Lawyer, Hajja/Yemen*

Responsibilities:

- Representation of Vision Hope in Yemen
- Project contracts with the government in Yemen
- Social projects in prisons and the orphanage
- Support of administrative affairs and ensuring legal procedures in the project and office works of Vision Hope in Yemen

Berno.Heitmann@vision-hope.org



Stephan Krämer *VHI project director*
Civil Engineer for traffic, water and environment; Hajja/Yemen

Responsibilities:

- Water issues
- Project Management
- Network-administration office Hajja
- Graphic design

Stephan.Kraemer@vision-hope.org



Vision Hope Germany 2008

Our vision is to give the people of Yemen a hopeful vision of a dignified future. The task of our CEO and board is implementing this vision through sustainable projects by our staff on the ground in Yemen. We aim to constantly improve the professionalism of our work so that we become better recognized by the general public and in order to create an awareness for the people who so urgently need our help.

*BEHIND THE SCENES, THE BOARD AND CEO WORK
HARD IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT THE NEEDY PEOPLE
CAN GAIN A NEW PERSPECTIVE ON LIFE.*

Between August 2007 and February 2008, Marian Winter was engaged in a part-time position as our CEO. She gave input on our work and produced our first newsletter.

She was replaced by **Matthias Leibbrand**, who was selected for the position of the **volunteer CEO** in July 2008. He lives with his family in Yemen and is right at the centre of the action. Due to the help of modern communication he can manage the NGO even from this great distance. As a board we are in constant contact with our CEO and our staff in Yemen, mostly via the internet. Therefore an in-person meeting with all staff in July 2008 in Nonnenweier/Baden in Germany was a real highlight. We had the opportunity to spend a fruitful weekend together sharing, planning, and fine tuning,

In September 2008, **Stephan Sedlmayer** became our first intern in Yemen. Stephan is 24 years old and finished his studies as a civil engineering specialising in water management. He will stay until March 2009 in Yemen. He was able to assist our team very practically and gain valuable insight into development projects. We thank him for his involvement.

In 2008 we also completely redesigned our webpage (www.vision-hope.org) in order to present our work more visibly. Many thanks to our CEO Matthias Leibbrand for the hours he spent on this effort together with Janko Media Design. In order to improve our donor accounting system and to have a more professional overview on our finances, we fully switched our accounting to the professional accounting software Optigem.

We are fully aware that as a small NGO which is voluntarily organized in Germany, we have limited time-inputs and can learn a lot from the large development organizations. We are quickly becoming a highly efficient organization and due to our dynamic growth, we will not be able to continue working mostly voluntarily in the near future.

*YOUR DONATION HAS A BIG IMPACT- THE MAJORITY
OF FUNDS ARE DIRECTLY INVESTED IN THE PEOPLE
OF YEMEN!*

The advantage of the current approach is obvious - we can manage the operation of our organization while keeping our administrative costs below 10%. The majority of each donation is invested directly in cement and power drills for cistern construction, plants for agriculture, teacher training projects, etc.

Core values

Dignity of man

Each person is unique and thus possesses an irrepressible dignity. Therefore, we desire to support people in developing countries by imparting a hopeful vision for a dignified life.

Responsibility and justice

In a world full of contradictions, exploitation, and social injustice, we want to take responsibility for our fellow human beings and contribute to the implementation of Christian social justice. We serve all people regardless of their religion, race or gender.

Sustainable development

We work on a high technical, social, ecological and ethical standard, in order to transform the situation of the people holistically and sustainably.

Help for self-support

Our projects help poor and needy people actively change their life circumstances through their own efforts. Every village community or national NGO is integrated in project decisions and has a voice throughout the entire project cycle.

Cooperation

We partner closely with local, national and international organizations and with local authorities and governments to ensure that project goals are reached effectively.

Quality, Transparency and continuous development

We follow internationally accepted best practices in development cooperation.

We commit ourselves to transparency and accountability towards our partner organizations and donors.

We are a learning organization, continually striving to increase our effectiveness and efficiency.

Standards for our work

Our work is outlined in project documents which define our objectives and structure. Projects are generally completed in three years. The starting situation is documented in a baseline-survey in order to facilitate an impact assessment of our projects.

Only through this process can the success of our projects be measured. The evaluation of projects is important for us. We want to learn from our projects so that the next project we implement will be even more effective.

THERE IS NO OPERATION WITHOUT COOPERATION WITH OUR PARTNERS

Cooperation with local people, organizations and government offices is very important for us.

Local partners are involved as much as possible in all project phases (planning, implementation and evaluation), even if this means that we lose parts of our sovereignty in order to strengthen our local partner. In practical terms this is sometimes not easy and we strive to keep the right balance.

Project management

The professional implementation of institutional funded projects follows the following project cycle:

1. Development of a poverty reduction strategy in the partnering country.
2. Project planning with the national partner organizations on the basis of the requirements of the donors.
3. Formal project request
4. Financing agreement or further fundraising
5. Project contracts with the national authorities
6. Site selection through using well-defined criteria using Participation Learning and Action Tools
7. Baseline survey
8. Project implementation and monitoring
9. Final project report including financial report
10. Project evaluation
11. Impact assessment

Auditing

Transparency

Are the donations spent in the development countries efficiently and according to the project targets?

Are budgets followed closely?

Is the reporting precise and transparent?

Which measures are necessary to evaluate projects?

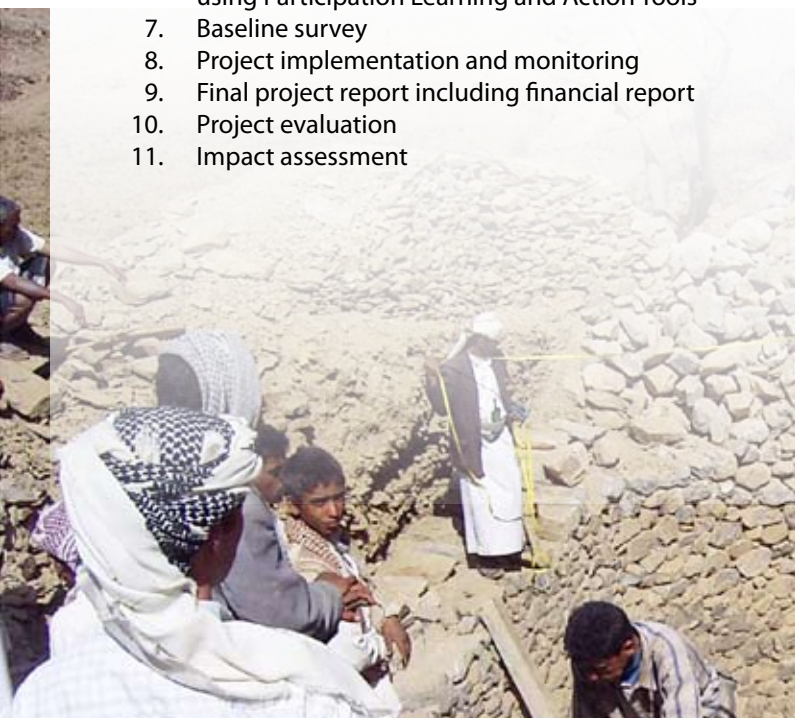
The country office and our CEO constantly deal with these and many other financial questions. Proper accounting is often a task which our partner organizations find overwhelming. Therefore the accounting is done by us on the project level or the country office level according to the guidelines of the donors. The local partner organizations receive advance payments and are required to account for them before they receive additional funds.

Evaluation

Our financial reports are audited on the basis of the project budgets agreed on at the start of the project and the implemented project activities. All receipts and accounting are checked by the country office, the CEO and the treasurer of the board.

Internal and External Auditing

According to our bylaws, our accounting has to be checked by two competent internal auditors appointed by the board. In addition to this internal audit, beginning with the current financial report 2008 the accounting will be also checked by an independent external auditing company.



Projects Development Cooperation

Water projects

Yemen – a few notes on the initial situation in our project areas.

Yemen faces an extreme water shortage and is among the countries with the least water resources on earth. There are no rivers flowing across the country and there are no forested mountains as water reservoirs. For every citizen there are only 125 cubic meters of renewable water resources available per year in comparison to an average of 7,500 cubic meters worldwide. Each year in Yemen, one and a half times more water is consumed than is naturally recharged.

EVERY YEAR ALMOST ONE AND A HALF TIMES MORE WATER IS CONSUMED THAN THE NATURAL RECHARGE INTO WATER AQUIFERS.

In most of the country, groundwater resources are used for irrigation of agricultural areas. The groundwater tables are falling dramatically and the country will soon run dry. Rainwater can be collected in cisterns, but many of these are several hundred years old and in such poor condition that they have not held water for many years. They are in need of rehabilitation.

In addition, cisterns are often located far away from the villages, so that women and girls have to carry 20 liter water jugs for hours to the top of the mountain ranges. This has negative impact on health and hinders development opportunities for women. There is less time for literacy or basic health classes, and many girls cannot attend school.

Therefore the construction of new cisterns close to the villages is a prerequisite for the sustainable improvement of the health and social situation of the people, and especially the women.



Rehabilitated cistern – 1,500 hours were invested in-kind by the village community.

WE OPEN UP WATER AND EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES.

This impact of water cistern repair can be seen in the villages where projects have been completed. One example is the rural area of Hirba, in which the local NGO Jama'iyya Mustaqbal is engaged in cistern projects. The number of girls attending school has increased from 2 to 20 after the cisterns were rehabilitated successfully. The families are in general willing to send their girls to the school if their work load is reduced and they have more available time.



"Cistern construction and rehabilitation I"

Beneficiaries:	5000 people
Project duration:	01.05.2007 – 14.04.2008
Project partner:	Jamaiyya Mustaqbal
Project location:	Hajja Governorate, Mabijan Distrikt
Project amount:	60.894 EUR (Including in-kind contributions of beneficiaries without administrative costs in Germany) Project funding was transferred to Yemen in 2007
Main sponsor:	Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany
Project director:	Engineer Stephan Krämer

The project was presented in detail in the Annual Report 2007. The following paragraphs focus on the impacts of the project.

Project objective

The project objective was the improvement of the economic and social situation of the rural beneficiaries, especially the women and girls, in at least 17 village communities of the Mabijan district of Hajja.

This objective was to be achieved through the rehabilitation of rainwater collection cisterns and the planting of coffee and mango trees as an income generating measure for the poor farmers in the project area.

WOMEN AND GIRLS BENEFIT FROM THE CONSTRUCTION OF A CISTERN.

Project evaluation/Impact assessment

All project activities were implemented successfully. Through additional cisterns, more than 17 rural communities were reached through the project.

The farmers contributed the construction work and the transportation of the coffee and mango trees from the nursery to the fields. Women and girls benefit from the project because their daily workload in carrying water from far away springs was significantly reduced, freeing up time for them to attend school and participate in literacy programs..

Sustainable development of the villages was achieved through the improvement of the economic situation of small farmers and better education opportunities for the women. .

Cisterns

The 13 cisterns selected for rehabilitation were in such poor condition that they could only hold rainwater for several weeks. Due to the high population growth and the resulting need for additional new cisterns, the project planning also included the construction of 11 new cisterns. During

the implementation of the project 12 new cisterns were built and the **storage capacity** for rainwater was dramatically increased. Water loss due to leakage was reduced in the repaired cisterns, and while loss to evaporation was reduced in the covered cisterns.

The total storage capacity of the new and repaired cisterns amounts to approximately 4,396 cubic meters of water which can now be utilized by people of the mountainous villages. This actual capacity far surpassed the 3,615 cubic meters which were planned in the original project proposal.

Roofing of cisterns

Few of the traditional cisterns in the Hajja Governorate have a roof. This results in human pollution entering through swimming or bathing children, and animal pollution entering from the faeces of farm animals and birds. These pollutants have been dramatically reduced in the 11 cisterns which were covered by the project. Also, less dirt is blown into the cisterns by the wind and washed in by water than in open cisterns. An additional advantage is that mosquitoes are unable to breed in the covered cisterns, which reduces malaria. These new covered cisterns provide higher-quality water which is much healthier than that from the old open cisterns.

The following table shows the approximate volume of water per cistern which would have evaporated without a covering (Yearly water saving)

Covered cisterns	Surface Area	Yearly water saving
1 Rail Arth Al-Shuik	23,0 m ²	45,3 m ³
2 Beit Enan	32,0 m ²	63,1 m ³
3 Beit Sumsam	40,3 m ²	79,4 m ³
4 Al-Alu	40,6 m ²	80,0 m ³
5 Beit Al-Kataf	40,3 m ²	79,4 m ³
6 Al-Hawam	56,2 m ²	110,7 m ³
7 Al-Rarbi Al-Ala	19,7 m ²	38,8 m ³
8 Scharqi	44,8 m ²	88,3 m ³
9 Abu Areigh	28,8 m ²	56,8 m ³
10 Dhafir	15,8 m ²	31,0 m ³
Total water saving		672,9 m³ (= 672.900 Liter)

Table: Reduced annual water evaporation (water saving) as a result of roof construction

Calculation of Water Evaporation: The theoretical evaporation due to solar radiation at Hajja's location of 16° latitude north is 5.05 m³/m² of surface area/year. This value was reduced to 1.97 m³/m²/year to account for the shadowing effect of mountains and cistern walls, as well as the frequent fog and clouds which also reduce evaporation.

Distances reduced – education made possible

This objective of the project was to increase girls' school attendance and to improve physical health by significantly reducing their daily workload.

In the mountain villages without piped water systems, the water consumption per capita falls well short of the standard value of 20 liters/person/day. The actual amount of water used per person in Hajja is as low as 3.24 liters/person/day ("Domestic Water Quantity, Service Level and Health", WHO). This is not sufficient to cover daily hygiene needs and avoid dehydration, resulting in long-term health problems.

Through this project, an improvement of the health situation was achieved by providing more water at a closer distance to each home.

"TIME IS MONEY", OR IN YEMEN, TIME IS QUALITY OF LIFE. THIS WAS THE REAL ACHIEVEMENT OF THE PROJECT.

The table lists the distances from the villages to the water source before and after the project intervention. In all target villages, the distance to water was reduced to less than the critical distance of 30 minutes walk or 500 meters.

Reforestation

More trees were distributed than initially planned because the local tree nursery provided additional tree seedlings free of charge and because the cost per seedling was less than originally budgeted. The trees were distributed in 56 small truck loads to the villages. The transportation costs were covered by the farmers - on average 10 farmers organized and paid for one shared truck load of seedlings. Approximately 560 farmers and their families received seedlings.

560 FARMERS AND THEIR FAMILIES CAN BENEFIT LONG-TERM FROM HIGHER INCOME.

In about three years the trees will produce their first crop and the income of the families will be improved. Measurable impact of the project can only be calculated later, but in terms of the number of tree seedlings planted, the project objective was overachieved. We therefore expect that the qualitative projects objectives will also be more than met.

Nr.	Village	Distance before project start*	Distance after project end**	Reduction
# 01	Arth Al-Shuik	1,5 – 2,0 hrs	15 – 30 min	~ 75 %
# 02	Al-Ruahi	2,0 hrs	15 – 30 min	~ 80 %
# 03	Beit Enan	3,0 hrs	15 min	92 %
# 04	Beit Sumsam	2.000 m	250 m	88 %
# 05	Al-Bir	1.300 – 1.700 m	1.300 – 1.700 m	(quality + quantity improved)
# 06	Ishaq	2,5 hrs	10 – 20 min	~ 90 %
# 07	Al-Alu	1,0 hrs	10 – 15 min	~ 80 %
# 08	Beit Al-Kataf	1,5 hrs	15 min	83 %
# 09	Sahel Salim	3,0 hrs	5 min	97 %
# 10	Khurge	2,0 hrs	20 – 30 min	~ 80 %
# 11	Beit Saade	2,5 hrs	30 min	80 %
# 12	Hothein Al-Aala	1.700 m	400 m	76 %
# 13	Beit Abu-Areigh	1.500 m	300 m	80 %
# 14	Beit Wahan	1.500 m	500 m	67 %
# 15	Al-Hawam	1.000 m	400 m	60 %
# 16	Shab Al-Habli	2,5 hrs	300 m	~ 80 %
# 17	Al-Rarbi Al-Ala	3,0 hrs	30 min	83 %
# 18	Scharqi	2,0 hrs	30 min	75 %
# 19	Abu Areigh	2.000 m	200 m	90 %
# 20	Al Ibrain	1.200 m	300 m	75 %
# 21	Schair	1.000 m	200 m	80 %
# 22	Suwani	800 m	300 m	62 %
# 23	Al-Suhul	2.500 m	400 m	84 %
# 24	Al-Karia	1,5 hrs	1,5 hrs	(quality + quantity improved)
# 25	Dhafir	0,5 – 1,0 hrs	15 min	~ 67 %

* Distance from village to well, spring, or cistern, from which the water was previously collected

** Distance from village to new cistern

Table: Reduction of distances for fetching water. (Distances were calculated in meters or in walking time)

"Cistern construction and rehabilitation II"

Beneficiaries:	1.900 people
Project duration:	März 2008 –Februar 2009 (planned project end)
Project partner:	Jamaiyya Nahda
Project location:	Hajja Governorate, Kohlan, Kuddam
Project amount:	78.977 EUR (Including in-kind contributions of beneficiaries without administrative costs VHI Germany VHI Deutschland)
Project director:	Engineer Stephan Krämer

Project objective

In the project "WatSanHealth" – Improved Health through Water and Sanitation" it was envisioned that through capacity building and parallel construction activities, the health situation of 1,900 people in three sub-districts (Bani Ashab, Al-Nufesh und Kuddam) would be improved.

Activities:

Rainwater harvesting

In the village Jandala, 20 roofs were renovated for the collection of rainwater. The roof tops were plastered with cement, drainage and filters were fitted, and pipes with settlement basins and water tanks were installed. An additional six roofs were rehabilitated without installation of pipes and tanks.

Dry toilets

In Bani Humeid the construction of 20 dry toilets was started. Twelve toilets were completed by the end of 2008.



Dry toilet in Bani Humeid
(toilet seat and view from the outside)



New cisterns in Al Mahwar

• Cisterns

Seven cisterns were completed in three sub-districts. Work was also started on cisterns and two storage tanks for springs in three other sub-districts.

• Training

Seven teachers were trained and presented a series of six lessons over three days in all ten project villages.

• Water filters

320 locally-assembled plastic bucket water filters with ceramic drip-candles were distributed to village families for purification of water at the household level.

Water and Education

Beneficiaries:	500 people Special focus: 50 women
Project duration:	01.02. – 31.08.2008
Project partner:	Jamaiyya Schiris
Project location:	Schiris, Hajja Governorate
Project amount:	4.000 EUR (3.000 EUR were previously transferred in 2007)
Project director:	Dipl.-Ing. (FH) Stephan Krämer

Project objective

Three cisterns were to be constructed in the villages Had-daba, Abbasi, Kubban, Shab Al-Turab and Souwana. By reducing their daily workload, this would enable women in these villages to take part in literacy classes.

Activities

Five cisterns were completed. VHI provided 700 sacks of cement and the communities provided all labour in-kind. Around 50 women from these villages took part in the afternoon reading and writing classes. Project funds provided notebooks and pencils for the students and a small monthly salary for the local female teacher who led the literacy classes. Classrooms and textbooks were provided by the Hajja education office free of charge.

Evaluation

The literacy program for the women was very well received. We anticipated that 30 women would participate, but instead 70 women began and 50 women completed the literacy training.

A large private donation enabled us to extend the project activities. The literacy classes were continued until the month of Ramadan and the number of cisterns was increased from three to five. The people from the villages were very actively involved and clearly voiced their hope to participate in future development projects.



Covered cistern in Neisr

**THE SELF-INITIATIVE OF THE RURAL BENEFICIARIES
WAS REMARKABLE**



Education Projects

School rehabilitation

Beneficiaries:	130 Schüler (67 boys and 63 girls) and 8 teachers
Project duration:	01.05.2008 – ongoing
Project partner:	Jamaiyya Nahda
Project location:	Jandala, Hajja Governorate
Project amount:	12.081 EUR (Including the contribution of the beneficiaries)
Main sponsor:	Notzinger Christmas market and NGO Yemen Help (Jemenhilfe e.V.)
Project director:	Engineer Stephan Krämer

Initial situation

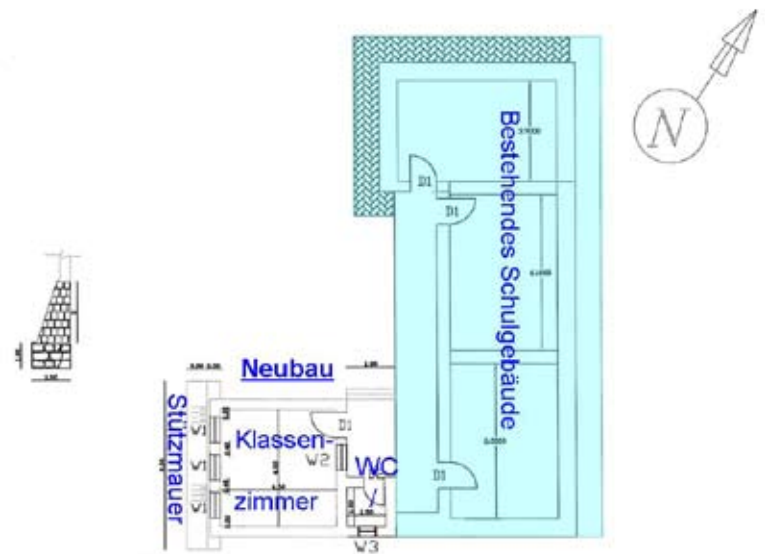
Yemen's compulsory school attendance policy and recognition of the basic right to education are often stymied by the lack of adequate classrooms and schools. To address this need, we undertook a project to rehabilitate the village school in Jandala/Quddam.

Project objective

Rehabilitation and expansion of the village school in Jandala, to enable more students to attend classes.

Activities

The existing three classrooms were rehabilitated. An additional classroom, a bathroom, and a storage room were newly constructed. VHI purchased all construction materials, including 250 sacks of cement and one ton of steel. The structure of the new classroom, bathroom, and storage room is finished and the interior will be finished shortly. The exterior is still to be completed, including the bitumen water proofing layer of the roof.



Evaluation

It is often difficult to complete a project in the originally estimated time frame. In the case of the Jandala School, unexpected external reasons led to delays which prevented the project from being completed in the original time frame.

SOME PROJECTS CANNOT BE COMPLETED IN THE EXPECTED TIME FRAME

The only access road to Jandala was often closed due to road construction work. For weeks at a time, no vehicles could access the village, which delayed the delivery of construction supplies. In addition, the beneficiaries were not available to contribute their in-kind labour during the month of Ramadan, during the major religious feasts (one week each), and during the agricultural harvest season. Furthermore, during the excavation for the foundations it



was discovered that the soil was not stable and therefore required a much deeper foundation and a large retention wall which required additional time.

The expected project end is in March 2009.

Our project engineer Stephan Kraemer and our intern engineer Stephan Sedlmayer have displayed great patience in dealing with the many factors which have delayed this project.

Teacher training

Beneficiaries:	36 teachers, 1,800 students
Project duration:	15.03 2008 – planned project end in January 2009
Project partner:	NGO Millennium and Yemeni Ministry of Education
Project location:	Sana'a Governorate
Project amount:	9.000 EUR
Project director:	Ben Saeli

Initial Situation

Theoretical knowledge of science is not enough. Students need visual instruction and action-focused science classes. Science experiments are a fundamental part of our schools in Germany, but in Yemen, practical experiments are far from being a reality. The national secondary science curriculum includes hundreds of lab experiments in Biology, Chemistry and Physics, but they are never actually taught in the rural secondary schools. Even though many secondary schools have a laboratory room and scientific equipment, most science majors graduate from secondary school without carrying out even one of the hundreds of science experiments in their curriculum.

Project objective

This project aims to field-test new methods of teacher training in science, to give them the skills to lead hands-on laboratory experiments as outlined in the curriculum.



Activities

As a contribution to the education sector in Yemen, Vision Hope supported this teacher training project through a 9,000 Euro grant to the Millennium NGO. The training of teachers in the new curriculum is pedagogical in nature and focuses on student-centred teaching methods. Teachers



Learning by doing – experiments make science.

were trained in how to lead student-experiments which are a part of the national science curriculum.

In twelve selected schools:

- An average of three teachers was trained in each school, for a total of 36 teachers trained.
- Around 1,800 students did the first experiment in their lives during this training project.
- During the 2008-2009 school year an average of three two-day workshops were held in each project school.

The project budget funded:

- Lab equipment (30 microscopes, chemicals, supplies,...)
- Visual aids (30 slide sets on plants and animals, photos on bird varieties)
- Teachings aids
- Salary and transport for local project trainer.

Health Projects

Diabetes

Beneficiaries:	around 20 patients per work day
Project duration:	October 2008 – August 2009
Project partner:	Yemen Diabetes Association
Project location:	Sana'a
Project amount:	6.665 EUR
Project director:	Caroline van Leeuwen



DIABETES – NOT ONLY A PROBLEM OF THE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES

Initial Situation

Diabetes in Yemen is a rapidly growing problem. A high genetic risk coupled with an increasing life expectancy and widespread obesity caused by changing life and food habits have caused the prevalence of diabetes to explode in recent years, and continued rapid increase is expected.

Throughout the country of 20 million citizens, there are only 10 diabetes specialists. Professions like diabetes para-

professionals or nutritionists are still unknown. Many patients are diagnosed at very late stages of the disease, and due to improper eating and medications, their blood sugar levels never reach normal levels. This poor medical treatment leads to a high rate of complications and premature death.

Project objective

The objective of the project is to equip a foot clinic for diabetes patients in one hospital in Sana'a and to train the nurses and doctors who work in this foot clinic in the professional treatment of foot patients, in cooperation with the Yemen Diabetes Association.

This project also aims to strengthen our partner organization, the Yemen Diabetes Association, which advocates the rights of diabetes patients.

Activities

In 2008, Nurse Caroline van Leeuwen observed the training courses in the National Diabetes Centre in order to select a partner hospital at the beginning of 2009 and then equip the foot clinic within it. To date, no project funds have been spent, as training of nurses has not yet begun.



In patients with severe diabetes, foot sores often do not heal for many months.



Social Projects

Hajja Prison

Initial Situation

Prisoners in Yemen suffer degrading living conditions in overcrowded prisons. This hinders their ability to reflect on their situation under professional supervision and to think about a new start after their release from prison. Upon release, prisoners are often not able to support their families.

RELEASE INTO A LIFE WITH A PERSPECTIVE.

This is the context in which we offer vocational training projects for prisoners.

Nähprojekt Gefängnis Hajja

Beneficiaries:	around 15 men
Project duration:	May 2007 – October 2008
Project partner:	Prison administration Hajja
Project location:	Hajja
Project amount:	880 EUR (Project funds were transferred in 2007)
Project director:	Country representative Berno Heitmann

Project objective

Prisoners learn tailoring skills which they can use for income generation after their release from prison.

Activities

This six-month project builds on the experiences gained during an initial project which was implemented by Vision Hope in 2006.

STUDENTS BECOME TEACHERS

Four prisoners from the previous class trained other prisoners in the skills they learned in tailoring. During this course, the trainees learned all of the steps involved in sewing a jacket, from preparing the pockets and the cloth to finishing the jacket.



Project Evaluation

The team of prison trainers and trainees sewed 80 jackets, 36 trousers and 6 shirts which were then offered for sale. For training purposes, the jackets were sewn with inexpensive cloth. From the sales of jackets and trousers, income was generated for the purchase of additional material so that the project can continue into 2009 without additional funds from Vision Hope. During these new training sessions, additional income will be generated which can again be used to purchase cloth for ongoing training.

Two main objectives were achieved by this project – prisoners learned skills which they can use for income generation after their release, and a self-sustaining project was begun which is now being continued by the beneficiaries.

WE PLANTED THE PROJECT IDEA – NOW IT IS BEING CARRIED ON BY THE PRISONERS THEMSELVES.

Hajja Prison Car repair shop

Beneficiaries:	around 15 men
Project duration:	April 2008 – March 2009
Project partner:	Prison administration Hajja
Project location:	Hajja
Project amount:	5.939 EUR
Project director:	Country representative Berno Heitmann

Project objective

Prisoners learn car mechanic skills which can provide them with income after they are released from prison.



Activities

In April 2008, a simple car repair shop was established at the Hajja prison with VHI funds. A local mechanic teaches engine overhaul on a used engine. His salary for one year is covered by VHI. Additionally, cars are sometimes brought inside the prison so that the prisoners can learn repair work under supervision.

Evaluation

Weekly visits of the project director ensure that project activities are carried out and necessary items are purchased. Fewer cars have been brought to the prison for repair than expected, so training has focused instead on the overhaul of the training engine.

CAR-SCRAP BONUS – WHO WOULD HAVE THOUGHT THAT THEY COULD BENEFIT YEMEN?

Mattresses in prisons project Hajja and Amran

Beneficiaries:	300 prisoners
Project duration:	April 2008 – March 2009
Project partner:	Prison administrations in Hajja and Amran
Project location:	Hajja, Amran
Project amount:	2.000 EUR
Project director:	Country representative Berno Heitmann

Initial Situation

In the prisons of Yemen there are rarely enough mattresses, so many prisoners sleep on the floor or on bare metal bed frames.

SLEEPING COMFORT FROM ZERO TO A HUNDRED – WITH JUST A SIMPLE MATTRESS

Many prisoners sleep on very thin and worn mattresses. Government funds are not sufficient to provide all prisoners with adequate mattresses.

Our project director was allowed to visit some of the cells in the Hajja prison (which holds around 600 prisoners) and has therefore has seen the misery there first-hand.

Contact was also made with the prison director in Amran (in which holds around 450 prisoners) where a similar need exists.

Project objective

Purchase of mattresses in order to help the prisoners.

Activities

300 foam mattresses covered in fabric were purchased. 150 mattresses were delivered to the Hajja prison and 150 to the Amran prison.

Evaluation

Our project director was present during the transport of the mattresses and was able to make a follow up visit to the Amran prison to ensure that the mattresses were distributed to the prisoners.

In the Hajja prison, every prisoner who received a mattress

was registered and gave his fingerprint as a personal receipt.

Hajja orphanage

Beneficiaries:	around 100 boys
Project duration:	2008
Project partner:	Hajja Orphanage
Project location:	Hajja / Taiz / Hodeida
Project amount:	2.492 EUR (350 Euro were transferred in 2007)
Project director:	Country representative Berno Heitmann

Initial Situation

The Hajja orphanage is a desolate place. The miserable building hosts 100 boys from tragic circumstances who are crowded into three dorms. The staff has no financial means for any activities outside the institution; funding is very low and barely covers life necessities.

For several years we have been engaged with various activities in the Hajja orphanage, and we plan to remain a reliable partner in the future.

THIS IS FOR SURE – THE BOYS OF THE ORPHANAGE NEED OUR HELP!

Project objective

We want to enhance the daily routines and offer recreational activities.

Activities

Basketball

Funds for the Hajja orphanage were donated to VHI Germany. These funds purchased two professional basketball goals for 1,103 Euros. These goals replaced the old and perpetually broken goals in the yard of the orphanage. To ensure proper mounting, a deep foundation was excavated and filled with cement.



Trip to Taiz (VHI 817 EUR)

Country representative Berno Heitmann led staff and 44 boys from the orphanage on a several-day-long trip to Taiz in July 2008 to see and experience life outside the orphanage. The boys enjoyed their visit to the zoo, amusement park, and castle, and played soccer with the youth on a mountain close to Taiz. The boys really enjoyed this trip.



Lasting memories for the boys - and for us.

**Trip to Hodeida**

(Private donation to VHI with a value of 572 EUR)

In February 2008, a trip to Hodeida was organized for 66 boys from the orphanage. Four minibuses with drivers were rented to transport the boys, Berno Heitmann, and eight local supervisors.

The group was hosted by the Hodeida orphanage at no cost. The boys were able to visit the coast of the Red Sea and to play beach soccer at low tide.

The boys especially enjoyed playing in the waves and swimming in the pool at a city park.

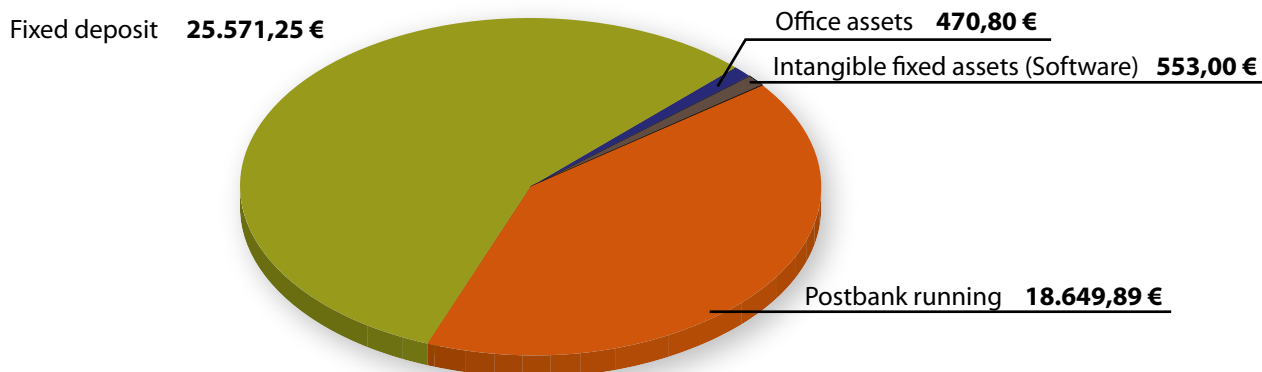


Financial Report 2008

Capital Account as of 31.12.2008

A.	Assets		
1.	Intangible fixed assets (Software)		553,00 €
2.	Office assets		470,80 €
3.	Balance in bank accounts		
	Postbank running acct. 624 520 751	18.649,89 €	
	Fixed deposit acct. 7000 121 338	10.571,25 €	
	Fixed deposit acct. 7000 176 721	15.000,00 €	44.221,14 €
	Sum assets		45.244,94 €
B.	Liabilities		
	Sum liabilities		0,00 €
C.	Net assets		
1.	Sum assets		45.244,94 €
2.	Sum liabilities		0,00 €
	Net assets		45.244,94 €

Vermögensgegenstände



Income-Surplus-Bill 2008

Income in fiscal year 2008

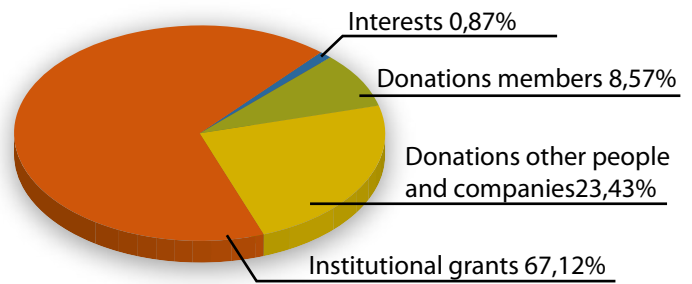
A.	Income from donations and grants	Funds received	Percentage
1.	Minimum donation members	750,00 €	0,68 %
2.	Other donations members	8.728,49 €	7,90 %
3.	Donations other people and companies	14.606,80 €	13,21 %
4.	Earmarked donations other people and companies	11.300,53 €	10,22 %
5.	Institutional grants	74.201,87 €	67,12 %
Sub-total		109.587,69 €	99,13 %
B.	Other income		
1.	Interest	963,11 €	0,87 %
Sum income		110.550,80 €	100,00 %

Disposition of funds 2008

A.	Project expenses	Funds received	Percentage
1.	Project expenses	87.385,92 €	90,84 %
2.	Project support	3.000,00 €	3,12 %
Sub-total		90.385,92 €	93,96 %
B.	Expenses for administrative and backstopping support in Germany		
1.	Fundraising and Public relations	1.984,63 €	2,06 %
2.	Overhead costs	3.828,72 €	3,98 %
Sub-total		5.813,35 €	6,04 %
Sum expenses		96.199,27 €	100 %
Income surplus		14.351,53 €	

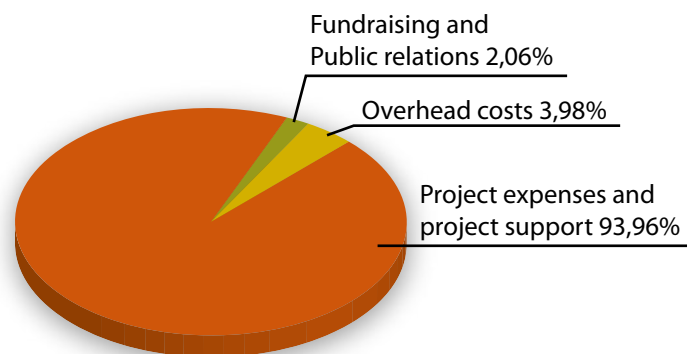
Income in fiscal year 2008

	Amounts	Percentage
Donations members	9.478,49 €	8,57%
Donations other people and companies	25.907,33 €	23,43%
Institutional grants	74.201,87 €	67,12%
Interests	963,11 €	0,87%
Total	110.550,80 €	100,00%



Disposition of funds in 2008

	Amounts	Percentage
Project expenses and project support	90.385,92 €	93,96%
Fundraising and Public relations	1.984,63 €	2,06%
Overhead costs	3.828,72 €	3,98%
Total	96.199,27 €	100,00%



Detailed presentation of expenses for fundraising and overhead costs in Germany

	Amounts
Fundraising/Public relations	1.984,63 €
Personnel costs	2.787,85 €
Travel costs	409,00 €
Postage	67,20 €
Office supplies	68,29 €
Computer support and Webpage	361,32 €
Bank charges	135,06 €
Total	5.813,35 €

Partner Organizations

Jamaiyya Mustaqbal

Jamaiyya Mustaqbal is a local NGO ("Non-Governmental Organization", or Charitable Community Association) whose goal is to improve living conditions among the Yemeni people through partnerships with beneficiaries and foreign development organizations.

This benevolent organization was founded in 2002 by Khalid Al Aliyi with the aims of supporting the suffering population and fighting poverty in the rural district of Hirba in the governorate of Hajja. Since their inception, they have cooperated with various donor organizations such as the World Bank, BMZ, GTZ, the British and the French Embassies, FAO, Vision Hope International, etc., and carried out projects in around 200 villages. To date, the emphasis of these projects has been the rehabilitation and construction of approximately 400 cisterns, reforestation with agro-forestry trees, operation of a chicken farm, distribution of water filters, renovation of a health unit and a primary school, and support of a women's training program which offered courses in basic health, literacy, and sewing.

Jamaiyya Mustaqbal has a few full time engaged staff and a significant number of actively involved volunteers. Some specialize in water harvesting, while others focus on agriculture and education. The full time employees supervise the different projects and are paid from the respective project funds.



Faris Al Aliyi, Director of Jamaiyya Mustaqbal, delivering a speech

Jamaiyya Nahda

The charitable association Jamaiyya Nahda was founded in 2006 by Jamil Al Ganaasi in Jandala/Hajja Governorate. The organization has 120 members. Jamaiyya Nahda worked with us in 2007 on the implementation of the large cistern



Khalid Al Qanasi, board member of Jamaiyya Nahda.

project sponsored by the national German foundation Baden-Wuerttemberg and has proven to be a good and trustworthy partner.

In 2008 a new water project was started which enabled the Jamaiyya was able to gain experience in the construction of dry toilets and the rehabilitation of roof tops and use of these roofs for rainwater harvesting.

In addition to implementing water projects with Vision Hope, Jamaiyya Nahda is cooperating with other donors to implement education projects for women, sponsor computer classes at schools, and provide assistance to the orphans in the villages surrounding Hajja.

Forecast for 2009

DEC-Project in brief

Just before Christmas 2008, we received confirmation of a large donation from the European Commission (EC) for the funding of a large scale water and education project.



Our staff in Yemen has invested many hours and great initiative on this project proposal. We are very pleased to receive the approval and we thank our staff in Yemen for their extraordinary efforts. We will need energy and endurance to successfully implement this 386,327 Euro project (of which the EC contribution is 75%)

This EC funded project is titled "WatSanEmpowerment – Water, Sanitation and Health Project for the Empowerment of Local Actors and Women in Hajja Governorate, Yemen". The project activities will span three years, ending in 2011.

EC Project in brief:

- **Direct beneficiaries: 5,100 persons**
- **Budget 386,327 EUR**
- **Duration: three years (2008 – 2011)**
- **WatSanEmpowerment:**

**Water: Rehabilitation or construction of cisterns;
Rainwater harvesting from roofs
Sanitary facilities: Construction of dry toilets
Empowerment: Strengthening of local capacity**

5,100 people will directly benefit in the target area (around 700 households in 36 rural communities of six sub-districts in the Hajja governorate), and 9,000 additional people will be indirectly reached.

Women have a foundational role in village life. Not only in that they carry water for many hours from the Wadis (river beds which dry up in between rainfalls) with a 20 kg container of water on their heads. Through this project, women will become multipliers of the knowledge which they will receive in hygiene classes, primary health lessons, and training in water management and nutrition. The door will also be opened for income generating activities like gardening, animal husbandry, and handicrafts.

The work load for water fetching will be reduced through different measures: Site cisterns and spring storage tanks will be constructed or rehabilitated, and 105 roof tops will be repaired and renovated to allow clean rainwater to be collected. This is an effective strategy in the mountainous regions of Hajja which receive seasonal rainfall.

In order to guarantee good quality potable water, every household in the target communities will receive a water

filter. The integration of safe water supply and sanitary facilities (dry toilets) is a milestone concept. The village communities have committed themselves to full cooperation - for example, they have promised to allow women to attend the planned courses, and have committed to complete training courses and create water user committees before the start of construction. As in previous projects implemented by Vision Hope, community members will be engaged in constructing the cisterns, ensuring their high commitment to the project goals.

In addition to village communities, local NGOs are also target beneficiaries. The capacities of these NGOs will be strengthened as they supervise this milestone concept of linking water supply and sanitation improvements.

Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development in Germany

This project in brief:

- **Direct beneficiaries: around 4.200 people**
- **Budget: 119,600 EUR**
- **Duration: April 2009 until June 2010**
- **Rainwater harvesting: Rehabilitation or construction of 23 cisterns. The roofs of 30 households will be repaired and renovated so that rainwater can be collected**

Alongside the EC project, a second rainwater harvesting project will be implemented from April 2009 through June 2010 with funding from the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.

The project budget is 119,600 Euros and will benefit 4,200 people. Through the construction and rehabilitation of 23 cisterns, runoff water can be collected and stored in the mountains of Hajja. In 30 households, existing roofs will be renovated so that they are suitable for collection of rainwater. The farmers will provide all of the necessary labour in-kind and therefore contribute to the overall costs. Women and girls will benefit from the project because their workload will be reduced. As the daily time for water carrying from distant springs is reduced, more time can be invested in school education or literacy classes.

State foundation

The national foundation of Baden-Wuerttemberg/Germany is also co-financing a project for the rehabilitation and construction of cisterns in the Amran Governorate. This project was approved in 2008 and will start at the beginning of 2009.

VHI Germany

The board is planning to further develop and strengthen its Public Relations and Fundraising capacity through **coaching**. In addition, a fundraising event with the theme of water is planned in Herbolzheim/Germany (the location where the charity is registered).

In order to ensure the professional implementation of the

new large scale projects, Matthias Leibbrand will be employed as part time **Chief Executive Officer** beginning in spring 2009.

Donations and help

There are many opportunities to help ongoing project sponsorship

- Fundraising and charitable events
- Instead of presents at birthdays or anniversaries, collect donations for one of our projects
- To make a tax-deductable donation, make a bank transfer to:

Vision Hope International
Postbank Karlsruhe/Germany
IBAN DE69660100750624520751
BIC PBNKDEFF

Or send your check to:

Vision Hope International e.V.
Wehrlestr. 18
79336 Herbolzheim, Germany

We say thanks!

Without the support of private donors, institutional donors, companies, and other sponsors, our work would simply not be possible.

Important partners and sponsors included:

- EEuropean Commission (EC)
- Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development/Germany
- State foundation Baden-Wuerttemberg/Germany

JEDE SPENDE ZÄHLT!

Alongside these institutional donors, there were also private initiatives in 2008:

- The Notzinger Christmas Market fundraiser collected 5,630 Euros for the village school in Jandala, and 165 additional Euros were collected during the presentation of a film.
- The German NGO Yemen Help (Jemenhilfe) donated 3,000 Euro for the rehabilitation of the village school in Jandala.
- Students of Professor Kopp (University Erlangen- Nuremberg, Germany) visited our project activities in Yemen and collected 530 Euros during presentations when they returned home.
- Music teacher Christine Stroppe collected 578 Euros with the children at the Music School in Germering, Germany by selling home-made Christmas cards.

YOUR DONATION MAKES A DIFFERENCE – THIS IS OUR PROMISE!

We commit ourselves to effectively use all donations for the purpose for which they were given. We commit ourselves to keep our administrative costs in Germany below 10%. We strive to implement high ethical standards in regards to fundraising, accounting, and the use of all finances according to the statutes of our organization.

Contact:

Vision Hope International e.V.
 Wehrlestr. 18
 79336 Herbolzheim
 Germany
 E-Mail: info@vision-hope.org
 Phone: +49 7643-93 01 59

