ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
SECTOR ACTIVITIES

(June 2010 - August 2012)

IMPACT
Through its Economic Development activities, CLP helps marginalized, at-risk, skilled and unskilled youth access employment. This enables them to bring about tangible, short-and potentially long-term improvements to their own livelihoods as well as those of their families and communities. Improvements to livelihoods help reduce turmoil and encourage the rejection of the negative influences that can cause instability.

To date, **14,328** youth have benefited from income generation opportunities:
- **7,848** engaged in labor intensive rehabilitation
- **4,000** youth entrepreneurs received microfinance services
- **200** trained entrepreneurs started their own businesses
- **2,280** received vocational training and internships

Economic Development in Yemen: Context and Challenges
A staggering 35 percent of the overall population is unemployed, while half of the country’s rapidly-increasing youth population is jobless. Yemen already has the largest ‘youth bulge’ in the Arab world. Following months of political uncertainty, economic decline, and civil unrest, unskilled youth find themselves with very few prospects; some, particularly vulnerable young men, become susceptible to violent extremism and terrorism. Engaging young people in productive activities is therefore crucial to Yemen’s future stability and growth.

CLP Economic Development Objectives
In line with USAID objectives in Yemen, CLP’s Economic Development sector aims to promote youth employment and counter instability through creating **income generation opportunities** for the Youth in the targeted areas. To reach this objective, the Economic Development sector has three main interventions:

1. Providing urban marginalized youth with short-term employment through labor intensive activities that enable them to earn daily wages;
2. Providing youth with entrepreneurship support through start-up activities and creating linkages with Microfinance opportunities;
3. Providing youth with workforce development training (vocational and administrative skills training) to increase their chances of gaining employment.

Integration
In order to maximize the impact of US Government funding; build on its existing Project capacities; and increase opportunities for marginalized and vulnerable youth to improve their livelihoods, CLP's Economic Development initiatives are designed and implemented in integration with activities in other programmatic sectors, including entrepreneurship development training for youth workers in agriculture-related activities and supporting youth in generating short-term incomes through civic participation activities and supporting youth training and job placement (‘Generation of Peace’ initiative).
Geographic Focus
CLP’s Economic Development sector conducts its activities in the Project’s targeted urban centers: Aden, Hudaydah, Ibb, Sana’a, and Taizz. Activities also benefit youth from Abyan, Al Jawf, Amran, Hajjah, Lahj, and Marib, complementing interventions being carried out in these urban centers by CLP’s other program sectors (Agriculture, Education and Governance).

MAIN PROGRAM ELEMENTS

Labor Intensive Rehabilitation Work (LIR)
Through its labor intensive rehabilitation initiatives, CLP encourages community participation in short-term, small-scale initiatives that deliver immediate impact. While also supporting economic management and providing economic opportunities, these activities mainly focus on the establishment, recovery or development of livelihood assets. To date, CLP’s labor intensive rehabilitation activities have resulted in 7,848 youth engaged in short-term labor intensive rehabilitation work.

Entrepreneurship Training & Toolkits
a. Microfinance
To facilitate microfinance opportunities for young entrepreneurs, CLP assists young people applying for loans either to expand an existing small business or to establish a new one. CLP encourages youth employment by assisting youths to become clients of microfinance institutions and by providing technical assistance to those institutions to facilitate their reaching the youth market. To date, CLP implemented activities have resulted in approximately 4,000 youth entrepreneurs benefiting from CLP-funded microfinance services.

Entrepreneurship Support and Development
CLP encourages youth employment and productivity by engaging young people in business development and entrepreneurship training and by providing focused business development technical support and coaching for start-ups and established enterprises. To date, CLP implemented activities have resulted in approximately 200 male and female youth trained in entrepreneurship who have succeeded in establishing and managing their own small businesses.

Vocational Training & Employment Support
Vocational training is designed to meet youth needs, providing them with the specific skills required to obtain and maintain employment. Through this activity, CLP helps Yemeni youth beneficiaries obtain part-time and full-time jobs by aligning their competencies with local labor market and employment needs. To date, CLP implemented activities have resulted in approximately 2,280 youth benefiting from vocational training and internship practices. Such programs focus on building robust career pathways in industries that support a wide variety of jobs creation in several sectors; respond to the employment issues of vulnerable populations, specifically youth; and provide fast entry vehicles to enable youth to join the workforce.