First Abu Dhabi Human Development Report

**2009/Quarter 3 and 4**

In 2009, a proposal was submitted to the Government of Abu Dhabi- Department of Economic Development, by UNDP, in order to produce the first Human Development Report for the Emirate of Abu Dhabi and was accepted by DED for it to be developed into a project and partnership between the two entities.

The project document was signed by both DED and UNDP in August 2009.

In November 2009, the Programme Officer, Ms. Elham Azarafshar, from UNDP, placed an ad to recruit a Chief Technical Advisor-CTA for the project but did not receive any CVs that seemed fit for the job. A work plan for 2010 was put in place after the signature of the project document, but activities never kicked off but for a study tour that took place in the beginning of 2010, in which the project team visited our office in Egypt and met the HDR team there who conducted for the UAE team a small workshop and an induction on HDRs.

In February 2010, Ms. Manar Yazbeck became the programme officer for the project from UNDP side, and along with the National Coordinator for the project, Mr. Dahi al Mansoori, agreed that the project at hand, the first HDR for the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, should be a model HDR, a pilot project, to be replicated on both the National Level and/or Emirates level later on, and of course it will be the first of many more to come.

**2010/Quarter 2**

**Evaluation Meeting**

Because the project was not moving forward, an evaluation meeting between both parties took place in the second quarter of 2010, in order to evaluate the project, the gaps and the issues related to it that were stopping the project from going forwards and we came out with the following:

* The Current project document does not fit UNDP standards nor the HDR methodology of UNDP.
* The Project Document is missing its main part, which is a resources and results framework (RRF)that describes the outputs of the projects, the activities that should take place, and the needed resources for each. The RRF also includes a mechanism of monitoring of evaluation towards results, to ensure that activities are done on timely manner. This RRF is monitored quarterly by both UNDP and DED so that efficiency and effective results are guaranteed.
* The Annual Work Plan, which also should be in the Project Document, is not detailed enough and does not constitute a pathway that the project team can follow.
* The Project needs a CTA immediately, and the CTA cannot be a Government Employee. This is to ensure objectivity of the HDR.
* The concept suggested in the old project document (Human Development and the MDGs) was not a theme that will actually give an importance to the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, as it is an old concept that should be present in each HDR. Therefore, a new theme should be presented and developed so that the Emirate of Abu Dhabi can have a pilot project to be replicated in the UAE and also the region.

**Q3-2010**

As an action plan to the above evaluation, the following took place:

**Meeting with the new Resident Representative:**

A meeting between the National Coordinator, Mr. Dahi al Mansoori, and the UNDP Resident Representative, Dr. Elissar Sarrouh, took place in June 2010, in which the outcomes of the evaluation meeting above were shared the RR who suggested a new action plan to solve those issues:

* A new theme for the HDR that is in harmony with the Abu Dhabi vision 2030 and its strategy: "The well being of citizens"
* UNDP to develop a concept note around this theme, if accepted by the Government, it will be turned into a project document.

**Q4-2010**

The concept note was endorsed by DED and then developed by UNDP into a project document, with a detailed Resources and Results Framework, Monitoring and Evaluation Framework, Management Arrangement that includes a Project Management Unit headed by the Chief Technical Advisor, an Annual Work Plan, a detailed budget and a Risk Log.

This Project Document was also shared with the DED management and endorsed, then signed in December 2010.

Immediately after the signature, the following activities took place:

* Chief Technical Advisor-CTA- was recruited
* International Consultant to build an "Equilibrium Macroeconomics Forecasting Model" was hired on the project.
* First Initiation workshop was conducted in the Chamber of Commerce, in the presence of the different stakeholders from the Emirate of Abu Dhabi.
* Different Stakeholders meetings took place, including individual visits conducted by the CTA and the National Coordinator to different Governmental entities that will be later on the backbone of a successful HDR, such as Abu Dhabi Statistics Bureau.

**Q1-2011**

* A steering Committee was established and endorsed by the Abu Dhabi Executive Council
* UNDP placed ads in the local newspapers in order to recruit Chapters Authors of Abu Dhabi HDR, the CVs were shortlisted, and the 5 authors were hired by in March, 2011.
* 2 Project/Research Assistants were also shortlisted, interviewed and recruited on the project

**Q2- 2011**

* Contact established with the Abu Dhabi statistics bureau and other Abu Dhabi Government entities to collect data:
  + Different meetings took place in this quarter:
    - Authors meetings with CTA and project team
    - Stakeholders meetings
    - Steering Committee meeting

* Authors started collecting data and writing their first draft chapter
* The selection of readers for each chapter took place and they were contracted

**Q3- 2011**

* Chapters during this quarter were submitted by the authors, sent to the readers, comments were made and final drafts of the chapters were submitted to DED and UNDP.
* Problems with the economy chapter started, as the recruited author produced a low quality chapter and had. The CTA stated that the author, Dr. Othman Suleiman, did not meet the ToR or the HDR quality standards.

**Q4 2011: Note to file, based on RR request, attached.**