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FIRST QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT
TOWARDS NEW HORIZONS PROJECT II
AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2002

PREPARED BY:



Centre for Development and Population Activities
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LIST OF ACRONYMS

APE	Association for the Protection of the Environment
C4C	Communication for Change
CDA	Community Development Association
CEDPA	Centre for Development and Population Activities
CEFD	Center for Egyptian Family Development
CEOSS	Coptic Evangelical Organization for Social Services
COA	Coptic Orphans Association
COST	Coptic Organization for Services and Training
CSN	CDA for Children with Special Needs
CRS	Catholic Relief Services
ENGO	Egyptian Non-Governmental Organization
FEDA	Family and Environment Development Association
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
FWADLC	Fayoum Women Association for Development of Local Communities
ICA	Institute for Cultural Affairs
ITRFP	Institute for Training and Research in Family Planning
MOE	Ministry of Education
MISA	Ministry of Social Affairs
NCW	National Council for Women
NH	New Horizons
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
PAP	Poverty Alleviation Program (Italian Government)
PDA	Positive Deviance Approach
PDI	Positive Deviance Inquiry
PPGYW	Partnership Project for Girls and Young Women
PROWID	Promoting Women in Development
PVO	Private Voluntary Organization
TNH	Towards New Horizons
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
YMCA	Young Men Christian Association
YMWA	Young Muslim Women's Association

1. INTRODUCTION

This is the first quarterly report produced under the Towards New Horizons II Grant. The report summarizes activities taking place during the reporting period August 1-September 30, 2002

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Towards New Horizons II Grant was approved on August 1, 2002. It is intended to be a 48-month cost extension to the Towards New Horizons Grant, which was approved by USAID/Cairo on November 1, 1999 as a follow-on to the PPGYW approved in September 1994. Like its predecessors, it both delivers training and technical assistance services and serves as an umbrella grant with CEDPA playing a leadership and advisory role - to Egyptian sub-grantee partners. The project will build on the successes of the two prior grants to achieve sustainability of major project activities by the end of this grant period. In the follow-on activity, CEDPA will broaden and deepen its efforts to consolidate gains and motivate communities to expand their programming and advocacy reach to benefit girls and young women. Building the capacity of NGOs to be the enablers and facilitators of community solutions to community problems is a lengthy process. During this phase, sustainability will be a major focus. Development of new project components, provision of training and technical assistance and development of monitoring and evaluation capacities are all intended to develop NGOs that are capable and committed to continuing program implementation for many years to come.

GOAL

The goal of the Toward New Horizons Project II is to raise the education, health and social status of girls and young women to enhance their ability to participate in their country's development and expand their life options. The project is meant to strengthen and expand services at the community level, while simultaneously mobilizing leaders to advocate for gender equity and promote a policy environment favorable to the needs of girls and young women.

PURPOSE

Advancing gender equity for girls and young women through increased access, choice and participation will be measured by:

- o Increased availability and access to resources allocated to girls' and young women's development; and
- o Change in attitudes resulting in broader choices for young women within their families and communities.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- To increase girls' access retention and completion of formal basic education
- To strengthen the capacity of NGOs to develop and advocate and evaluate quality sustainable programs for youth with a focus on girls and young woman
- To strengthen the capacity of NGOs to advocate for a more favorable policy environment and more equitable resource allocation for girls' and young women
- To improve life skills, self-confidence and health awareness of girls and young women
- To enhance the enabling family environment to support the life options of girls and young women

RESULTS NARRATIVES

The result narratives will present an outcome of a particular intervention in the target population, and be linked to a particular Strategic Objective. Rather than reporting on the event itself which is done routinely in the QPR, these reports will attempt to follow-up what may have happened as a result of the activity and provide some quantitative and qualitative data on project outcomes.

2. SUMMARY OF PROJECT PROGRESS

Below is a summary of the key accomplishments for the period April 1 – June 30, 2002. Table 1 provides a summary of progress in achieving benchmarks during the three months of Quarter 3 of Project Year 3.

Key Accomplishments

1. To increase girls' access, retention and completion of formal basic education

- El-Ikhlās, Gaafar, Ahmad Taher and Beni Suleiman CDAs signed their new contracts and received their cheques for the Girls scholarship program (2002-2003). Results of the second exams have been submitted by all partners. During the school year 2001-2002, a total of 2040 scholarships were distributed, 41 students dropped out (2%), 1939 students passed (95.05%) and 59 students failed (2.9%). Out of the 1939 students who passed, a total of 255 students will move to secondary schools and no longer receive scholarship grants. Therefore, the number of scholarships for 2002-2003 is 1684 in addition to 11 students who were previously excluded after failing but managed to pass this year therefore, they will be included back in the scholarship Program.
- The Community Development Association of Bani Ghani in Minya governorate, CDA-El Baraem and Ahlam El Mogtama in Zein hom district in Cairo governorate and CDA- Beni Suleiman El Sharqiya in Beni Suef governorate have submitted income generating projects and they are being reviewed. A site visit was conducted to Zein hom district in Cairo governorate to one of the CDAs receiving Girls' Scholarships to discuss their income generating project for the sustainability of the Girls' Scholarship program..
- Ahmad Taher and Gaafar CDAs submitted income generating proposals for the sustainability of the scholarship program. The proposals have been reviewed and the CDAs were requested to provide further information.

2. To strengthen the capacity of NGOs to develop, implement and evaluate quality sustainable programs for youth with focus on girls and young woman

- A Basic Training of Trainers (TOT) was convened on September 12-19, 2002 at Flamenco Hotel in Cairo governorate. Twenty- two participants attended the training representing 12 NGOs/CDAs from 6 Governorates (Aswan, Sohag, Minia, Beni Suef, Cairo, Giza). The workshop was conducted by Ms. Elham Fateem. The training aimed to build the capacity and skills of a New Horizon facilitators to work as Trainer.



3. To strengthen the capacity of NGOs to advocate for a more favorable policy environment and more equitable resource allocation for girls' and young women

- The National Council for Women headed by the Mrs. Mubarak the First Lady, is the Government of Egypt's primary 'spokes and point person' on women's issues. With Dr. Farkhunda Hassan appointed as Secretary General and being a dynamic leader, she is attempting to activate the Local Councils to fully represent the Council's agenda at the governorate level. A reorganization of the National and Local Councils has just taken place and the Secretary General is committed to providing them with tools to do their work effectively.

CEDPA being a leading organization in advocating for women issues found it necessary to establish relations and share its experience specifically in the areas of advocacy training. Working with long time CEDPA Alumna and Partner, Dr. Salha Awad, also a member of the Council and on several committees, activity has been designed aiming to build CEDPA's advocacy credentials, and put its name at the forefront of support for women's leadership at the national and regional level. It will also provide an opportunity for the NCW to link with CEDPA Partner NGOs to strengthen their voices since these linkages will be actively promoted as part of the implementation of any advocacy strategy.

The activity has been designed to prepare members of the local Women's Councils to carry out the advocacy agenda of the National Council for Women (NCW).

Specific Objectives include:

- ❑ to create a unity of thinking and understanding among the Councils concerning advocacy as a tool for policy change related to women's issues;
- ❑ to enhance the skills of the members in strategic communication to enable them to discuss women's issues with key policy and decision makers;
- ❑ to build the members' capacities to establish networks with NGOs, individuals, government officials to advocate on behalf of women's issues, and;
- ❑ to build the capacity of NCW national staff to monitor and evaluate the advocacy activities with local councils.

While the ultimate aim was to train Women's Councils in all 25 governorates, it was decided to pilot this model in 4 governorates and based on this the model will be modified and replicated. The model is as follows:



Members of the NCW local council of Qalubiyah governorate in a role play

Workshop 1:

- ❑ Steps of the advocacy process
- ❑ Methods of data collection, and analysis
- ❑ Group dynamics
- ❑ Identification of priority issues, alternative solutions, and identification of appropriate solution.
- ❑ Participants go back to start collecting data on the priority issue.

Workshop 2

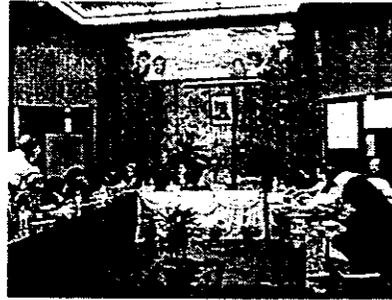
- ❑ Writing advocacy objectives
- ❑ Identifying and analyzing advocacy target audience
- ❑ Designing appropriate messages to target audience
- ❑ Communicating advocacy messages
- ❑ Building advocacy networks
- ❑ Designing an advocacy action plan
- ❑ Designing fund-raising campaigns for funding advocacy activities (optional)
- ❑ Developing a monitoring and evaluation plan including objectives, outcomes, and indicators in addition to M&E tools.
- ❑ Participants go back to implement the action plan they developed.

Workshop 3

- ❑ Evaluation the implementation of the action plans
- ❑ Presentation of achievements, challenges, lessons learned.

■ Recommendations.

The governors of the 4 governorates were very supportive and enthusiastic and 2 of them attended the opening of the workshops. Both governors clearly stated in their speeches their total support for women issues and highlighted the projects in their governorates that empower women socially and economically.



Opening ceremony attended by the Qalubiyah Governor "Justice Adly Hussein.

4. To improve the life skills, self-confidence and health awareness of girls and young women

- *First Round New Horizons Training:* The objective of the training is to introduce the participants to leadership, communication and facilitation skills and the first half of the Basic Life Skills Manual that addresses the following topics: Girl's Identity, Rights and Responsibilities, Nutrition, Health, First Aid.
 - On September 18-21, 2002 to the First Group under the supervision of the Comprehensive Care Organization. Twenty six participants attended the training. Seventeen were selected as facilitators out of which three were nominated as supervisors.
- *Second Round New Horizons Training:* In addition to the regular topics covered in the training such as child development, environment, and small projects, the facilitators were trained to facilitate the second part of the Life Skills Manual. The training was delivered to the following groups during the reporting period:
 - No group received the training during the reporting period.
- *Third Round New Horizons Training:* Participants were trained to facilitate the Reproductive Health Manual that covers the following topics: Adolescence, Violence against Women, Marriage, Pregnancy and Delivery, Family Planning, Sexually Transmitted and Dangerous Diseases.
 - The Coptic Organization for Services and Training (COST) in Beni Suef governorate on August 11-15, 2002. Twelve facilitators attended the training.
- *Gender Training:* The purpose of the training is to sensitize the facilitators regarding gender topics.

- ☐ On September 15-17, 2002 to the First Group under the supervision of the Comprehensive Care Organization in the New Valley governorate. Twenty six facilitators attended the training.
- ☐ Arab Women Speak Out (AWSO) Training was conducted on August 25-31, 2002 in Sohag governorate to the CDA for Children with Special Needs (CSN). Twenty-four participants attended the training representing 9 CDAs/NGOs from Sohag governorate. Fifteen AWSO classes were established.
- ☐ A two-day monitoring visit was conducted on September 24-25, 2002 to follow-up on the Safe Spaces Project in Minya governorate. The visit aimed to monitor the implementation of the Third Round New Horizons Training. Eight classes were visited. The overall level of girls' comprehension and perception of the program was satisfactory.
- ☐ A two-day monitoring visit was held on August 12, 2002 to monitor the implementation of Third Round New Horizons Training conducted by the First Group under the supervision by the Future-CDA in Aswan governorate. Fifteen classes were visited and four were postponed to the coming visit. The overall level of girls' comprehension and perception of the program was satisfactory.
- ☐ A two-day monitoring visit was conducted on August 18, 2002 to monitor the implementation of the First Round New Vision Training conducted by Ahmed Taher-CDA in Beni Suef governorate. All ten classes were visited. The overall level of girls' comprehension and perception of the program was satisfactory.
- ☐ A two-day monitoring visit was conducted on August 24, 2002 to Save the Children in Minya governorate to monitor the implementation of the First Round New Vision Training. Four classes were visited. The overall level of girls' comprehension and perception of the program was satisfactory.

5. To enhance the enabling family environment to support the life options of girls and young women

- The Second Round New Visions Training was conducted on August 17-23, 2002 to the Family and Environment Development Association FEDA. The training took place in CEDPA office in Cairo. Thirteen facilitators attended the training.
- The Second Round of The New Visions Training was held on September 14-20, 2002 in CEDPA office to the Ahmed Taher-CDA. Eighteen facilitators attended the training.
- A two-day monitoring visit was held on September 23-24, 2002 to follow-up on the implementation of the New Visions Program conducted by the FEDA in Qena governorate. The appropriate age for the boys to be exposed to the Reproductive Health Unit was discussed during the visit.

6. Disseminate Project Results

- CEDPA's Regional Director for ANE spent two weeks in Cairo to review the Towards New Horizons grant activities, meet with USAID officials and CEDPA Partners. The review focused on program activities, and mobilizing HQ support for monitoring and evaluation plans. Site visits to the New Visions program in Qena were also completed.
- A meeting was held with the UNICEF Country Representative to update each other on strategies and activities and identify areas where collaboration might occur. The most prominent area was FGM.
- The Country Director met with Tahseen staff to review next steps in joint planning and activities. Tahseen confirmed it would support a ½ time position which would be responsible for coordinating these activities.
- Pamela McCloud met with Eva Canoutis of FHI to discuss possible areas of collaboration in programming and research. It was suggested that further research on Reproductive Health curriculum and teaching practices in the secondary system would be useful.

8. Results Narratives

TNH Objective 5: *To enhance the enabling family environment to support the life options of girls and young women.*

Activity: New Visions Program.

Purpose: Raise the awareness of boys and young men ages 10 – 20 years.

Rationale: The program was developed in response to the communities' articulation that young men need to be provided with similar life skills and knowledge as girls, to allow them to develop in partnership with young women and support their life choices. The program has been developed in recognition of male influence on the enabling environment for the empowerment of girls. Males in various roles...fathers, brothers, cousins, husbands, uncles...are an important factor in girls' abilities to broaden their life choices and better their life situation. Additionally, male - female partnership can be strengthened if a man's own life skills, self-confidence, gender awareness/sensitivity and knowledge of reproductive health are increased.

Girls have repeatedly told CEDPA that in order for their new knowledge and attitudes to result in real behavior change, it is important they have the support of the boys and men in their lives.

Approach: The "New Visions" program will be offered to boys and young men through partner NGOs along with the NH program. Other possible venues including Ministry of Youth and Sports, Youth Centers will also be explored. Possible joint sessions or activities will also be considered.

The program has been developed through 11 workshops that averaged 10 days in length. Twenty-one team members representing 11 NGOs and 7 governorates were responsible for program development. A facilitator and 14 resources persons assisted them.

The "New Visions" program has 19 units in 63 sessions (*in alphabetical order*):

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ↓ Civil and Legal Rights | ↓ Life Skills |
| ↓ Communication | ↓ Marriage |
| ↓ Environment | ↓ Our Community |
| ↓ Family | ↓ Personal Health and Nutrition |
| ↓ First Aid | ↓ Planning for the Future |
| ↓ Gender and Gender Roles | ↓ Puberty and Adolescence |
| ↓ Health Rights | ↓ Reproductive Health |
| ↓ Human Emotions | ↓ Self esteem |
| ↓ Human Relations | ↓ Values |
| ↓ Work | |

RESULTS:

Bakhoum 14, and Abanoub Elia Mahrous 11 years old are brothers. Their father is an employee at the local medical unit in Geziret Motera village at Qena governorate. Bakhoum and his brother were socially isolated in their community. They had no friends but themselves, no one plays or starts a dialogue with them. The two brothers joined the "New Visions" Classes at the youth center in the village they used to come alone and leave silently alone without socializing with anyone. Mr. Mohamed Hassany Abbas, the class facilitator, noticed their isolation from the whole class, so he started to pass by the two brothers' house and walk with them to the "New Visions" class. Moreover, there was a noticeable change in the boys' attitude towards Bakhoum and Abanoub after attending the unit on *personal relations* unit in the "New Visions" Program. They started to make them feel more welcomed and accepted. The rest of the boys started to mingle with them and made good friendship among them. They realized the people differ in personalities, color, religion, habits, and physical appearance. Being different does not mean bad, they should accept people as they are. Bakhoum the eldest brother joined the children's parliament in the youth center and took part in many activities, not only that, but by the end of the first term he was elected as secretary of the children's parliament.

APPENDIX A:

Technical Assistance Activity Report
AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2002

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**Appendix A: Technical Assistance Activity Report
(August- September 2002)**

STAFF MEMBER CONSULTANT	PLACE	DATES	PURPOSE
Gihan William (Mehrinaz El Awady)	Minya	24 – 25 September, 2002	Monitor the implementation of Third Round New Horizons Training. Provide Safe Spaces Project with feedback on facilitation skills and girls' comprehension of the program
Ola Mandil, Dr. Abu Gabal, Soha Daghash	Gena	23-24 September, 2002	Monitor the implementation of the Second Round New Visions Training. Provide FEDA with feedback on implementation process.
Talaat Amar (Soha Daghash)	Menya	24-25 August, 2002	Monitor the implementation of the First Round New visions training Provide Save The Children CDA the feedback on the performance of the facilitators
Hamdy Shamardel and Talaat Amar (Soha Daghash)	Benisuef	18-19 August, 2002	Monitor the implementation of the First Round New visions training Provide Ahmed Taher CDA the feedback on the performance of the facilitators
Hamdia Osman (Mehrinaz El Awady)	Aswan	12-13 August, 2002	Monitor the implementation of the Third Round New Horizons Training Provide Future-CDA with feedback on facilitation skills and girls' comprehension of the program

APPENDIX B:

Training Events
AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2002

Appendix B: Training Events (August–September 2002)

DATES	WORKSHOP TITLE	COUNTRY/CITY	# TRAINEES		PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS	PURPOSE
			Male	Female		
15 -17 September, 2002	Gender Training	New Valley	0	26	Comprehensive Care organization	To sensitize the New Horizons facilitators regarding gender issues to enable them implement the New Horizons Program
18 – 21 September, 2002	First Round New Horizons Training	New Valley	0	26	Comprehensive Care organization	Increase the awareness of young girls and women regarding life skills information
12 – 19 September, 2002	Training of Trainers (TOT)	Cairo	0	22	12 NGOs/CDAs in New Horizons Network	Build the capacity and the skills of a group of New Horizon Facilitators to work as Trainer.
14-20 September, 2002	Second Round New Visions Training	Cairo	18	0	Ahmed Taher and Save The Children	Increase the awareness of young men regarding reproductive health issues.
25 – 31 August, 2002	Arab Women Speak Out	Sohag	7	17	CSN, Bendar El-Karmaneya CDA, Edfa CDA, El-Sheikh Makram CDA, El-Faraseya CDA, El-Tawel CDA, El-Awameya CDA, Nag El-Masekh CDA, Gameyat Tahfez El-Koraan and Kafalet El-Yateem NGO in Shandawel	Promote women's empowerment and active participation in social development.

DATES	WORKSHOP TITLE	COUNTRY/CITY	# TRAINEES		PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS	PURPOSE
			Male	Female		
11 – 15 August, 2002	Third Round New Horizons Training	Beni Suef	0	15	COST	Increase the awareness of girls and young women regarding reproductive health issues.
17-23 August, 2002	Second Round New Visions Training	Cairo	13	0	The Family and Environment Development Association	Increase the awareness of young men regarding reproductive health issues.

APPENDIX C:

Project Benchmarks
AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2002

Table 1: Project Benchmarks August-September 2002

Objective	Indicators	Previous Total (A)	Current Reporting Period (B) 8/02-9/02	Benchmarks To Date (A + B) 8/02-9/02	Benchmarks BY		Final Project Benchmarks
					Actualized	Planned	
1. To increase girls' access, retention and completion of formal basic education	Scholarships provided through NGO partners (80% girls)	0	1695	1695	1695	2000	3000
	NGOs establish self-funding mechanisms to support scholarship programs	0	0	0	0	1	5
	Messages developed for PACP highlighting educational rights of all	0	0	0	0		X
2. To strengthen capacity of NGOs to develop, implement and evaluate quality sustainable programs for youth with a focus on girls and young women	New curricula developed for NGO capacity building	0	0	0	0		3
	Training and Technical Assistance (TTA) Matrix developed	0	0	0	0	X	X
	NGOs participate in TTA	0	0	0	0	10	100
	Training opportunities offered to NGOs	0	0	0	0	160	1600

Activities have just started during the reporting period under TNHII

Table 1: Project Benchmarks August-September 2002

Objective	Indicators	Previous Total (A)	Current Reporting Period (B) 8/02-9/02	Benchmarks To Date (A + B) 8/02-9/02	Benchmarks DV1		Final Project Benchmarks
					Achieved	Planned	
3. To strengthen the capacity of NGOs to advocate for a more favorable policy environment and more equitable resource allocation for girls' and young women	NGO participate in Advocacy Training	0	0	0	0	4	18
	NGO advocacy activities implemented	0	0	0	0	1	25
	Special events celebrated	0	0	0	0	2	8
	IE&C materials distributed	0	0	0	0	5,000	20,000
	Environment, Health, Education Days celebrated	0	0	0	0	3	30
	Roundtables held	0	0	0	0	1	8
4. To improve the life skills, self-confidence and health awareness of girls and young women	Regional Partners manage the implementation of TNH programs	0	0	0	0	5	6
	Regional Trainers trained	0	0	0	0	35	150
	Girls successfully completed the New Horizons for Girls Program- New Classes	0	0	0	0	10,000	50,000
	Girls successfully completed the New Horizons for Girls Program- Replication Classes	0	0	0	0	4,000	20,000
	NGOs implement the New Horizons for Girls Program	0	0	0	0	25	120
	Women successfully complete the AWSO Program	0	0	0	0	3,000	15,000
	NGOs implement the AWSO Program	0	0	0	0	12	60
	NGOs receive and manage grants to implement PDA in 48 communities	0	0	0	0	4	6
	A PDA NGO Network is in operation	0	0	0	0		
NGOs receive and manage grants to implement quality sustainable NH related	0	0	0	0	5	15	

Activities have just started during the reporting period under TNHII

Table 1: Project Benchmarks August-September 2002

Objective	Indicators	Previous	Current	Benchmarks	Benchmarks PV:		Final
		Total (A)	Reporting	To Date	Achieved	Planned	Project
			8/02-9/02	(A + B)			Benchmarks
			8/02-9/02				
5. To enhance the enabling family environment to support the life options of girls and young woman	PACP Program developed	0	0	0	0		X
	NGOs implement the PACP	0	0	0	0		80
	Parents participate in the PACP	0	0	0	0		1,500
	NGOs implement the New Visions Program	0	0	0	0	20	100
	Boys and Young Men participate in the New Visions Program	0	0	0	0	5,000	25,000

Activities have just started during the reporting period under TNHII