

## **Tawisa 3: 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Report**



**April 2020**

### **Objective 1: Data collection in Ouadi Hamra:**

In the beginning of the third quarter, an additional 34 villages and their water points were surveyed, completing data collection for the full region of Ouadi-Hamra. Total villages surveyed in Ouadi-Hamra were 182 along with each of their water access points. Staff were able to visit and survey the villages that had previously experienced tribal conflict at the beginning of the project. No signs of additional conflict were noted while staff were present.



*Figure 1: SAS employee recording the location of a local water point in Kougour Village*

Raw data was processed, checked and put into the existing Geodatabase. A draft map for authorities to review has been created and printed in the capital. In the final quarter, the team plans to discuss the maps with regional authorities. Any corrections needed will be made and final maps printed and distributed in the final quarter.

### **Challenges and Project Schedule:**

Though completed later than initially planned, data collection has been completed and did not encounter any additional challenges in the third quarter. Finalizing the database and producing the maps are projected to be completed on time.

### **Objective 2: Pump Repair**

A total of 27 pumps have been located in the region with 25 of them broken when surveyed. All villages with broken pumps have been invited to participate in the program. Though regularly followed up with, the original set of communities that expressed interest have not followed through with their interest.

However, an additional community did contact SAS and decided to take part in the program. Kouchaguine had not expressed much interest in the program through initial visits. However, the village later contacted SAS employees, having gathered their funds and wishing to participate. The 2-day committee training and pump repair was completed on March 6<sup>th</sup>. Their water committee training was attended by the members of their water committee as well as other community members. The community is encouraged to have at least 5 members on their water committee, with at least two of them being women. However, Kouchaguine decided to have a 10-person committee, comprised of 5 women and 5 men. Though women and children are often those who use the wells the most, it is rare for a community to include many women on their committees. The SAS team is excited to see if the increased representation of women on this committee will affect its success.

The SAS team is scheduled to continue to follow up with this community in the coming months.



Figure 2: SAS employee fixing the pump at Nouguroung village

The village of Nouguroung received their initial follow up visits during the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. The Nouguroung water committee was taken aback that we came out a month after our training to check in with them. They were surprised, remarking that though the distance was really far and it was really hot, we still came out just to check on their water committee. They told our staff that they didn't expect us to do that even though that is what we had agreed to do. By the second visit the village had recorded 95 households but 38 who were out in the fields had not yet been recorded. Only minimal monthly funds had been

collected thus far. Members of the water committee as well as community members attended the follow up visits.

#### Challenges and Project Schedule:

SAS has continued to have difficulties in finding villages ready to participate in the pump repair program. Though SAS staff are still following up with several villages to gauge their interest in the program, few have followed through by gathering the required buy-in contribution. Multiple reasons could account for this difficulty:

- Financial hardship within the village / Fixing the pump having a lower priority than other needs in the village
- Lack of trust that we will do what we say we will with their funds
- Lack of understanding of what is being offered

Through continued work in the region, we hope to overcome the second two obstacles. Other programs will be needed to fully help and address the first issue.

Though the SAS team is still hopeful of additional villages participating in the program, it recognizes that it is unlikely to reach the initial number of wells proposed for the project within the project timeframe. The team is investigating alternatives for addressing this issue post this project.

#### **Additional: Follow-up with Tawisa 2 trained water committees**

Villages who received new wells and water committee training in the previous Tawisa project were followed up with again during the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. Though not a part of this project, the team has continued to quarterly follow up with these communities to help them continue to succeed.

The pump at Bouseei/Weilling village had broken in the project's first quarter. SAS had followed up with the community multiple times post the well breaking, offering logistical and training assistance. This quarter, the community contacted SAS and the team visited them again on February 21st. After



this visit, they contacted a pump mechanic and repaired their own pump. The well is currently fixed and working. The SAS plans to follow up with Bouseei one additional time in the fourth quarter to encourage the water committee and help it prepare in advance for future repairs.

Both Konga Kabiir and Labide were visited on February 21<sup>st</sup>. Unfortunately, the majority of both of their water committees had traveled and had not given their responsibilities to others before leaving. Thus we were not able to check their records or cash boxes. Both of these villages have had their water committees and wells functioning for a full year as of the end of February. Though SAS was unable to check their records this time, SAS believes that both of these committees have started well and are set up well to succeed in the future. SAS will continue to offer assistance to these villages and will help as able but will no longer instigate follow up with their water committees.

The SAS team has made several attempts to contact Goundo over the third quarter, but had trouble connecting as the village's leader and those in the water committee had also traveled. SAS will continue to try to follow up with this village into the fourth quarter.

#### **Additional: SAS Compound Operations**

The SAS compound has continued to be maintained and improved. With the new millet harvest completed, grass fences known as “tar tars” that fell down during rainy season were rebuilt around the three guest huts.



Figure 3: *Building a new tar tar wall next to one of the SAS guest huts.*

#### **Financial Update**

The Tawisa project has mostly continued on budget. Because of the continual use of the SAS car instead of the motorbikes as originally budgeted, the data collection budget line ended slightly over budget with the transportation and vehicle maintenance line also likely to go over budget in the coming quarter. The decision to primarily use the car during the second quarter due to the State of Emergency and tribal fighting in the region was continued through to the end of the data collection. This added the cost of a driver for the car when employees went to the field as well as additional wear and tear on the vehicle. However, since not as many villages have yet participated in the program, it is expected that the project will still finish within budget overall. See the *SAS Hadjer Hadid 2019 Interim Financial Report Quick View* on the following page for further details.