

Socioeconomic Closure Report
Horizons for Green Development

Project Component	Socioeconomic Project
Activity Name	Ecosystem services enforcement by creating a Nature Hub in Monastir, Tunis and improving Voice of the Child CBO.
Geographical Scope	Monastir – Tunisia
Focal point & position	Manel Ben Ismail - Director of Notre Grand Bleu
Email/phone number	manel.benismail@gmail.com / (+216) 54663549
Total activity duration	8 Months
Starting Date	10/02/2020
Completion Date	15/10/2020
Budget Line	4.2
Activity Budget	75,117\$

Description of overall project

Creation of a Nature Hub managed by the Notre Grand Bleu Organization to serve as their headquarters and as a center for scientific research in Monastir.

The Hub will serve the following groups:

- Academia by providing a youth center where they can get on-the-job training, capacity building and practice in 3 sectors: Biodiversity, Climate change, Renewable energy and environment food production.
- Small enterprises; where entrepreneurship will be supported by securing a nature shop to sell hand-made and organic products.
- Quriat Island and its researchers by installing a PV System as a source/model of clean and renewable energy.
- A greywater system as a model of smart and efficient water use. – (no greywater system was installed because it was above the allocated budget).
- Assessing the needs of the single mothers' CBO Voice of the Child to link them with the MINARET project and the Nature Hub in a partnership to provide ecological products for the shop.

MINARET Assigned Deliverables

Completed socioeconomic activity in Monastir.

Achieved?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	YES	<input type="checkbox"/>	NO
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Actual project deliverables and achievements

- Completed construction of the Nature Hub as per the needs of Notre Grand Bleu
- Procured PV system for the hub.
- Installed a greywater system for the hub. (not done)
- Procured furniture for the hub to be fully functioned -
- Installed an underground water well with pump for Voice of the Child.
- Conducted trainings in ecotourism, marketing and packaging, and gender mainstreaming for Voice of the Child and Notre Grand Bleu among other MINARET stakeholders in Monastir.

Conclusions

After some delays, the Nature Hub was constructed as required with all deliverables met and Notre Grand Bleu will soon utilize it as its headquarters to provide the necessary services to the intended beneficiaries in Monastir.

Challenges and bottlenecks throughout implementation

- Horizons initially chose a contractor to construct the hub but the agreement was abandoned before signing as the contractor failed to provide necessary information and documents as requested, this caused delays in implementation of the activity.
- Covid-19 caused a significant delay in implementation/construction of the hub as lockdown measures in Monastir prevented the contractor from working for almost 2 months, among other delays after continuation of work due to a difficult epidemic situation in the country.

Future prospects and sustainability

The sustainability of the hub lies in its eco-friendly design and the incorporation of environmentally friendly technologies such as renewable energy and greywater.

The partnership created with Voice of the Child will benefit both organizations and will meet MINARET's mandate of improving the socioeconomic situation of women in the municipality. The overall effect of the Nature Hub in Monastir and Tunisia in general will ensure its sustainability and future operation through the benefit it provides to the community while the services provided such as the meeting rooms and the nature shop will yield financial benefit to the Hub (and VOC) to provide the resources needed to keep the hub operational moving forward.

Photos



As per the final deliverables or goals required by the MINARET project, we consider the activity completed and finalized, the activity is hereby concluded and this closure report is issued.

Horizons for Green Development
31/10/2020