Environmental Training of Women live near Gorgan Roud River <u>MEGII-IR10-05</u>

Grant Budget: USD 2,600

Objective of the project:

To enhance the knowledge of the local women on the ecological importance of the Gorgan roud River

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Background and Problem Statement

Gorgan-roud River is one of the most important rivers of the Golestan Province. The river originates from the eastern mountains of the Province and enters into the Caspian Sea after flowing through 200 km. The river is an important breeding ground for many precious fishes such as *Rutilus rutilus* and a migratory route for fishes from sturgeon family. At the moment, the Department of the Environment is protecting 12 km of the river near Caspian Sea. There are many villages along the river with people lacking any or adequate knowledge of the river's importance and its ecological values. Women are less aware of these values with even greater effects on this ecosystem because of their daily activities. So, there is clearly a need for educating women of the area with the adverse and destructive effects of their activities and means to protect the environment of this river and Caspian Sea.

Goals and Objectives

- > Identifying the appropriate villages along the Gorgan-roud River for this project
- > Negotiating with the rural council about the implementation of the project
- Conducting training workshops for the women of these villages
- ▶ Having 10 to 15 women in each of these classes
- Educating them about the importance of rivers and water recourses near Caspian Sea.
- > Teaching them about ways to safeguard the river's environment and Caspian Sea.
- Publishing posters and distribute among people.

Implemented project activities:

- Project has received the first installment recently;
- The appropriate villages are identified;
- The texts of posters and brochures are prepared;
- The posters and brochures are published;
- The approval of local authorities to conduct the training meetings are obtained;

The grantee is planning to conduct the training meetings during the next two months.