A strong presence

With the acquisition of Preussag Energie GmbH in 2003, OMV gained a strong presence in Yemen and currently holds four large exploration and production licenses (Block S2, 3, 86 and 70).

The second quarter of 2015 brought a major deterioration of the security environment. In addition the blockade of the sea ports in Yemen prevented the crude oil export.

OMV had to shut-in all production facilities in early April 2015 and declared force majeure on all its blocks and open contracts.

However, as the Habban field location has not been heavily affected by the deteriorated security environment, comprehensive technical, commercial and security arrangements have been put in place to test a resumption of the production from Block S2.

Consequently after investigating all feasible options and export routes, the first crude oil was lifted at the end of July 2018. All crude oil produced that year was and continues to be sold on the international market.

The oil produced is being trucked to the Block 4 facilities (80 km driving distance), operated by Yemen Company for Investment in Oil & Minerals (YICOM). From there the oil is pumped via a 204 km pipeline to YICOM’s Al Nushaima Terminal and then sold to the international markets.

Annual production 2019: approx. 5,000 bbl/d (net to OMV)

Community relations and development

OMV Yemen is committed to support local communities around its operational area of Block S2, Erma District, Shabwah Governorate and has therefore funded a fully functional Emergency Ward at AlMafood Hospital in Erma District including the Emergency building itself, providing an integrated solar power system, as well as essential emergency equipment and furniture.

In 2019, OMV Yemen supported the AlMafood and Bakaila Water Reservoirs Projects in order to improve water supplies to the nearby communities with 3 additional water tanks, benefiting more than 3,700 people covering 28 villages.

The Health Unit in Old Shabwa which provides basic medical services for the neighboring communities of Old Shabwa area also benefited from OMV support, with essential medical equipment & furniture supporting plans to upgrade and sustain medical services to basic Health Center level, benefiting 4,000 people from the Shabwa Governorate.

Additionally, OMV has funded a vocational education program in the field of midwifery offered by the Health Institute in Ataq-Shabwa Governorate. This has been done in partnership with local stakeholders and in line with the health plan for the provision and support of obstetrics and gynecology basic services in the district.

OMV is also investing in the education of locals by providing scholarships to young Yemeni nationals to pursue undergraduate and postgraduate qualification, specifically in medical and engineering disciplines in national and international universities. Approximately 40 students have so far benefited from this program.