### **UN YEMEN**

**COUNTRY RESULTS REPORT** 

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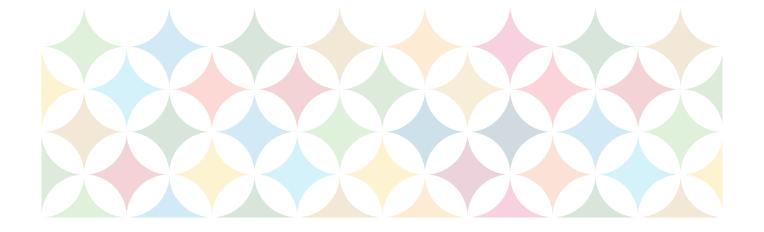
### **UN YEMEN**

COUNTRY RESULTS REPORT

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United Nations Country Team in Yemen	04
United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework	05
CHAPTER ONE	08
1.1 Key Development in the Context of Yemen	09
CHAPTER TWO	17
2.1 Overview of Cooperation Framework Results	18
2.2 Pillar 1: Increase food security, improving livelihood options and job creation	19
2.3 Pillar 2: Preserve and strengthen inclusive, national and local development systems	21
2.4 Pillar 3: Drive inclusive economic structural transformation	24
2.5 Pillar 4: Build social services, social protection and inclusion for all	27
2.6 Support to Partnerships and Financing the 2030 Agenda	32
2.7 Results of the UN working more and better together	37
2.8 Key Challenges and Lessons Learned	39
2.9 Financial Overview and Resource Mobilization	41
CHAPTER THREE	47
3.1 UNCT key focus for next year	48
3.2 Strategic Focus and Initiatives in Yemen for 2024	48
Annexes	51
Implementing Partners – 2023	51
Donors	52





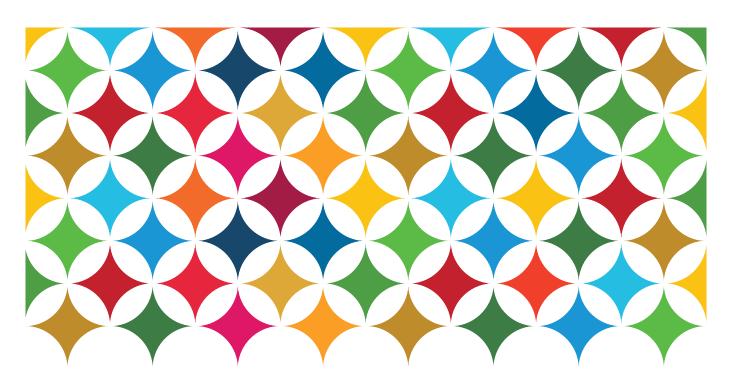


### United Nations Country Team in Yemen

The United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Yemen comprises representatives from 19 United Nations Funds, Programmes, and Specialized agencies, led by the United Nations Resident Coordinator. This team is pivotal in assisting Yemen to meet its development goals and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Among these members, five agencies operate without a physical presence within the country, highlighting the challenging context in which the UNCT operates. The team collaborates closely with a United Nations Information Centre (UNIC), crucial for disseminating information about the UN's activities in Yemen.

The activities of the Yemen UNCT are guided by a strategic United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) specifically tailored for Yemen, extending through 2025. Initiated in the 2022, this cooperation framework is a vital planning and implementation tool for the UNCT's development initiatives in Yemen. It is closely aligned with Yemen's context and the global 2030 Agenda, setting forth four strategic pillars that lead to specific outcomes and outputs. Oversight and strategic guidance for this framework is provided by the Programme Management Team (PMT) that includes relevant UN agencies.

To support its operations, the Yemen UNCT benefits from various coordination mechanisms, including four Results Groups that align with the strategic outcomes of the Cooperation Framework. The framework's implementation is further supported by an Operations Management Team (OMT), a United Nations Communications Group (UNCG), and Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Group (MEL). These entities play a crucial role in ensuring the UN's work in Yemen is coherent, effective, and efficient, despite the complex challenges faced in the country.





### United Nations Sustainable **Development Cooperation Framework**





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### STRATEGIC PILLAR 3

### DRIVE INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC STRUCTURAL TRANSFORMATION



#### **Outcome:**

Access to decent work with livelihood opportunities for resilience to economic shocks increased for all.



#### **Focus areas:**

- Skills Development and Vocational Training
- Support Small and Medium Enterprises
- Labor Rights and Protection
- + Social Protection
- ◆ Economic Support
- Gender Equality and Access



### **UNSDCF**

### Implementing Agencies:





































In 2023, Yemen's journey towards sustainable development unfolded against the backdrop of over-eight-years of ongoing conflict and emerging global challenges, highlighting a strategic shift in the approach to resilience and sustainability. This year's developments have been instrumental in shaping the trajectory towards the SDGs, with the UNCT playing a pivotal role in adapting to the dynamic needs of the country to address the root causes of vulnerability—such as the compounded challenges of conflict, climate change, and economic instability—thereby paving the way for sustainable growth and progress towards the SDGs.

### **Key Developments**



### Transition to Resilience-Based Development:

Efforts intensified to move beyond immediate humanitarian responses, targeting the underlying factors of food insecurity, poor/damaged infrastructure, economic difficulties, and climate vulnerabilities. Strategies included addressing currency fluctuations and the global economic impacts on Yemen.



### Climate Resilience and Food Security:

The year witnessed severe food insecurity, worsened by climate change effects, such as cyclone Tej and desert locust invasions. Recognizing the urgency, efforts to integrate climate resilience into development planning and adopt sustainable practices for food security were prioritized.



### Insights from the Multi-Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS)

The completion of the MICS highlighted significant gaps in social services, including increased protection risks and exposure, particularly affecting women, and children. These insights informed the recalibration of strategies to better align with SDG priorities, addressing immediate needs while considering the operational challenges of fragile ceasefires and economic instability.



### Advancements in Strategic Areas

The UNCT enhanced efforts in critical domains like durable solutions for the Yemeni population, gender-responsive programming, economic recovery, and interventions to address livelihood and water scarcity. These efforts emphasized a commitment to tackling vulnerability at its roots and enhancing community resilience.



### Adapting to Challenges

Yemen's developmental and humanitarian landscape continued to be shaped by chronic conflicts. In response, the UNCT, alongside Yemeni communities and international donors, pushed for a strategic evolution beyond conventional emergency responses. This new direction focused on strengthening Yemen's developmental infrastructure, enhancing public institutions' capacity, and bolstering social protection mechanisms to address the long-term impacts of the crisis.

### Operational Challenges

Delivering essential services faced significant obstacles due to the fragile political and security situation, economic hurdles, and infrastructure damage. Coordination and execution of programs were complicated by political fragmentation and logistical challenges, impacting crucial initiatives. This also affected effective project monitoring because of access challenges.



### Looking Ahead

The experiences of 2023 underscored the importance of agile and adaptable programming to effectively respond to Yemen's evolving challenges. Emphasizing local ownership, capacity building, and sustainable development is crucial for fostering long-term resilience. Despite ongoing challenges, there's a renewed commitment to supporting Yemen's path towards stability, resilience, and sustainable prosperity, integrating humanitarian and developmental efforts to address vulnerability's root causes comprehensively.

The adaptive and flexible approach adopted by the UNCT, including improved coordination among UN entities, has been essential in navigating the complexities of Yemen's development landscape. These concentrated efforts illustrate a comprehensive understanding of the unique challenges faced by Yemen and the multifaceted strategies employed to advance towards the SDGs in such a challenging context.





### Strategic Outcomes and Key Outputs

In addressing the complex and shifting dynamics within Yemen, UNCT has outlined a series of objectives designed to align with the overarching aims of the UNSDCF. These targeted outcomes not only reflect a commitment to sustainable and inclusive development but also demonstrate a strategic approach to overcoming the challenges faced by Yemenis.



STRATEGIC RESULT 01

#### Enhancing Food Security and Economic Livelihoods

STRATEGIC RESULT 02

### Strengthening Inclusive Governance and Local Development





This year, the UNCT intensified efforts to combat food insecurity and malnutrition, providing humanitarian assistance to vulnerable communities while simultaneously bolstering the agricultural sector's resilience against climate adversities. Recognizing the pivotal role of economic empowerment in sustainable development, the UNCT launched initiatives aimed at livelihood enhancement, focusing on vocational training and entrepreneurship, thereby sparking job creation and providing new opportunities for Yemen's population, including youth and women.

The UNCT's commitment to fortifying Yemen's governance structures saw progress in enhancing the capabilities of both national and local institutions. By championing the decentralization process, the aim was to empower local governance, enabling more responsive and effective community development. Through facilitating participatory approaches, the UNCT ensured that development efforts were grounded in the aspirations and needs of the Yemeni people, thereby promoting inclusive governance.



STRATEGIC RESULT 03

Catalysing Inclusive Economic Transformation STRATEGIC RESULT 04

Advancing Social Services, Protection, and Inclusion





Acknowledging the critical need for economic recovery and diversification, the UNCT worked diligently to invigorate Yemen's economic landscape. Supported policies and programs that encourage private sector development, entrepreneurship, and investments in sustainable and emerging sectors. Infrastructure development, particularly in energy and transportation, stood out as a cornerstone of the UN efforts to lay the groundwork for robust economic activities.

With a focus on building resilient social systems, the UNCT endeavoured to enhance access to quality health and education services across Yemen, ensuring inclusivity and equity. The development and expansion of social protection mechanisms provided critical safety nets for the poor and vulnerable, cushioning against economic and social shocks. Further, the initiatives prioritized the inclusion of marginalized groups, promoting equity, and fostering a sense of belonging and social cohesion among all Yemenis.



### Snapshots of UN's Comprehensive Support in Yemen

### Capacity Building and Training Initiatives:

- Juvenile Justice System Improvements: Supported the national plan to improve the juvenile justice system, training 67 government staff, and providing legal and social support to 3,285 children in contact with the law.
- Partnered with the Ministry of Youth and Sports and the private sector to provide life skills and employability training to 1,127 young individuals.
- Trained 43 lawyers and 21 journalists on freedom of expression and safety, establishing a network for journalist safety.
- Trained 45 journalists and radio staff, producing 12 radio programs in Aden and Sanaa on COVID-19 impacts, with a focus on gender perspectives.

3,285 children IN CONTACT WITH THE LAW

- Community Midwife Training:
   18 midwives trained in Clinical Management of Rape (CMR).
- Midwifery Education:
   139 students and 161 faculty members received training; 52 professionals trained in obstetric fistula management.
- On-the-Job Training:
   300 midwives received supplies for community-based services; 50 established home clinics.
- Youth Pact Training:
   30 young individuals trained in UN mechanisms and resource mobilization.

### Data and Analysis Capacity:

Training for 201 individuals in population analysis and strategic planningand 206 individuals on GIS and digital data, supporting national reports and projections.

→ Improving Public Service Capacities: Training for local service providers in 44 districts, development of district plans incorporating local needs.



- Preservice training for in-patient management of severe acute malnutrition:
   755 students including medical masters in pediatrics, bachelors, nurses, and midwives
- → DRR capacity building: Initiative to train the government officials (Civil Defense) and 120 volunteers on Emergency Preparedness and Response.
- ★ GBV capacity development: 556 were reached, targeting GBV service providers working directly with survivors and local organizations and government.



### Access to Financial Services:

 Provided Matching Grants to smallholders and SMEs, adapting to regulatory changes to support economic resilience.



#### **Health Services and Supplies:**

- Essential medicines and family planning commodities supplied to the Ministry of Health (MOH) and NGOs.
- ◆ Support to Reproductive Health Facilities: 95 facilities and 2,065 workers received support.
- ◆ Enhancing the operational capacities of the supported health facilities and isolation units in multiple governorates in Yemen.



### Institutional and Infrastructure Support:

- Technical support to the National Population Council (NPC) for strategic planning.
- Development of a civil registration system, training 279 personnel across 82 centers.
- ♦ 8 referral and teaching hospitals' pediatric in-patient ward and pediatric intensive care unit were rehabilitated and equipped with needed health technologies.
- Procurement and delivering of IT equipment and furniture to improve work for government institutions.

#### **Health Achievements:**

- Establishment of safe spaces for women and girls, training in reproductive health and GBV principles, economic empowerment services for nearly 31,000 women, and over 1.2 million individuals accessing reproductive health services.
- Supported the development of multi-year health strategies, including Midwifery and Reproductive Health Strategy, Mental Health Strategy, Child and Adolescent Health Strategy, National Nutrition Strategy Framework, Maternal, and Newborn Health Strategies.
- Equipped over 300 community midwives for service provision across 15 governorates.
- \$698 million invested in 2023 to support national strategies and policies in line with SDGs, enhancing institutional capacities in health, nutrition, education, WASH, child protection, and social protection.
- Advanced Reproductive Health (RH) logistics, training Ministry of Health staff, and implementing a National RH Supply Chain Manual.



 Enhanced two community radio stations' capacity to broadcast essential humanitarian information.





→ Conducted pivotal studies for improving business skills, impacting over 24,000 individuals through job creation.

### Community Safety and Justice:

 Established community mediation committees, educated over 62,000 members on IED risks, supported legal counselling, and enhanced the capacity of rule of law institutions.

### Strengthening Governance Relations:

 Enhanced cooperation between governance entities and stakeholders, establishing platforms for collaboration and economic opportunity creation.

### **Improving Public Service Capacities:**

◆ Training for local service providers in 44 districts, development of district plans incorporating local needs.

#### **Education System Enhancement**

- ◆ Developed Education Management Information System (EMIS) roadmap.
- Reviewed and laid foundational groundwork for Yemen Transitional Education Plan (TEP) and subsequent Education Sector Plan (ESP).
- ◆ Conducted institutional capacity assessment of the Ministry of Education to implement ESP effectively.

### Media Freedom and Journalist Safety

◆ Formed Yemeni Media Coordination Group with 42 media organizations to discuss media's role in peacebuilding and journalist safety, leading to a Media Development Roadmap.

#### Gender Justice and Protection:

◆ Enhanced capacity of women justice professionals and community leaders, improved GBV shelter capacity, and promoted gender inclusivity.

### **Detainee Protection and Reintegration:**

- Improved vocational skills, living conditions, and sustainable food sources for detainees,
- reducing the number of unsentenced detainees.

→ Improved local authorities' response to community needs through updated training and collaboration platforms.

#### **Youth Empowerment Initiatives**

→ Delivered integrated youth health services and legal counselling to 11,525 and facilitated access to knowledge and awareness raising on GBV & RH issues using online sphere with a total outreach 3,435,420.

### GBV Prevention & Response Strategies at the Community Level

- ★ Expanded Women and Girls Safe Spaces (WGSS) to provide Gender-Based Violence (GBV) prevention, risk mitigation, and response services.
- Supported community committees and women-to-women networks to address the needs of women and girls.
- ◆ Delivered 66% of the total Gender-Based Violence Area of Responsibility (GBV AoR) response efforts.
- Provided comprehensive GBV services through WGSS, MHPSS centers, and safe shelters, to the needs of survivors and vulnerable women and girls.



### Child Protection Efforts

- Advanced initiatives following the Government of Yemen's commitment to prevent child recruitment in conflict, leading to conditional delisting of government forces for recruitment violations.
- → Facilitated birth registration for approximately 1.26 million children by supplying birth registration certificate stationeries/forms.

#### **Economic Empowerment and Inclusion**

- Advocated for the inclusion of women, youth, and marginalized groups in economic development, reaching 335 individuals on issues like population, reproductive health, and youth empowerment.
- Enhanced the capacities of civil society organizations working with displaced women and girls for better economic participation and wellbeing.
- Integrating mental health support with economic empowerment to reduce dependence on abusive situations, enhancing the ability of individuals, especially women, to leave unsafe environments.
- Supported 848 individuals with training and grants, facilitating their economic integration into the fisheries sector.
- Equipped 280 individuals with skills in community-based planning and contract management, involving them as members across 49 Subdistrict Community Committees
- Bolstered 5,362 micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs), supporting economic growth and sustainability.

 Rehabilitated agriculture for 9,845 smallholders, significantly improving their productivity and livelihoods.

9,845 smallholder



 Delivered essential basic services to 795,509 vulnerable community members, addressing immediate needs and fostering community resilience.

ESSENTIAL
BASIC SERVICES
are Delivered to



795,509

vulnerable community members





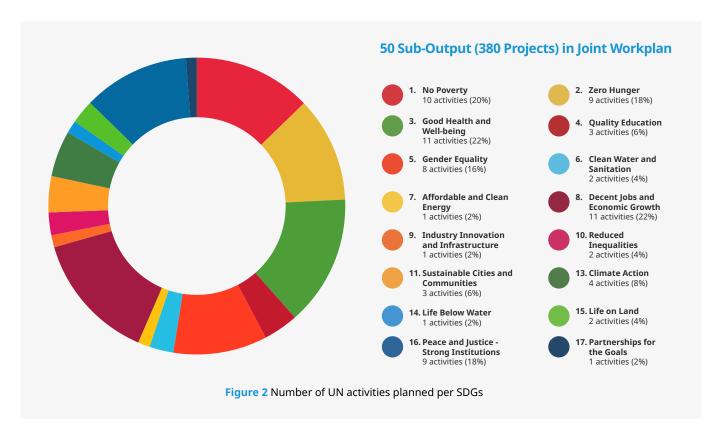


The UNCT in Yemen has demonstrated commendable flexibility and responsiveness in aligning its Joint Work Plan (JWP) and UNSDCF to the rapidly evolving priorities and conditions within the country. Despite facing a complex and challenging environment, the UNCT's efforts have significantly contributed to mitigating risks and advancing development priorities across Yemen. This assessment reflects on the trends, cumulative results since the beginning of the UNSDCF cycle.

Since the inception of the UNSDCF cycle, the UNCT has systematically focused on building resilience, enhancing social protection systems, and improving access to essential services. The substantial achievements in areas such as livelihood, economic recovery, job creation, health, education, WASH, and social protection have laid a solid foundation for sustainable development and risk reduction in Yemen.

The UNCT has actively supported the development of a social protection strategic framework in collaboration with local authorities, aiming for completion in 2024. This initiative represents a pivotal step towards creating a more inclusive and responsive social protection system. Additionally, through targeted cash assistance programs and capacity-building efforts, the UNCT has reached millions of vulnerable individuals, directly contributing to stabilizing their socio-economic conditions.

Throughout its operations, the UNCT has consistently integrated the Guiding Principles of the Cooperation Framework Guidelines into its strategic planning and implementation processes. Principles such as inclusivity, sustainability, and resilience have been at the forefront of the UNCT's efforts to tailor its interventions to the specific needs and priorities of the Yemeni context. This principled approach has ensured that the UNCT's work not only addresses immediate needs but also contributes to long-term development goals and the reduction of vulnerabilities across the country.



# 2.2 Pillar 1: Increase food security, improving livelihood options and job creation



#### **CONTRIBUTING AGENCIES**





















The UNCT's strategic objectives under the first pillar of the UNSDCF revolve around creating a more resilient, inclusive, and sustainable future for Yemenis amid ongoing challenges. By focusing on evidence-based and gender-responsive environmental management, (Evidence based, gender-responsive, inclusive mechanisms, policies and legislation for sustainable climate-sensitive environmental management promoted), emphasizing the need for systems that can withstand climatic shocks and provide for the nutritional needs of the most vulnerable (Effective gender-responsive food production, diversification, and nutrition including for the most vulnerable population groups promoted) and strengthening disaster prevention and response capacity (Prevention of and response to environmental disaster strengthened).

These objectives paint a vision of a Yemen that is not only more resilient in the face of environmental and climatic challenges but also more equitable and inclusive, ensuring that every segment of society can contribute to and benefit from sustainable development efforts.

Further, the agencies, under this pillar, focused on a comprehensive strategy aimed at enhancing food security, nutrition, and livelihood governance, alongside the improvement of public service delivery and infrastructure development. This strategy was encapsulated in several key priorities:



### Capacity Building and Governance

Significant progress has been made in bolstering the capabilities of both public and private institutions across key areas such as food security, nutrition, and disaster risk reduction (DRR). This holistic approach includes the establishment of five Desert Locust Control Centres and the enhancement of the Yemen Center for Remote Sensing to better mitigate threats to food security. Additionally, efforts have focused on improving sustainable fishing practices and infrastructure efficiency through the formation of fisheries governance committees and the upgrading of the Aden Fish Harbor. The development of advanced digital information systems has also significantly improved data management capabilities, crucial for informed decisionmaking.

In parallel, the capacity of national and subnational governments, alongside Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), has been strengthened in protecting and promoting Housing, Land, and Property (HLP) rights, integrating these efforts within the broader context of food security, nutrition, and disaster resilience. Moreover, DRR initiatives have been advanced through the training of officials from Civil Defence and 120 volunteers in Emergency Response and response planning.



### Strengthening Value Chains and Economic Opportunities

The UNCT, prioritizing the strengthening of (SMEs), has enhanced value chains, employment, household incomes, and food security through cash transfers, food for assets initiatives, and support to SMEs and microfinance institutions.



### Research and Policy Support

The formulation of the National Agriculture and Fisheries Strategy and Investment Plan was a significant milestone, supported by comprehensive research, market assessments, and the development of early warning systems for agriculture.



### Environmental Management and Peacebuilding

The UNCT has been instrumental in tackling Yemen's complex challenges, with efforts spanning from building resilient food systems to enhancing economic opportunities and promoting sustainable environmental practices amidst conflict. This includes:

- → Playing a crucial role in preventing an environmental catastrophe by addressing the risks associated with the FSO SAFER oil tanker, averting a potential oil spill disaster.
- ◆ Strengthening the capabilities of local authorities to manage water resources efficiently, crucial for mitigating the impacts of climate change and ensuring sustainable environmental management.
- Facilitating peacebuilding initiatives by forming community committees and launching infrastructure rehabilitation projects.



### **Food Production and** Livelihood Enhancement

Efforts were geared towards rejuvenating food production capacities across agricultural, livestock, fisheries, and apiculture sectors. This was facilitated through the distribution of essential inputs and training to vulnerable communities, alongside initiatives to safeguard livestock through vaccination campaigns and the promotion of climate-smart agricultural practices.



### Nutrition Promotion and Awareness

Activities aimed at promoting nutrition included equipping women's groups with cooking and agro-processing equipment, conducting training on food handling, and supporting nutrition-sensitive agriculture initiatives.



### Infrastructure Development and Rehabilitation

Significant investments were made in developing and rehabilitating critical public infrastructure such as roads, bridges, health facilities, and educational institutions, with a focus on enhancing trade, health, and nutrition access.

# 2.3 Pillar 2: Preserve and strengthen inclusive, national and local development systems



#### **CONTRIBUTING AGENCIES**















Under the UNCT in Yemen, the overarching objective is twofold, aimed at fundamentally transforming the capacity and effectiveness of both governance structures (Sub-national institutions and systems capacity to respond to the needs of women, youth and vulnerable and marginalized population groups improved) and justice systems (Formal and informal justice systems and institutions capacity to deliver accessible, equitable and effective justice for the Rule of Law for all supported) to inclusively address the complex needs of the country's most vulnerable populations.

This dual-faceted approach focuses firstly on enhancing the responsiveness and adaptability of sub-national institutions and systems, ensuring that women, youth, and marginalized groups receive the support and opportunities necessary for their empowerment and well-being. Concurrently, it emphasizes the reinforcement of both formal and informal justice mechanisms, striving to establish a foundation where accessible, equitable, and effective justice is not just an ideal but a reality for every citizen, in strict adherence to the Rule of Law.

Through a comprehensive blend of capacity building, policy advocacy, and direct support, the UNCT endeavours to create an environment where no one is left behind, and where every individual could contribute to and benefit from Yemen's path toward recovery and growth.

In the complex and challenging context of Yemen, the UNCT, including UNDP, UN Women, and UNFPA, have embarked on critical initiatives aimed at strengthening sub-national institutions and systems, improving access to justice, and promoting gender equality and women's empowerment.



### Strengthening Sub-national Institutions and Systems:

Under the Strengthening Institutional and Economic Resilience in Yemen (SIERY) program, UNDP has notably enhanced the capabilities of local authorities across both Governorate and District levels. Key achievements include:

- → Development of skills in Public Expenditure Management to facilitate recovery planning.
- collaboration between authorities and community representative networks to enhance public service delivery.
- ★ Establishing collaboration platforms between local authorities and the private sector.
- Securing funding for over 150 participatorily selected public service investments across all districts.

Additionally, 45 Districts have developed three-year Resilience & Recovery Plans for 2023-2026, and five Governorates have formulated Local Economic Development Plans. These plans now serve as a robust foundation for dialogue on support with the international community. These strategic efforts have gradually rebuilt trust in local authorities, fostered a new social contract, and contributed to the emergence of a government tier increasingly capable of delivering the peace dividend.





### Enhancing Justice Systems for the Rule of Law:

In Yemen, bolstering the capacity of both formal and informal justice systems has been a cornerstone of the UNCT governance and rule of law initiatives, marking significant strides toward enhancing access to justice, particularly in the southern regions, and improving migration management practices. Through the establishment of Community Mediation Committees and service centres, the UNDP has significantly enhanced the local institutions' ability to provide critical dispute resolution services and manage migration in a rights-based manner. These efforts represent a crucial step forward in building trust and improving the efficiency of public services amid a context of a fragmented rule of law sector and the absence of a comprehensive peace agreement.

In parallel, the UNFPA has been at the forefront of strengthening the capacity of justice systems to deliver accessible, equitable, and effective justice for all Yemenis, in line with Rule of Law principles. This approach is comprehensive, addressing the complex challenges Yemen faces by integrating essential services and focusing on a nuanced analysis of needs, risks, and vulnerabilities. A key aspect of these initiatives is the economic empowerment of vulnerable populations, particularly women and girls, through vocational training programs designed to meet immediate needs while addressing the root causes of vulnerability and injustice.

Moreover, the introduction of complaint and feedback mechanisms has been a significant advancement, aimed at enhancing accountability and ensuring that the concerns of marginalized and at-risk groups are acknowledged and addressed. This holistic strategy extends across the spectrum of preparedness, response, recovery, and development efforts, underscoring the critical interlinkage between effective justice delivery and broader humanitarian and development objectives in Yemen.



### Empowering Women and Promoting Gender Equality:

UN Women has been at the forefront of integrating gender equality and women's empowerment across humanitarian and development efforts, guided by a comprehensive approach to ensure that vulnerable groups, especially women and girls, are supported. This includes enhancing the capabilities of women and youth-led organizations to deliver gender-responsive humanitarian aid and providing essential services to women and girls who are survivors of gender-based violence or are at risk, thereby contributing to safer and more resilient communities.

Efforts to improve coordination and knowledge sharing among humanitarian actors have led to more impactful gender-focused outcomes across Yemen. Key activities have included advocacy for women and girls' rights and the development of resources to foster a more inclusive society.

Central to UN Women's strategy is the promotion of women's roles in peace and security, aligned with the UNSCR 1325. This involves strengthening women and youth's involvement in peacebuilding and developing policies and programs for inclusive recovery and reconstruction, advancing the goals of the UNSCR 1325 National Action Plan towards a more equitable and stable Yemen.

"We used to have a very comfortable life, relying on camels for sustenance, and our husbands had a steady source of income," explains Nawal, a mother of seven. "However, after our displacement, we had no means to provide for ourselves anymore."

In the community centre in Al Khukhah district, Hodeidah governorate, IOM Yemen provides continuous support for internally displaced persons, including ongoing literacy classes, guiding them on a path of resilience and recovery.

**READ MORE** 



## 2.4 Pillar 3: Drive inclusive economic structural transformation

















Total Expenditure

\$63,142,395

#### **CONTRIBUTING AGENCIES**















The UNCT is committed to driving inclusive economic structural transformation as a cornerstone of its strategy to foster peace, stability, and prosperity in a country marked by prolonged conflict and humanitarian challenges. Two critical goals underpin this strategic aim: promoting (people-centred economic policies and legislation for inclusive, gender-sensitive, and diversified economic growth, including for vulnerable population groups); and fostering (inclusive and gender-responsive microeconomic development and job creation).

The first goal aims to ensure that economic growth benefits all segments of society, particularly the most vulnerable, by advocating for diversified economic activities and equitable access to opportunities. The second goal concentrates on creating sustainable livelihoods at the grassroots level, targeting women, youth, and internally displaced persons to build resilience and reduce poverty through skill development and access to economic opportunities.

Together, these goals work synergistically to support a comprehensive approach to economic recovery and development in Yemen. By addressing both macroeconomic policies and grassroots economic empowerment, the UNCT's approach aims to rebuild Yemen's economy on a foundation of inclusivity, gender sensitivity, and resilience, contributing to peace, stability, and prosperity for all Yemenis.

The United Nations recognizes the vital role youth play in achieving development goals, and that is interpreted by the programs provided to empower youth in Yemen.





### Integrating Conflict Sensitivity in Development Projects

The Green Economic Recovery Development Unit of the UNDP, has significantly contributed to the economic and social upliftment of Yemeni communities through the "Supporting Resilient Livelihoods, Food Security, and Climate Adaptation in Yemen" (ERRY III) project. Focused on vulnerable populations across governorates such as Hajjah, Hodeida, Taiz, Mahwit, Lahj, and Abyan, ERRY III enhances local capabilities in conflict sensitivity and resolution. Additionally, it has successfully provided 37 public facilities with access to uninterrupted solar/clean energy.



### Community-led Rehabilitation: Economic and Social Resilience

At the heart of these efforts is the objective to build community resilience by enhancing capacities and reducing vulnerabilities exacerbated by the protracted crisis in Yemen. This is reflected in the formation and capacity enhancement of 50 Subdistricts Community Committees, comprising 717 members, 46% of whom are women, in community-based planning, needs prioritization, and contract management for construction works. Initiatives have also prioritized social cohesion, conflict mitigation, and community dialogue, with significant knowledge increases among community representatives.

In addition, UNOPS is implementing largescale infrastructure projects including: Educational facilities, upgrading health facilities to improve access to medical services., WASH services, roads and municipal infrastructure.

UN-Habitat has also worked to improve the land tenure and HLP rights situation of vulnerable populations in Aden, Al-Hudaydah, and Al-Hawta cities, as a foundation for recovery and stability.



### Fostering Youth Entrepreneurship for Economic Recovery in Post-**Conflict Settings**

Further, UNDP has empowered rural youth with essential vocational, technical, and business skills, fostering an entrepreneurship culture to boost their employability and productive engagement in economic and local recovery activities. This initiative includes technical and business training for targeted beneficiaries, alongside the rehabilitation of community assets and the creation of shortterm employment opportunities for 4,800 beneficiaries, 38% of whom are women. Additionally, a comprehensive training program on life and business skills was delivered, preparing 3,000 cash-for-work beneficiaries for grants to establish income projects or microbusinesses, supported by the development and operation of "Micro, and Medium-sized Enterprises" Small, MSMEs platform.



### Local Governance and Community Engagement in Crisis Contexts

In partnership with King Salman Relief, UNDP has also focused on building the capacity of local authorities, community leaders, and vulnerable populations in Aden, Lahj, and Hadramout for peace-building processes, shock responses, and conflict resolution. This includes the establishment of Peace Committees in the targeted governorates and the development of capacities in transformational leadership, conflict prevention, dispute resolution, and the provision of safe spaces for psychosocial support for SGBV cases.





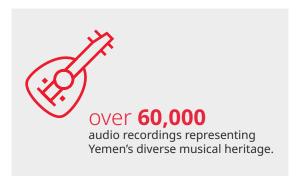
### Strengthening WASH Governance through Capacity Building

The collective impact of these initiatives is substantial, with over 19,000 jobs created, four million people accessing social services, and significant restoration of educational, health, and WASH facilities. This is further complemented by UNICEF's contributions, particularly in WASH, where financial support, capacity-building training, and workshops were provided for 773 staff members under the Ministry of Water and Environment. UNICEF's efforts in installing or rehabilitating water supply, sanitation systems, and wastewater treatment plants have not only sustained operations and preserved jobs but have also significantly improved access to safe and sustainable drinking water for vulnerable communities, reducing the risk of waterborne diseases and promoting economic activity.



### **Preserving Audiovisual Heritage** in Yemen

Aiming to support the preservation of Yemen's lyrical heritage, this initiative collaborated with the Yemeni House of Music and Arts (YHMA) to prevent the loss or distortion of over 60,000 audio recordings representing Yemen's diverse musical heritage. A 5-day training workshop on archiving and digitization was conducted for 12 young Yemenis, leading to the digital conversion of 1,053 audio recordings, comprehensive data entry for recordings, and the cataloguing of 5,000 recordings in the database.





### **Improvement of Strategic** Management Practices for Young **Cultural Entrepreneurs**

Funded by the EU, this initiative addresses management gaps in cultural enterprises by offering tailored organizational support and training to CSOs in culture and arts, local organisations, and local authorities. The program connects young creators with training and mentorship in sustainable management, resource mobilization, strategic partnerships, and technical workshops for artistic and cultural development.



### **Rehabilitation of Built Heritage** and Commercial Spaces

This initiative seeks to revitalize selected governorates in Yemen by enhancing the capacities of Yemeni youth through cashfor-work programs and training. It aims to provide young male and female workers with access to microfinance tools and technical assistance, thereby fostering professional empowerment inclusion in the labour market. Additionally, it focuses on strengthening the capabilities of local cultural heritage stakeholders and authorities in strategic planning, governance, and preventive conservation, as well as the development of evidence-informed rehabilitation plans and sustainable local management strategies.



### Strengthening Capacities in Countering Illegal Trafficking of **Cultural Properties**

This initiative focuses on enhancing the capacities of competent bodies to combat the illicit trafficking of cultural properties, raising awareness, supporting inventorying efforts of museum collections, and strengthening the capabilities of heritage professionals. Despite ongoing discussions with Yemeni stakeholders, no dedicated funding has been secured as of October 2023.

### 2.5 Pillar 4: Build social services, social protection and inclusion for all















**Total Expenditure** \$292,964,363

#### **CONTRIBUTING AGENCIES**





















Under this Results Outcome, the UN set two primary goals, each targeting specific aspects of enhancing social services and social protection systems. The first, (Evidence-based policies, regulation and mechanisms ensuring access to inclusive quality gender-sensitive social protection and protection services promoted), was designed to empower institutions and civil society. It focused on promoting evidence-based policies and regulations to ensure that access to high-quality social protection and support services was inclusive and sensitive to gender disparities. The second goal, (Responsive, equitable, inclusive, accountable, and transparent service delivery systems at national and local levels supported), aimed at transforming the service delivery systems at both national and local levels. This transformation sought to make services universally accessible, responsive, equitable, inclusive, accountable, and transparent. This dual-pronged approach was not merely a short-term intervention but a foundational step towards building a sustainable and resilient social fabric in Yemen.

The UNCT, continued to enhance its comprehensive support across Yemen. Under this Outcome, the multifaceted support for Yemen focused on strengthening social services, enhancing protection mechanisms, boosting institutional capacities, and delivering direct community support. Here's an overview of the initiatives undertaken under Outcome 4:



### Social Protection Initiatives in Vennen

The United Nations, in collaboration with Yemen's Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor, is spearheading the creation of a strategic framework for social protection. Set to be finalized in 2024, this initiative aims to revamp the social protection system, tailoring it more closely to meet the needs of Yemen's most vulnerable communities.

#### ★ Enhanced Framework for Social Protection

A key achievement has been the strengthening of the capacity of Yemen's national authorities in social protection. The UNCT has undertaken significant analytical work, including child multidimensional poverty and social protection situation and gap analyses. These efforts underpin the development of a national social protection strategic framework, designed to make the system more inclusive and effective in meeting the diverse needs of the Yemeni populations. The strategy emphasizes collaboration among stakeholders to achieve a lasting impact.

Through persistent negotiations with government authorities, the UNCT played a key role in securing the endorsement of the first-ever GBV Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) in December 2023. This critical milestone, paves the way for improved quality of service provision for GBV survivors in Yemen.

#### Child Protection and Social Services

The formulation of a comprehensive Child Protection Action Plan marks a significant advancement, aiming to improve case management and reporting mechanisms. Additionally, there's a concerted push to enhance the skills of social workers, justice service providers, government personnel, and CSOs, fortifying the network of protection for children throughout Yemen.

### → Efficient Social Protection Delivery

The UNCT's deployment of multi-purpose unconditional cash assistance programs has reached around 9.6 million individuals across 1.4 million households, evidencing a broad impact. These efforts are further supported by capacity-building initiatives for the Social Welfare Fund (SWF) and the Social Fund for Development (SFD), aimed at ensuring the sustainability of these cash assistance endeavours.

### CASH ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

has reached around



**9.6 M** individuals



**1.4 M** households

Together, these actions underscore the UN's comprehensive strategy to tackle the challenges in Yemen, showcasing how integrated support can enhance resilience and encourage sustainable development amid adversity.

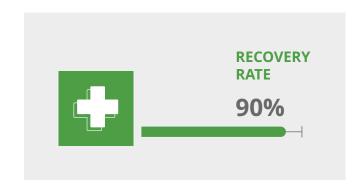


### Enhancing Direct Service Delivery

The UNCT has been instrumental in supporting the provision of vital services to Yemen's population, targeting key areas such as health, nutrition, education, WASH, and child protection. This direct intervention has led to significant improvements, including revitalizing health facilities, bolstering educational support, expanding malnutrition treatment, upgrading water and sanitation infrastructure, and offering mental health and psychosocial support to children and their caregivers.

### Healthcare and Nutrition: Major Improvements

In the health domain, UNCT initiatives have enabled over 5.4 million people to access crucial health services. These include measles and polio vaccinations for over 1.2 million children and comprehensive malnutrition treatments for nearly 1.9 million children and mothers. The efforts have seen a 90% recovery rate among 400,000 children treated for severe acute malnutrition, highlighting the UNCT's commitment to addressing the health challenges faced by Yemen's vulnerable groups.



### ♦ Strengthening Resilience through Capacity Building

A significant aspect of the UNCT's strategy has involved enhancing the capacity of service delivery at the subnational level. Over 26,000 frontline workers across various sectors received training to better serve their communities, contributing significantly to the resilience and overall well-being of the populace. Direct support to more than 5,500 schools and healthcare facilities was crucial in averting the collapse of these institutions, thereby ensuring the uninterrupted provision of essential services.

Moreover, the strategic issuance of monthly incentives to 56,000 teachers and healthcare workers helped retain these critical professionals in an environment where regular salaries were uncertain, thereby stabilizing the education and health sectors.



#### Unconditional Cash Assistance for Household Stability

The provision of unconditional cash assistance to approximately 9.6 million individuals across 1.5 million households, distributed thrice yearly, has played a pivotal role in offering relief in difficult socioeconomic conditions. This support not only provided immediate help but also bolstered the resilience of households, offering them a semblance of financial stability and security in the face of adversity.



**READ MORE** 





### Strategic Initiative for Out-of-School Children

A focused strategy was developed to tackle the challenge of out-of-school children in Yemen. This initiative aims to identify and mitigate the barriers that hinder these children's access to education, with a special focus on the most vulnerable groups. The strategy is envisioned to serve as both a roadmap for action and a means to attract funding, striving to close the educational divide throughout the nation.

### Enhancing Child Welfare: Education, Safety, and Mental Health

In an effort to bolster child welfare, educational programs have successfully reached over two million schoolchildren, providing a blend of formal and informal learning opportunities. These programs have facilitated access to educational materials, supported teacher development, and enabled over 520,000 students to participate in national exams. Additionally, school feeding initiatives have benefited more than 1.8 million children, encouraged school attendance, and contributed to a positive feedback loop of educational advancement.

Safety measures, including Mine Risk Education, have reached over 845,000 children, highlighting the importance of protecting young populations from the dangers of landmines. Complementing these efforts, Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) has been provided to 328,000 individuals, focusing on the mental well-being of children and their caregivers amidst the ongoing challenges in Yemen.





### Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Efforts and Strategic Advances

The UNCT has played a crucial role in advancing the capacity of the WASH sector in Yemen. A targeted training program for 448 staff members from the Ministry of Water and Environment is central to these efforts, focusing on technical skill enhancement and support. An integral part of this initiative is the implementation of a Fuel Exit Strategy, which aims to reduce fuel dependence by incorporating renewable energy sources, minimizing water loss, and boosting energy efficiency.

In collaboration with the Stockholm Water Institute, the UNCT has undertaken a comprehensive WASH Bottleneck Analysis. This analysis examines the sector's challenges, spanning policy, institutional frameworks, financing, and capacity building, paving the way for a more effective and sustainable WASH infrastructure. Further efforts include the mapping of rural WASH services and the creation of a National WASH Sector Management Information System, significantly improving the sector's decision-making through enhanced data availability.

### Innovative Strategies and Impacts in the WASH Sector

In partnership with Local Water and Sanitation Corporations (LWSCs), the UNCT has conducted an Institutional Bottleneck Analysis, laying the groundwork for a national capacity enhancement initiative. This initiative encompasses the development of a national fuel exit strategy aimed at diminishing fuel dependency by promoting the adoption of renewable energy solutions, reducing non-revenue water, and improving the energy efficiency of thermal systems. This strategy not only aligns with global sustainability objectives but also marks a step forward in transitioning to cleaner energy sources, thereby enhancing the operational sustainability of LWSCs throughout Yemen.

Tarim District is a lush oasis surrounded by palm trees. Seasonal flash floods and heat waves occur in the area, adversely impacting farmers and agricultural production. Watch how one of the UN supported projects has enriched the area:



#### Achievements in Enhancing WASH and Safety

The UNCT's strategic initiatives in the WASH sector have successfully provided safe and reliable services to two million people. This effort has substantially contributed to improved health, nutrition, and education outcomes, underscoring the UN's dedication to making lasting improvements in the lives of the Yemeni population. Through these comprehensive and forward-thinking strategies, the UN continues to foster sustainable development and improve living conditions in Yemen.

## 2.6 Support to Partnerships and Financing the 2030 Agenda



In 2023, the United Nations catalysed crucial collaborations and partnerships spanning a broad spectrum of stakeholders, including bilateral and multilateral donors, local Civil Society Organizations (CSO), international NGOs, and Yemeni authorities. These strategic alliances were instrumental in delivering essential social services to the Yemeni populace, navigating the multifaceted humanitarian crisis with a unified and comprehensive strategy.

The UN's engagement with a diverse array of donors — among them the World Bank, Qatar Charity, the Kuwait Government, KfW and the Government of Germany, Foreign Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), GAVI (the vaccine alliance), the Global Partnership for Education (GPE), USAID, the Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA), the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands (EKN), Japan, the King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (KSR), the Qatar Fund for Development (QFFD), Canada, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, France, Italy, Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW), and the European Union — has been pivotal. This extensive network of partners has facilitated the preservation of critical social services and protection systems within Yemen.



#### **UNDP Collaborations for Sustainable Development**

The UNDP has been at the forefront of advancing the SDGs in Yemen, working closely with a wide array of partners:

### Government of Yemen:

UNDP's longstanding partnership with the Yemeni government has been pivotal in promoting peace, economic recovery, and social cohesion. Initiatives have focused on facilitating dialogue for peace, designing programs to restore services and create jobs, and tackling inequalities to prevent conflict.

#### United Nations Agencies:

UNDP worked with UN agencies, including FAO, ILO and WFP, to tackle multi-sectoral challenges and worked with UNICEF, OCHA, UNOPS and UNFPA to develop synergies and thematic interventions, such partnerships, livelihood support, enhancing community resilience and climate action.

#### International Donors:

UNDP benefits from long-term partnerships with several donors to support resilience and recovery in Yemen. It operationalizes the humanitariandevelopment nexus approach, focusing on food security, green economic recovery, governance peacebuilding, climate change, the management of water, energy, and the environment.

#### Civil Society Organizations:

By partnering with CSOs and local communities, UNDP empowers grassroots movements. These organizations are key in identifying needs, facilitating inclusive participation, and implementing development projects effectively.

### Innovative Partnerships and Projects

UNDP Yemen has pioneered innovative collaborations to bolster its mission:

Private Sector Engagement:

The partnership with private entities under the SIERY project aims to generate employment, promote sustainable practices, and foster social development.

Community Structures Engagement:

Initiatives targeting women and youth groups empower them to actively participate in decision-making and address community challenges, enhancing social and economic development.



### UN Women's Strategic Initiatives for Gender Equality

In 2023, UN Women significantly contributed to gender equality and peace, among others, by leveraging the  $Convention on the \, Elimination \, of \, All \, Forms \, of \, Discrimination \, Against \, Women \, (CEDAW) \, General \, Recommendation \, and \, All \, Forms \, of \, Discrimination \, Against \, Women \, (CEDAW) \, General \, Recommendation \, and \, All \, Forms \, of \, Discrimination \, Against \, Women \, (CEDAW) \, General \, Recommendation \, Against \, All \, Forms \, of \, Discrimination \, Against \, Women \, (CEDAW) \, General \, Recommendation \, Against \, All \, Forms \, of \, Discrimination \, Against \, All \, Forms \, of \, Discrimination \, Against \, All \, Forms \, of \, Discrimination \, Against \, All \, Forms \, of \, Discrimination \, Against \, All \, Forms \, of \, Discrimination \, Against \, All \, Forms \, Old \, All \, A$ No 30 and the 2030 Agenda. Efforts to implement the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) and the Youth, Peace, and Security (YPS) Agendas in Yemen included:

### Enhanced Collaboration with OSESGY:

By closely working with the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Yemen (OSESGY), UN Women aimed to foster a more inclusive and gender-responsive peace process. This partnership focused on engaging diverse stakeholders in peacebuilding dialogues, emphasizing the vital roles of women and youth.

#### Capacity Building and Advocacy

Through consultative processes, UN Women and OSESGY engaged over 100 participants, including women, men, and youth from civil society and the diaspora, in peace discussions. This initiative aimed at creating gender-responsive

recommendations for peace negotiations and fostering meaningful participation of underrepresented groups in peacebuilding efforts.

#### Government and Local Partnerships:

UN Women also enhanced its partnership with the Women National Committee of the IRG, focusing on promoting gender equality at the governmental level. Collaboration with local CSOs, GBV service providers, and other UN agencies, like UNFPA and UNICEF, has been pivotal in implementing projects that empower women and girls in crisis-affected areas of Yemen.



### Joint Partnerships and Initiatives Involving UNICEF

UNICEF's commitment to WASH in Yemen is evident through strong partnerships with key donors (QFFD, KfW, FCDO, ECHO, and KSR) and a focus on restoring and sustaining WASH systems. Partnerships with the Ministry of Water and Environment (MoWE) and its affiliated units, as well as the Water and Environmental Centre at Sana'a University, underscore the integrated approach towards improving WASH infrastructure and services in Yemen.

These collaborative efforts across various UN agencies and partners reflect a multi-faceted approach to addressing Yemen's challenges, leveraging partnerships for enhanced impact in humanitarian aid and development, while also laying the groundwork for sustainable peace and recovery.

### Joint Program on FGM and Child Marriage:

UNICEF, in collaboration with UNFPA, has launched initiatives aimed at combating Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and child marriage, both of which are significant challenges in Yemen. These programs are crucial for protecting the rights and wellbeing of girls, promoting gender equality, and advancing SDG 5 (Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls).

### Pilot Initiative on Economic Empowerment and GBV Prevention and Response for Women and Girls:

This initiative, involving a partnership between UNDP, UNFPA, and UNICEF, focuses on economic empowerment as a means to prevent GBV and support the recovery and empowerment of women and girls in Yemen. By addressing economic vulnerabilities and providing support for GBV survivors, the initiative contributes to several SDGs, including SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being), SDG 5, and SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth).

### Collaboration to Support Youth Activities:

UNFPA heads the Youth Inter-Agency Working Group in southern Yemen, including UN agencies and national organizations, aiming to promote Youth, Peace, and Security (UNSCR 2250) within Yemen's humanitarian, development, and peace objectives. UNICEF and UNFPA are collaborating to boost youth support activities in Yemen, focusing on empowering youth, increasing their participation and development opportunities, and meeting their unique needs and challenges.

#### Comprehensive Prisons Approach:

In a joint effort with UNDP, UNFPA, WHO, and UNHCR, UNICEF is involved in addressing the needs of individuals in detention facilities, including children and young people. This comprehensive approach focuses on health, protection, and rehabilitation, contributing to SDG 3 and SDG 16 (Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels).



### Empowering Recovery and Resilience: ILO's Employment-Centric Initiatives in Yemen

The ILO has been actively engaged in a series of initiatives in Yemen aimed at addressing employment and labour market challenges amidst the ongoing crisis. With a focus on promoting decent work and economic recovery, the ILO's involvement spans various projects designed to enhance employment opportunities, strengthen labour market data, and support social protection and gender inclusion.

### Employment Intensive Investment Program (ILO -Public Works Project):

Promotion of the EIIP by ILO aims at generating employment while investing in infrastructure, emphasizing decent job creation and economic development.

### → Labour Market Data and Social Protection (ILO -Social Fund for Development):

Increased collaboration in generating labour market data, promoting social protection, gender inclusion, and creating decent jobs, aligning with sustainable development and economic growth objectives.

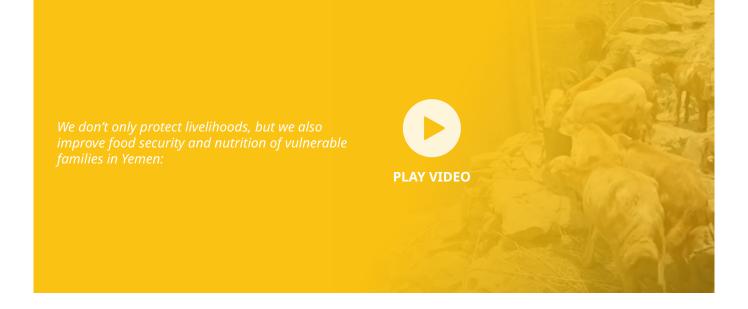


### FAO's Hand-in-Hand Initiative (HiHI)

Through the Hand-in-Hand Initiative (HiHI), FAO is supporting the Government of Yemen's plan to promote sustainable agriculture and economic growth, which will improve household nutrition and resilience by 2030. This plan includes improving diets and feeding practices of vulnerable households, increasing performance and competitiveness of nutrition-sensitive value chains, climate-resilient management of natural resources, boosting socioeconomic inclusion of vulnerable populations in agri-food systems, and creating an enabling environment.

The HiHI in Yemen supports the transition from humanitarian to development investments especially in the following areas: (a) horticultural seedling production and job-creation; (b) setting up dairy processing plants in several governorates to increase the capacity of producers to process milk and milk products; (c) strengthening apiculture value chains through investments in beehives, equipment and training; and (d) expansion of the coffee industry by rehabilitating coffee terraces, restoring fallow land back to use, reducing water loss and erosion, and improving soil fertility and biodiversity in Abyan, Sana'a, Hajjah and Taiz regions to generate jobs, especially for women, and contribute to improvement of foreign currency earnings for the country.







### WHO strategic partnership with the authorities:

The WHO's Country Cooperation Strategy with Yemen outlines a partnership for advancing basic social services towards the 2030 agenda goals. Developed through a participatory approach with key stakeholders like the Ministry of Public Health, Health Authorities, and the UNCT, alongside 58 operational partners, the strategy focuses on four strategic priorities:

- Enhancing Universal Health Coverage: Providing healthcare with a focus on the vulnerable.
- Promoting Healthier Lives: Using a multisectoral approach for community health and addressing health determinants.
- Strengthening Health Emergency Preparedness: Preparing for and responding to health emergencies.
- Supporting a Health and Peace Dividend: Building resilient communities and systems that foster social cohesion and partnerships.

Additional support came from other donors, including the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), KfW (German Development Bank), and the Government of Japan, focusing on the rehabilitation of health sector infrastructure.



### **UNOPS** Initiatives:

UNOPS played a pivotal role, underlining its commitment to UN values and the efficiency akin to the private sector. UNOPS offered a broad spectrum of services including infrastructure development, project management, procurement, financial management, and human resources, all tailored to advance the 2030 agenda in Yemen's fragile and conflict-affected settings. Thanks to funding from the World Bank, UNOPS embarked on large-scale infrastructure projects.

UNOPS Partnerships with Donors (WB & BMZ/ KfW) and Local Partners: Focused on projects that enhance peace, security, and sustainable development, involving local implementation partners like the Roads Maintenance Fund Implementation Unit and Urban Water Project Management Unit, among others.

UNOPS also significantly supported Yemen's peace process and humanitarian response by operationalizing the Peace Support Project (PSP) and the United Nations Verification and Inspection Mechanism for Yemen (UNVIM), thus facilitating political settlements under the guidance of the OSESGY.



The UNCT's efforts in Yemen have become a testament to the power of collaboration and reform, showcasing a remarkable shift towards unity and coherence among agencies. This transformation has not only streamlined the UNCT's response to Yemen's multifaceted crisis but also optimized its impact across various sectors, including health, nutrition, gender equality, and peacebuilding. Through increased collaboration and strategic partnerships, the UN agencies have demonstrated an unparalleled commitment to addressing the acute needs of the Yemeni population, while laying a foundation for sustainable development and peace.

# ◆ A Unified Approach for Greater Impact

At the heart of these achievements is the enhanced collaboration and coherence among UN entities, which has markedly improved the efficacy and reach of the UNCT's initiatives. This strategic alignment has empowered the UNCT to address Yemen's complex challenges more holistically, achieving significant strides in health, nutrition, gender equality, and peacebuilding. The collaborative model has not only facilitated a more nuanced understanding of the needs on the ground but also enabled a unified response that leverages the unique strengths of each participating agency.

## **♦** Health and Nutrition Breakthroughs

A notable success story is the integrated nutrition scale-up plan spearheaded by UNICEF, WFP, and WHO. This initiative exemplifies how delineating roles based on each agency's expertise—ranging from tackling severe and moderate acute malnutrition to managing therapeutic feeding centres—can enhance resource efficiency and impact. Similarly, the Emergency Human Capital Partnership between UNICEF, WHO and UNOPS, to provide essential health, nutrition, water and sanitation services showcases a united front in bolstering Yemen's healthcare system, demonstrating the power of cooperation in delivering comprehensive care.





# Advancements in Reproductive and Child Health

The collaboration between UNICEF, WHO, and UNFPA in advancing reproductive, maternal, newborn, and child health stands as a testament to the benefits of harmonized efforts. By focusing on delivering comprehensive care tailored to the needs of women and children, these agencies have ensured critical support and protection for some of the most vulnerable segments of the Yemeni population.

## Championing Gender Equality

The integration of UN Women within the UN system in Yemen has been instrumental in mainstreaming gender equality across all interventions. Their work, from advisory services to technical support, has been pivotal in promoting the rights and protection of women and girls, demonstrating the essential role of gender considerations in achieving equitable progress.

# Driving Sustainable Development and Peace

The reform efforts led by UNDP have been key in fostering enhanced coordination and efficiency, directly benefiting the Yemeni government and its citizens by strengthening service delivery and supporting peacebuilding endeavours. Initiatives like the transition from humanitarian to development-focused solutions in Marib illustrate a commitment to long-term resilience, particularly in healthcare.

#### ♦ Joint Programmes: A Model for Collaboration

Programmes like ERRY III and the Integrated Solutions for Displacement (ISD) Initiative embody the spirit of collaboration that underpins the UNCT's approach in Yemen. These joint efforts not only streamline operations but also ensure a cohesive strategy to address the intricate challenges facing Yemen.

## ♦ A New Horizon for Yemen

Through these concerted efforts, the UNCT, along with its partners and the Yemeni government, is charting a course towards sustainable development and peace. The shift towards increased collaboration and coherence among UN entities in Yemen has not only enhanced the impact of their work but also offered a glimpse into the transformative power of unity in overcoming adversity.





# 2.8 Key Challenges and Lessons Learned

As the UNCT continues its efforts in Yemen, the collective experience from past endeavours offers invaluable insights for shaping future strategies. Addressing the complexities of the Yemen context requires an integrated and innovative approach. This section synthesizes inputs from various UNCT members, outlining lessons learned and setting the course for more effective interventions.

## Streamlining Coordination and Collaboration

The UNCT's experience in Yemen has underscored the importance of adaptability, collaboration, and innovation. As efforts continue into 2024, the lessons learned from past initiatives will guide the UN in overcoming challenges and capitalizing on opportunities for meaningful change in Yemen. The focus on integrated approaches, gender equality, and stakeholder engagement remains central to achieving lasting peace and development.

#### Strategic Focus for Improvement

In response, the UN emphasizes the importance of streamlining efforts for the coming year. The focus will be on enhancing the functionality of the UNSDCF and relevant Results Groups as primary mechanisms for collaborative programming. This shift aims to bolster resource mobilization efforts and improve coordination among UN entities and stakeholders.

#### 🔶 Multi-Disciplinary Training

The achievement of project results is closely tied to building trust among all stakeholders. Multi-disciplinary trainings have emerged as effective tools for facilitating this process, fostering mutual understanding, and enhancing the capacity of duty bearers and rights holders alike.

# Innovating for Sustainability

The need for innovative approaches has never been more critical, especially in light of the diminishing funds for humanitarian activities. Embracing creativity and flexibility in programming can pave the way for sustainable solutions that address immediate needs and contribute to long-term resilience.

# Complex Context: Strengthening Gender Equality and Empowerment

Yemen's complex political and security landscape, characterized by diverse actors and traditional gender norms, presents significant barriers to the protection and promotion of women's and girls' rights. In 2023, the UN adopted strategic approaches to bolster gender equality, focusing on the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) and Youth, Peace, and Security (YPS) Agendas. Collaboration with the OSESGY significantly enhanced resource mobilization and advocacy efforts. This partnership facilitated a consultative process involving women, youth, and civil society, establishing a platform for inclusive dialogue and participation in peacebuilding processes.

# → Looking Ahead to 2024

Building on the successes of 2023, UN Women, in collaboration with OSESGY, plans to develop a gender-responsive roadmap for peace. This initiative will continue to engage Yemeni women and youth, ensuring their substantive participation and leveraging their insights for sustainable peace.

#### ILO's Evaluation Insights

The Independent High-Level Evaluation of the ILO's Jobs for Peace and Resilience program highlighted the importance of employment and decent work for fostering peaceful and resilient societies. Recommendations emphasize innovative, sustainable approaches and the necessity of joint programming and effective social dialogue.



# Adapting Strategies Amidst Challenges

The UN faced considerable obstacles in delivering services and protection in Yemen due to financial constraints and a challenging political landscape. However, the acknowledgment of the humanitarian-development-peace nexus and the emphasis on joint programming mark significant strides toward holistic and coordinated efforts. The insights gained from data, surveys, and ongoing peace talks offer a foundation for evidence-based strategies and long-term planning.

# Addressing Diminishing Funds

The challenge of diminishing funds for support in Yemen underscores the necessity of an integrated approach that combines humanitarian and development efforts. This holistic strategy is essential for sustaining interventions amidst financial constraints.

# UNDP's Economic Revival Efforts in Yemen

Through its endeavors to rejuvenate Yemen's economy, UNDP has learned the importance of enhancing promising value chains as a catalyst for economic recovery. Collaboration with Yemeni institutions and the private sector has been crucial in creating a business-friendly environment that encourages green and inclusive economic development. This approach has not only been effective in generating employment opportunities but also in improving living standards nationwide.

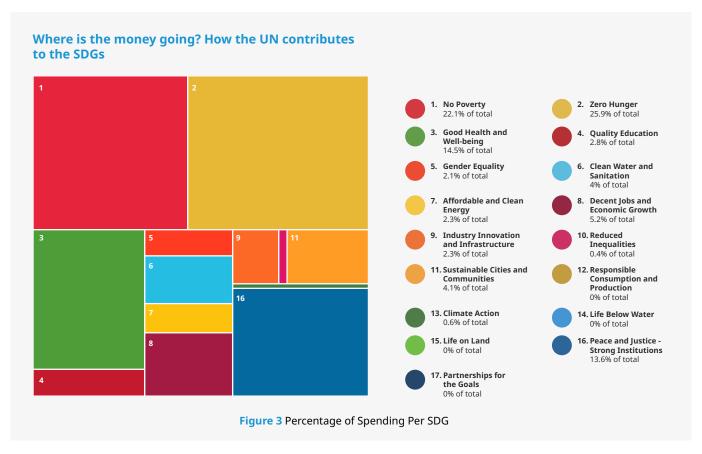




# 2.9 Financial Overview and Resource Mobilization

The current resource allocation by UN agencies in Yemen is aligned with addressing the most urgent humanitarian and development challenges. Moving forward, balancing immediate needs with long-term sustainability goals could enhance resilience and sustainable development.

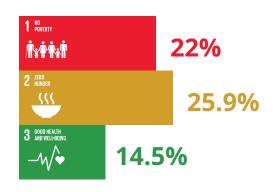
The allocation of resources highlights a strategic focus on addressing the most pressing humanitarian and development challenges in Yemen. The emphasis is notably on "Zero Hunger" (25.9%), "No Poverty" (22%), and "Good Health and Well-being" (14.5%). These areas are crucial in the context of Yemen's ongoing humanitarian crisis, characterized by widespread food insecurity, poverty, and health challenges.



#### Critical Needs

Zero Hunger (25.9%) and No Poverty (22%) together constitute nearly half of the total allocations, reflecting the urgency of combating hunger and poverty. Yemen's crisis has significantly impacted food security and livelihoods, making these sectors critical for immediate intervention.

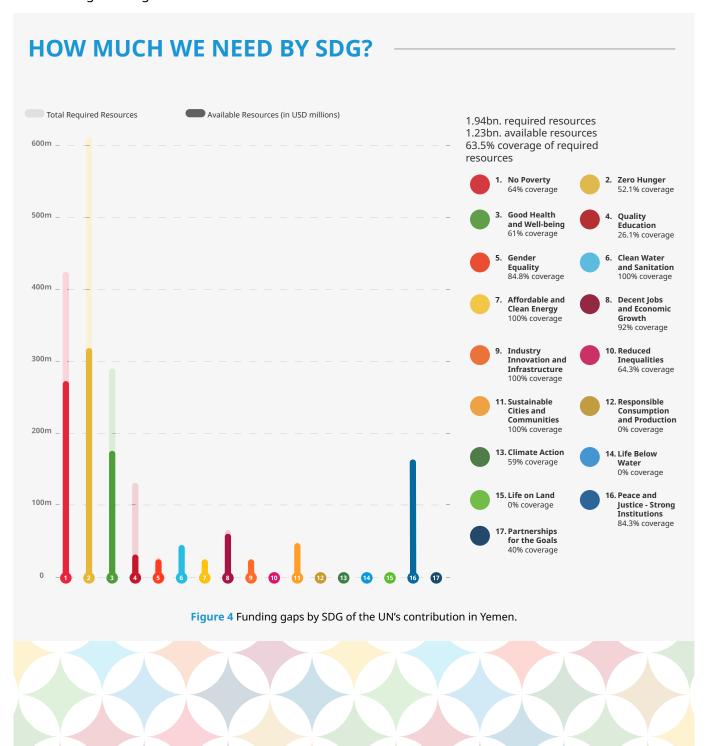
Good Health and Well-being (14.5%) is the third-largest allocation, underscoring the importance of health services and disease prevention in the midst of conflict and a weakened healthcare system.





Decent Jobs and Economic Growth (5.2%) and Sustainable Cities and Communities (4.1%) receive moderate funding, pointing towards efforts in rebuilding Yemen's economy and infrastructure, and fostering community resilience.

Clean Water and Sanitation (4%) is essential for preventing diseases and improving the quality of life, indicating a recognition of the basic needs in crisis-affected communities.



The expenditure data for the UN agencies in Yemen during 2023 across various SDGs provides a comprehensive overview of where the focus and financial resources have been directed to address pressing needs in the region. Below is an analysis of the allocations and potential implications:



# \$254,593,553

Zero Hunger (SDG 02) - \$254,593,553: This is the highest-funded area, reflecting Yemen's acute humanitarian crisis, with millions facing hunger due to the ongoing conflict, economic decline, and disruptions in food and aid supply chains. The significant investment underscores the urgency of addressing food security and nutrition to prevent famine conditions.



# \$128,340,666

No Poverty (SDG 01) - \$128,340,666: High funding for poverty alleviation is critical in Yemen, where the conflict has impoverished millions and exacerbated living conditions. Investments here covered direct aid, support for livelihoods, and social protection measures to mitigate the impacts of the country's economic collapse.



# \$122,504,225

Life Below Water (SDG 14) - \$122,504,225: Notably high expenditure in this category is attributed to the salvage operation for the FSO SAFER, a decaying oil tanker posing a massive environmental risk to the Red Sea. This operation was crucial for preventing a potential ecological disaster that would further devastate Yemen's environment and economy.

The removal of more than 1 million barrels of oil from decaying FSO Safer supertanker off Yemen's Red Sea Coast.





# \$86,326,867

Good Health and Well-being (SDG 03) - \$86,326,867: Investments in health are essential for Yemen, grappling with a collapsed health care system, outbreaks of cholera and other diseases. Funding supports health services, disease prevention, and access to medicines.



# \$42,509,281

Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions (SDG 16) - \$42,509,281: Support for governance, rule of law, and human rights is vital in a country fragmented by conflict, with multiple actors and weakened institutions. This funding aims to build resilient institutions and promote peace.



**\$31,911,363** 

\$31,112,497

Quality Education (SDG 04) - \$31,911,363 and Decent Work and Economic Growth (SDG 08) - \$31,112,497: Investment in education and economic growth is crucial for long-term recovery and development. With many schools destroyed or repurposed, and unemployment soaring, rebuilding Yemen's human capital and economy is essential.



# \$29,780,614

Clean Water and Sanitation (SDG 06) - \$29,780,614: Funding reflects the critical need for clean water and sanitation in preventing disease outbreaks and improving living conditions, especially in displacement camps.



# \$16,132,470

Sustainable Cities and Communities (SDG 11) - \$16,132,470: Investments here focused on infrastructure and urban services to support displaced populations and rebuild war-torn communities.



# \$8,683,497

Gender Equality (SDG 05) - \$8,683,497: Targeted funding for gender equality addresses the disproportionate impact of Yemen's crisis on women and girls, including increased violence, loss of education, and lack of access to health services.

Each SDG's funding level provides insight into the international community's response to Yemen's multifaceted crisis, balancing urgent humanitarian aid with longer-term development and peacebuilding efforts. The emphasis on Zero Hunger, No Poverty, and the unique investment in preventing an environmental disaster through the FSO SAFER project underlines the complex challenges Yemen faces and the international effort to address them.



# Expenditure at the Strategic Results level

In the UNCT's concerted efforts to address the complex crisis in Yemen, the allocation of funds across four Strategic Results (SRs) delineates a multifaceted approach aimed at mitigating immediate needs while laying the groundwork for sustainable development.



# STRATEGIC PILLAR 1

# **INCREASING FOOD SECURITY AND ENHANCING LIVELIHOODS**



\$374,168,354

This segment received the largest funding, highlighting the critical importance of combating hunger and malnutrition. The strategic deployment of resources towards climate change mitigation, natural resource management, and support for vulnerable rural households underscores a commitment to intertwining environmental sustainability with efforts to secure food. Investments are keenly focused on building productive infrastructure and providing nutrition interventions, particularly targeting vulnerable children and women. This not only addresses the immediate challenge of food security but also bolsters community resilience and promotes sustainable livelihoods.



# STRATEGIC PILLAR 2

# STRENGTHENING NATIONAL AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SYSTEMS



\$29,684,373

Despite representing a smaller fraction of the total expenditure, this area is pivotal for underpinning sustainable development and ensuring the effectiveness of interventions across other strategic areas. Investments aimed at fortifying governance, rule of law, and enhancing capacities for data-driven policymaking, particularly in areas like health and GBV, lay the foundation for systemic resilience and effective service delivery.



# STRATEGIC PILLAR 3

# **DRIVING ECONOMIC STRUCTURAL TRANSFORMATION**



\$63.142.39**5** 

Focused on revitalizing and diversifying Yemen's economy, this allocation supports inclusive growth and addresses structural economic challenges. Efforts to promote social cohesion, empower women and girls economically, and develop the energy sector highlight a strategic focus on infrastructure development and inclusive growth. These initiatives are critical for building economic resilience and ensuring that vulnerable communities have access to opportunities.



# STRATEGIC PILLAR 4

# BUILDING SOCIAL SERVICES AND PROTECTION



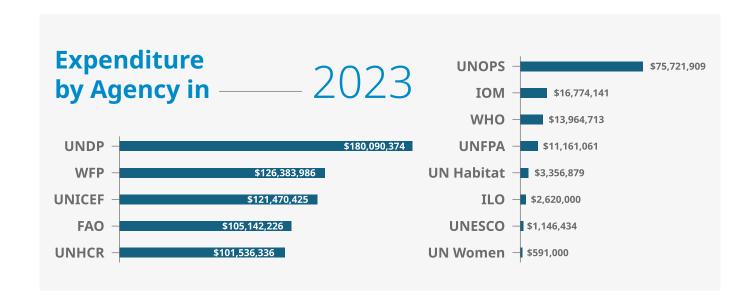
\$292,964,363

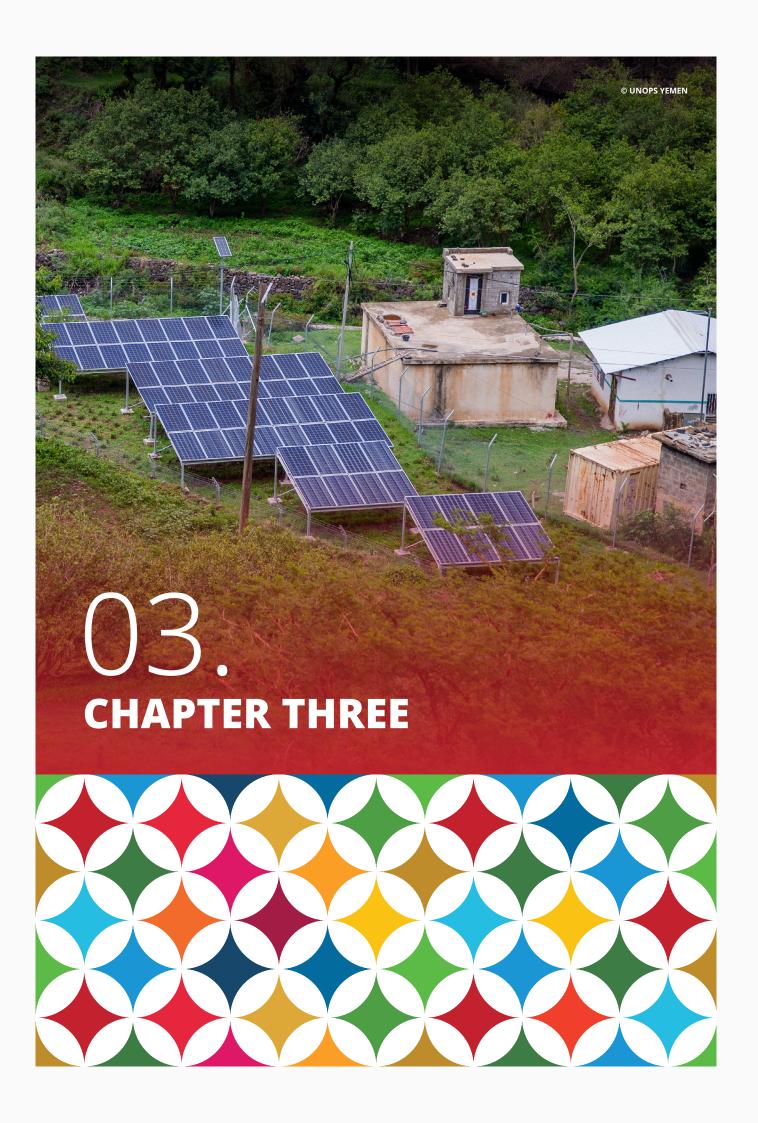
The second-highest funding allocation underscores the critical need for accessible social services and robust social protection mechanisms. With significant investments aimed at improving healthcare, education, and access to nutritious food, this strategic area focuses on mitigating poverty and vulnerability among the Yemeni population. Emphasizing health policy reforms and the strengthening of social service delivery systems, these efforts aim at fostering systemic improvements and ensuring inclusivity in development gains.



Cross-cutting Themes: Across all strategic efforts, the UN's approach in Yemen is characterized by a commitment to reaching the most vulnerable groups, with a special focus on women, children, and conflict-affected communities. The integration of climate action, economic empowerment, and governance capacity building across initiatives reflects a holistic understanding of the interconnected challenges faced by Yemen, demonstrating a concerted effort to address humanitarian needs while fostering sustainable development.

This strategic allocation of funds and targeted initiatives reflect the UN's nuanced understanding of Yemen's multifaceted crisis, embodying a comprehensive approach to humanitarian aid that simultaneously fosters resilience, inclusivity, and sustainable development.







# 3.1 UNCT key focus for next year

In 2024, the UNCT in Yemen is committed to addressing the complex challenges facing the country through a strategic and integrated approach. Building on the lessons learned and achievements of the past year, the UNCT is poised to reinforce its efforts in supporting capacity development, governance, rule of law, migration management, and gender equality. The focus will be on delivering tangible results across the UNSDCF outcome areas, implementing strategic changes to overcome outstanding challenges, and strengthening our collective resource mobilization strategy to ensure impactful interventions in Yemen.

# 3.2 Strategic Focus and Initiatives in Yemen for 2024

A path to achieve significant milestones through a concerted effort and strategic approach is set by the UNCT for 2024. By addressing existing challenges with innovative solutions and strengthening our collective efforts, the UNCT is committed to supporting Yemen on its journey towards peace, stability, and sustainable development.

# Strengthening Local Governance and Service Delivery

The UNCT will continue to support the capacity development of local governance and Rule of Law to enhance service delivery, emphasizing the improvement of living conditions for the Yemeni population. Agencies like FAO are instrumental in transitioning from short-term emergency agricultural assistance to resilient agricultural production, emphasizing the importance of technical support and stakeholder engagement.

#### Enhanced Migration Governance

Efforts will be directed towards supporting humane and dignified migration management, focusing on principled, rights-based approaches, data collection, and interstate dialogue to address the challenges along the Eastern migration route, where IOM's initiatives are critical in linking cash assistance to sustainable livelihood and water management practices.

# Community-Led Initiatives and Social Cohesion

The establishment and reinforcement of community-led structures, including Women Water User Groups and Conflict Resolution Committees, will be prioritized to enhance water resource management and support peacebuilding efforts.

# Gender-Transformative Action and Inclusion

UN Women, leveraging the newly established Country Office, will scale up its efforts to promote women's and youth's participation in peace and security processes, support gender-responsive humanitarian responses, and strengthen the institutional capacity of Gender Machineries.

#### Integration of Humanitarian and Development Activities

The UNCT will focus on a multisectoral approach, integrating humanitarian and development activities to advance social services and protection. This strategy is embodied in the collaboration between FAO, WHO, UNICEF, UNOPS, and the World Bank in strengthening sectors like agriculture, health, and disaster resilience.



# Strategic Actions for Overcoming Challenges

Enhanced Collaboration and Integration: The UNCT will aim to strengthen integration across sectors and between humanitarian and development activities, ensuring a holistic approach to address Yemen's multifaceted challenges.



### **Targeted Capacity Building:**

Efforts will be intensified in capacity development of government institutions and local organizations to foster selfreliance and sustainable service delivery mechanisms.



#### **Strengthened Partnerships:**

Strategic partnerships will be deepened, and targeted resource mobilization efforts will be expanded to include joint programming and collaboration with a broader range of stakeholders.



# **Promoting Economic Empowerment:**

Special attention will be given to job creation, decent work promotion, and the economic empowerment of women and girls, alongside developing strategies for sustainable financing. Agencies like WFP remain committed to supporting vulnerable populations in transitioning towards sustainable livelihood actions, emphasizing climate resilience and women's empowerment. Meanwhile, UNOPS will focus on infrastructure projects that enhance access to markets, social services, and connectivity, thereby strengthening community resilience.



# Resource mobilization Strategies

The UNCT will adopt a multi-faceted resource mobilization strategy focusing on:

### Joint Programming Initiatives:

Exploring joint programming opportunities to pool resources and expertise for larger impact.

#### **Innovative Financing Mechanisms:**

Supporting the development of innovative financing strategies, including tapping into domestic resources for sustainability.

#### **Engagement with Diverse Donors:**

Broadening the donor base by engaging with traditional and non-traditional donors, emphasizing the alignment of interventions with global agendas such as the SDGs, Women, Peace and Security (WPS), and Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) to ensure broader support and investment.

This approach aims to create a robust framework for supporting Yemen's journey towards recovery, resilience, and sustainable development by maximizing the effectiveness of resource utilization and fostering innovative partnerships and financing mechanisms.



UN agencies Yemen initiated a UN Library Corner at one of the universities in Sana'a. The UN corner provides a quiet place for students to work on their researches and raises public awareness of the UN work in Yemen.

**PLAY VIDEO** 



UNICEF and WFP along with other partners are working tirelessly to restoring education and learning projects in Yemen.

**PLAY VIDEO** 



Yemen's ongoing eight-year conflict has reversed numerous health gains of recent decades, making the country's health system one of the world's most fragile and least developed today. Yet the WHO Constitution, and WHO's continuing service to the Yemeni people, require unrelenting continued efforts to identify and address any barrier to Health for All in Yemen, as in all countries.

**READ MORE** 



Souad, as many other displaced women in Sa'ada Governorate, was referred by UNFPA for cash assistance, shelter and to a protection team for counselling; later she will be offered training in livelihood skills so she can recover financially and support herself and her family.

**READ MORE** 



# **ANNEXES**

#### Implementing Partners – 2023

Al- Dar Al-Arabia for Development and Advocacy

Angela Foundation

Assistance for Response & Development (ARD)

Building Foundation for Development (BFD)

**CARE** 

Central Statistical Organization

Civil Defence

Civil Registration Authority

**Environmental Protection Authority** 

**Executive Unit** 

Friends of Socotra

**Future Vision Organization** 

General Authority for Land, Surveying and Urban Planning

General Authority for Rural Water Supply Programme

Handicap Care and Rehabilitation Fund (HCRF)

**Itar Foundation** 

Life Makers Meeting Place Organization

Local Microfinance Institutions (MFIs)

Marib Girls Foundation

Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Fisheries (MAIF)

Ministry of Education

Ministry of Environment

Ministry of Fish Wealth

Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation

Ministry of Public Works and Highways

Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour

Ministry of Water and Environment

Nahdah Makers Foundation

National Foundation for Development and Humanitarian Response

Public Works Project (PWP)

Radio Lana

Responsiveness for Relief and Development (RRD)

Road Maintenance Fund

Rural Access Program (RAP)

Sajeen

Small and Micro Enterprise Promotion Service (SMEPS)

Social Development Hodeidah Girls Foundation

Social Fund for Development (SFD)

Social Welfare Fund (SWF)

SOUL

Studies and Economic Media Center (SEMC)

Sustainable Development Foundation

Tamdeen Youth Foundation

University Youth Foundation

Women National Committee

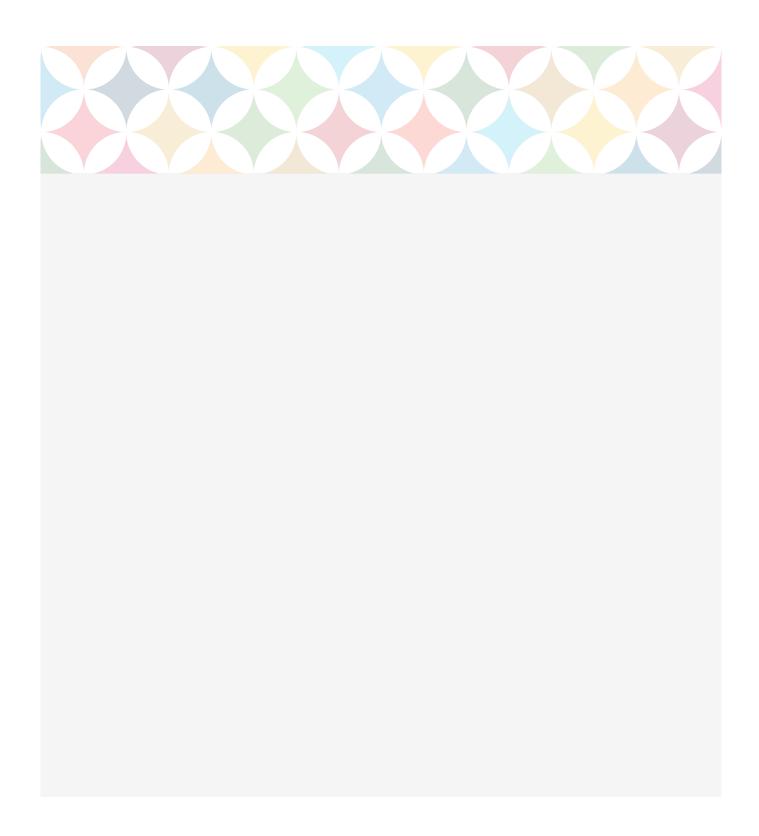
Yemen Food Bank

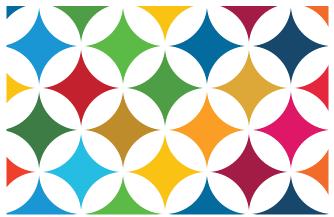
Yemen Peace School



# Donors

	-
AGFUND	Kuwait, Government of
Alwaleed Philanthropies Organization- kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA)	Netherlands, Government of
Arab Fund for Economic & Social Development	Norway, Government of
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation	Private (individuals & organizations)
Canada, Government of	
Central Emergency Response Fund	Qatar Charity
Department for International Development	Qatar, Government of
European Commission's Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Department	RBSA - ILO Internal Budget
European Union	Saudi Arabia (Kingdom of), Government of
France, Government of	SDG Fund
Finland, Government of	
Food & Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	Sweden, Government of
Foreign, Commonwealth and Development	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)
Office (FCDO)	Switzerland, Government of
GAVI	The Saudi Development and Reconstruction
Germany, Government of	Programme for Yemen (SDRPY)
Global Environment Fund (GEF)	UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund
Green Climate Fund	UNHCR Global Funding
International Fund for Agricultural Development	UNICEF National Committees
(IFAD)	United Kingdom, Government of
Islamic Development Bank	United Nations Children's Fund
Italy, Government of	United Nations Population Fund
Japan, Government of	United States Department of State (USDOS)
Khalifa bin Zayed Foundation	United States of America, Government of
King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Center	World Bank
(KS Relief)	World Health Organization
Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA)	Yemen Humanitarian Fund
Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW)	





# UN YEMEN

Country Results Report 2023

