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STORIES”

FROM THE FIELD

2021



FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

Restoring fishing-based livelihoods

CARE

Location: Khanfa, Zingibar, Rasad and Sarar districts of Abyan Governorate



"In my community, fishing was often practiced as a source of supplementary food need, not as a business. But with the difficult economic conditions and the increasing unemployment rate, more young people tend to work in fishing to provide for their families," says Ashraf Badr Saleh Sheikh, a 40-year-old fisherman from Shuqrah city in Abyan's Khanfar district.

"The price of fish that we now sell in the market increased after we installed coolers on our boats, which helped us to keep the fish in high quality"



Ashraf Badr Saleh Sheikh, 40 years old, lives in Shuqrah, Khanfar district of Abyan Governorate

Ashraf lives in the coastal city of Shuqrah with his wife and their three children. After graduating from university, he started to work as a fisherman. Shuqrah city is severely affected by the conflict in Yemen. The conflict around the city has disrupted people's access to basic services such as electricity, water and healthcare services. Limited access to fresh fish and other food crops negatively affects food security and malnutrition levels in the city.

"Shuqrah city was once known for its excellent fish," says Ashraf. The fishing industry was one of the greatest contributors to Yemen's economy after oil, providing the main source of food security, income and employment for the

majority of Yemenis living in coastal areas. The ongoing conflict, coupled with the negative effects of climate change, has in recent years devastated the fishing sector in Yemen. With the outbreak of the conflict in 2015, several landing sites were wiped out, many fishermen lost their boats, and the infrastructure was destroyed.

Access to fish has become a major challenge for Yemeni fishermen today. Most fishermen in Shuqrah used to depend on fishing from nearby coastal waters, but these stocks have steadily decreased in recent decades due to overfishing, climate change and pollution. Now, fishermen have to sail long risky journeys, with inadequate equipment to catch enough fish to

sell in the market.

With funding from the Yemen Humanitarian Fund (YHF), CARE started a project to improve food security levels in Khanfa, Zingibar, Rasad and Sarar districts of Abyan Governorate in 2020. As part of the Lifesaving and Recovery Assistance project, CARE works to revive the fishing sector through training fishermen in Shuqrah city on best fishing practices. This includes maintaining the quality of fish at the capture stage, proper onboard handling procedures, fish draining and gutting, and placing fish on ice to reduce bacterial buildup and prevent spoilage. Applying these careful hygiene procedures and cold storage measures throughout the fishing process can ensure



Ashraf and his colleague transporting their tuna fish caught from the boat to sell it in the market

better quality of the fish and better sales price. For instance, the price of good quality catches are two to four times higher than the price of catches that were not properly handled.

Ashraf was fortunate to be trained on best fishing practices. After learning on-board handling procedures and cold storage techniques, he can now sell his catches at two to four times higher prices.

"This project provided us with much-needed fishing tools, such as fishing nets with their accessories, a set of ropes, safety vest, fishing line and a warning lamp", says Ashraf. "Moreover, we received three installments include of cash aid for three months – \$50 per month."

"In the past, we couldn't sail long distances to catch profitable fish like tuna. But in the last fishing season I was able to buy a large fishing engine that helped me go further out at sea to catch tuna."



Thanks to cash aid, Ashraf bought a bigger engine for his boat so he can sail long distances to catch tuna fish.

"The price of fish that we now sell in the market increased after we installed coolers on our boats, which helped us to keep the fish in high quality," says Ashraf.

The Yemen Humanitarian Fund (YHF) supported CARE to implement a \$4.3 million

food security and education project in Abyan (Khanfar, Zingibar, Rasad and Sarar districts), Hajjah (Aslem district), Taiz (Al Wazi'iyah districts) and Ibb (Al Udayn district) Governorates. The food security component in Abyan provides fishing kits on sustainable fishing practices to 500 households.

Salem was jobless without his fishing tools

Field Medical Foundation (FMF)



Salem Ahmed Badas with his crew on a fishing trip, Mayfa area in Brum Mayfa district in Hadramout Governorate.

The people of Brum Mayf'ah District in Hadramawt Governorate depend on fishing as one of the main sources of income. However, the difficult economic conditions affecting Yemen as a result of the war, cyclones and other natural disasters have greatly affected the traditional fishing business. The situation was worsened by the destruction of fishing boats and equipment by Cyclone Chapala in 2015. Extremely severe cyclonic storm Chapala was a powerful tropical cyclone that caused moderate damage in Somalia and Yemen in November 2015. Most fishermen have since struggled to make ends meet. This is how Salem Ahmed Badas and other fishermen in area of Mayfa became part of the Field Medical

Foundation (FMF) project supported by Yemen Humanitarian Fund (YHF).

Salem is 37-year-old man and heads a family of nine. He owned a boat, a marine engine and fishing equipment. "My problems started when my boat and fishing equipment were destroyed by Cyclone Chapala. It became difficult to work in the fishing industry and to provide for my family and to pay for my mother's medical bills for her chronic diseases (pressure and diabetes). There were no job opportunities. Because I only know how to fish, I found it hard to work in other sectors. Our situation was just too difficult. We could only afford one meal per day," said Salem.



Location: Brum Mayf'ah District of Hadramawt Governorate and Dubab District of Ta'iz Governorate

FMF, through the fishery project funded by YHF, trained and provided two rounds of cash assistance of YER 41,200 as well as distributed fishing kits and fish finder devices to highly vulnerable fishery-dependent families.

"After FMF's intervention, I am now back to fishing business again and my income has increased to the same level before the cyclone destroyed my equipment. Thank you FMF and all those who helped us," said Salem.

"Our situation was just too difficult. We could only afford one meal per day"

The Yemen Humanitarian Fund (YHF) supported the FMF to implement a \$768,000 food security and livelihood project to support vulnerable fish dependent families with cash assistance and distribution of fishing input to 1,000 families in Brum Mayf'ah District of Hadramawt Governorate and Dubab District of Ta'iz Governorate.

NUTRITION SERVICES

Ameen's story

Action Contre la Faim/Action Against Hunger

Location: Al Makhzan Health Facility in Khanfar District, Abyan Governorate



Acute malnutrition among children under age 5 in Yemen has reached the highest levels ever recorded. Close to 2.3 million children under age 5 are at risk of acute malnutrition in 2021, according to the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Acute Malnutrition report. The collapse of the health system in Yemen has challenged the capacity to address the gap in service delivery.

Thanks to the Yemen Humanitarian Fund, Action Contre la Faim (ACF) supported a comprehensive package of essential health and nutrition services at two health facilities and through one mobile team in Khanfar District in 2020. Nutrition services provided at the health facility include malnutrition screening of children and pregnant and lactating women, treatment of severely acutely malnourished children and counseling on Infant and Young Child Feeding. Primary healthcare services were also provided, and these include curative consultations for injuries, treatment of illnesses such as malaria and dengue fever, routine vaccinations, and essential maternal healthcare (antenatal and postnatal check-ups).

Ameen was a schoolteacher for 30 years in his village of al-Makhzen. In 2011, an armed group attacked their city destroying livelihoods and

public services. His family struggled to feed as they could not go to the market as they feared to be abducted or killed by the armed group. His family went for days without adequate food. The family then fled to Shabwa Governorate where they settled for almost one year.

"When I returned in 2021 to my house in Khanfar District after fighting ended, it was uninhabitable. The walls, the electricity and water network were also destroyed, and the house was covered in bullet holes. I had to spend the rest of my savings on repairs so that the house could be habitable again," said Ameen.

"Today, my wife monitors our youngest child's nutrition status, and our eldest daughter receives medical support from the health center when she falls sick"

He also added that: "A few years later when we started to recover psychologically and financially from what we went through, the war broke out again in 2015. We were in a state of extreme frustration, anger, and fear of the unknown. My salary and other public services were suspended for six months. We saw people fleeing the conflict and some coming to our village'. The health center in the village remained closed until ACF started supporting the provision of essential health and nutrition services in 2017.

Ameen remembers that, "Before, we used to go to Alrazy hospital in the city, but we were no longer going there unless there was a major health issue. It was the case with my eldest 18-year-old daughter who had a chronic disease. Each time she fell sick I was very worried. I didn't want to spend a lot of money taking her to a private clinic or hospital for common illness, but her situation was rapidly deteriorating."

Ameen recounts a time when his wife was pregnant with his youngest boy child in 2018. While attending antenatal care at ACF-supported health facility, the mid-wife identified the possibility of a complication during childbirth and referred his wife to the hospital for delivery.

"Today, my wife monitors our youngest child's nutrition status, and our eldest daughter receives medical support from the health center when she falls sick. Having a functioning health center nearby has helped to prevent my daughter from relapsing. This made a real difference in our life. It made us more stable psychologically and physically," says Ameen.

The Yemen Humanitarian Fund (YHF) supported ACF to implement a \$696,000 health project to provide the minimum health support package to 15 health facilities targeting 91,000 people in Khanfir District in Abyan and Al Az Zuhrah, At Tuhayat and Al Khawkah in Al Hodeidah Governorates.



Ameen at the health facility © ACF Yemen

Name mentioned in the story have been changed.

WASH AND HEALTH SERVICES

The story of Nour and Na'ima

INTERSOS

Location: Abyan (Khanfar and Zingibar districts), Aden (Al-Buraiqa and Dar Sa'ad districts) and Lahj (Al-Ribat IDP site, Tuban district).



Injuries are a common health problem worldwide, but in Yemen, the risk that they may lead to long-term disability and death is heightened by limited access to essential health care services, which has been direly impacted by six years of conflict. Thanks to support from the Yemen Humanitarian Fund (YHF), INTERSOS provides emergency healthcare services, including trauma care to conflict and displacement-affected individuals in Abyan (Khanfar and Zingibar districts), Aden (Al-Buraiqa and Dar Sa'ad districts) and Lahj (Al-Ribat IDP site, Tuban district).



Outpatient department services, Al-Buraiqa, Aden governorate

Nour is a 6-year-old old boy whose family was displaced from Al Hodeidah District and resettled in Al-Tumaisi IDP site, Zingibar district (Abyan). In June 2021, Nour fell and got injured while playing with his friends. The lack of timely treatment resulted into a large abscess on his thigh, which caused him severe pain and difficulties in walking. When INTERSOS Mobile Clinic Team (MCT) visited the IDP site on 5 July 2021, Nour was barely able to walk, and the abscess was draining fluids and he had to be carried around by his family members. INTERSOS medical team visited him, dressed

the wound and provided him with antibiotics to treat the infection as well as pain killers, instructing his parents about how to take them. A week later, Nour returned to the MCT for a follow-up visit, showing near complete recovery.

"When I started having fever, I was scared"

Na'ima is a 45-year-old lady, farmer and mother of five children. In 2017, the family was displaced from Al-Houk in Al Hodeidah to Halma IDP site in Ja'ar subdistrict in Khanfar district, (Abyan), losing everything because of the conflict. Her living conditions at the site are poor, with no access to clean water and proper sanitation. In early July 2021, while preparing a fire for cooking, she suffered from a first degree burn on her wrist, that she initially neglected. After a couple of days, the burn became infected and Na'ima started experiencing fever.

On 10 July 2021, she approached INTERSOS MCT, where she received the necessary nursing care and was provided with antibiotics to treat the infection. The recovery was immediate: when she visited the MCT a few days later, the infection had fully healed. "When I started having fever, I was scared," Na'ima explained. "Knowing that there is a mobile clinic we can



Emergency referral services, Al-Ribat IDP site, Lahj governorate

count on when we are sick or have health issues makes a great difference in our life".

The Yemen Humanitarian Fund (YHF) supported INTERSOS to implement a \$2 million health and nutrition project to provide emergency services for conflict affected people in Aden, Lahj and Abyan Governorates.



Vaccination services, Al-Ribat IDP site, Lahj governorate

Providing clean water services for IDPs

OXFAM

Location: Houth, Khamer, Amran Governorate



Rahmah in front of her tent in Houth displacement camp, Amran Governorate, September 2020. ©Mohammed Hakimi

Rahmah is a 30-year-old widow and mother of four children. She used to live with her husband and five children in their house in Sa'ada City in Sa'adah Governorate. When the conflict started, airstrikes targeted civilian areas and destroyed several houses, including that of Rahmah and her family. It left tens of thousands of families with no choice but to flee and seek refuge elsewhere for safety. When the family fled, Rahmah's husband, Ali Abdo Mohammed moved her and their five children into a displacement camp in Amran Governorate. But he immediately traveled back to Sa'adah to help a family who had asked for his support to get out of the area.

Rahmah explained: "We fled in my husband's bus. He moved us here to Houth district in Amran Governorate. On our way, he received a call from one of our neighbours in Sa'adah. They were trapped in their home amid the bombings and could not find a car to flee. So, Ali Abdo went back to help. He never returned. People in Sa'adah later told us that our house was destroyed, and the bus was attacked by a missile that shattered my husband and the bus into pieces. I could not even bury him because they found only some small pieces of his body".

"I have struggled a lot, especially to secure water for my family"

Living conditions for the family in the IDP camp deteriorated while Rahmah was struggling alone to provide for her five children. "I have struggled a lot, especially to secure water for my family. I had to leave my children alone in our small tent in the IDP camp and walk for half

an hour to fetch some water from the available open wells. The water was not clean, but we had to use it for two years as it was the only water source we could afford. Additionally, and due to the bad conditions in the IDP camp, my children suffered from skin diseases, rashes,



Rahmah washing her children's clothes using the water provided through the water system constructed by Oxfam. Houth displacement camp, Amran Governorate, September 2020 ©Mohammed Hakimi

and other problems. We all suffered from diarrhoea, but for the children it was severe and continuous".

As a consequence of the bad water and sanitation conditions in the camp, Rahmah's daughter Mona, 8, sadly died from Cholera. "While we were ill with diarrhoea, I was depending on my daughter Mona to look after her siblings as I went out to look for food from a nearby village. I went to fetch water twice a day but had only two jerrycans to fill. One day I returned in the afternoon and found that Mona was very sick. She was suffering from extreme vomiting and diarrhoea. I brought her quickly to Houth hospital where they told me that she was infected with Cholera. They gave her some medicine but three hours later she died. Rahmah eventually also lost her

youngest daughter and had to leave her children alone to collect water for the other children.

But then Oxfam constructed a 100^{M3} water tank in the IDP site, connected with 3,700 metres of water pipeline. The tank provided water for IDPs through several water points along with families from the host community. Rahmah, like many other IDPs, benefitted from clean water, hygiene kits, jerry cans and hygiene awareness sessions to help curb the spread of waterborne diseases such as cholera and to prevent the spread of Covid-19. Rahmah continues: "Now, I have a water point behind my tent. I can easily get clean water whenever I need it and I do not have to leave my children alone anymore. Thanks to Oxfam for providing the water and for making us feel safe and secure".

The Yemen Humanitarian Fund supported Oxfam to implement a \$3.3 million project to provide emergency WASH, protection and food security and agriculture assistance for some 16,000 IDPs and host communities in Amran and Taiz Governorates.



Concrete water tank constructed by Oxfam with support from the YHF. Houth, Amran Gov. Sep 2020 ©Wadea Al Mikhlafi-Oxfam

*All names mentioned in the story have been changed for protection purposes.

Free surgical services are saving lives

Relief International

Location: Sana'a and Amran Governorates



26-year-old Bedour Alqufaf lives with her husband in the rural village of Bait Alqufaf, in Amran Governorate in north Yemen. When Bedour's husband lost his job shortly after the conflict started in 2015, the couple lost their principal source of income and struggled to make ends meet. Their situation worsened when Bedour developed health complications in 2019. In the few accessible health centers that she was able to visit over the past year, Bedour was advised that she needed a cholecystectomy surgery to alleviate her pain. However, even the closest hospital providing surgical services was too far away, and the transportation costs coupled with the hospital costs were simply unaffordable. But thanks to Relief International's emergency health response project, funded by the Yemen Humanitarian Fund (YHF), Bedour was able to access free health services at one of the hospitals in the region.

In July 2020, Bedour's husband rushed her to a rural hospital in Amran Governorate as she was suffering from severe abdominal pain. The health workers immediately attended to her and

conducted an ultrasound test. Given the test results and Bedour's symptoms, which included severe vomiting and fever, she was diagnosed with chronic inflammation of the gallbladder with multiple small stones. Her condition necessitated an emergency cholecystectomy surgery. Bedour was immediately operated by a general surgeon. The surgery was successful with no complications and after showing signs of improvement, she was discharged two days later.

"Thanks to RI for supporting Kharef hospital and for providing free life-saving services to us"

Notably, as Bedour's husband expressed his gratitude he said: "Thanks to RI for supporting Kharef hospital and for providing free life-saving services to us. The free surgical services provided at the Kharef Rural Hospital could continue to save lives if more people in his community knew about them". RI is therefore now conducting awareness sessions in rural areas about free specialized health services provided in the supported health facilities.

With funding from the YHF, RI is supporting five hospitals in Amran Governorate targeting

conflict-affected communities in North Yemen. The project has ensured improved access to primary and secondary healthcare services through 23 fixed Health Facilities and one Emergency Medical Mobile Team in Sana'a and Amran Governorates. The targeted facilities were provided with medical supplies, laboratory solutions, medical equipment, medications, training, WASH rehabilitation, WASH supplies, furniture and solar panels according to need. Among other services, RI referred a total of 316 emergency cases through their referral system and a total of 50,116 reproductive health services and consultations were provided at 19 RI-supported fixed Health Facilities and 1 EMMT.

The Yemen Humanitarian Fund supported Relief International to implement a \$2.1 million project providing emergency health services to some 152,000 people affected by conflict in Sana'a and Amran Governorates.



General surgeon about to operate a cholecystectomy surgery on Bedour in Kharef Rural Hospital on 20 July 2020.

BACK TO SCHOOL

Using doors for blackboards in war-torn Mokha District Norwegian Refugee Council



Ahmed is an active 14-year-old boy who likes to help those around him. People who know him say that he is always optimistic despite all the challenges he has been through. Before the conflict in Yemen started in 2015, Ahmed attended primary school in his hometown in Al Hodeidah Governorate. But his school was hit by an airstrike, which sadly prevented Ahmed from going to school. And when the fighting intensified, his family fled to a village in Mokha district in Ta'iz Governorate. Ahmed was hopeful that he could soon return to school and resume normal life in the village but realised that the local school, Al-Zuhari, was also destroyed due to the conflict. Children were being taught at a nearby clinic and when there were too many students to fit inside the clinic, they sat outdoors near the destroyed school building. However, despite the challenging environment, Ahmed still wanted to learn, so he started attending classes.

“Learning at the clinic was very bad and difficult,” Ahmed explained. “We did not have blackboards or chairs to sit on, and there were few teachers who volunteered to teach us.” In fact, the teachers were using the doors of the clinic to write lessons on as they had blackboards. There were no school desks or chairs and Ahmed and the other children had to sit on the ground with no pen or paper, with only a handful of mostly unpaid teachers to run



Nagat outside a classroom at Al-Zuhari school. ©NRC

the school.

Sadly, many children in Mokha District share Ahmed's troubles. The district was badly affected by the conflict, leaving many schools either partially or completely destroyed. Civilians have been killed, homes attacked, and health centers closed. But at least the area near Al-Zuhari school was safe. Seven-year-old Nagat also goes to Al-Zuhari school. She is from the area, but her family had to flee the fighting temporarily—only to return and find their school and much of the village destroyed. Her father is unemployed and could not afford transport to send her to another school.

“We did not have blackboards or chairs to sit on”

The Norwegian Refugee Council could visit Ahmed and Nagat's school and work with the community to address some of the challenges. With YHF funds, six school latrines were rehabilitated, connected, and handed



Ahmed in front of his refurbished classroom at Al-Zuhari School. ©NRC

over. Students in the village were given pens, paper and other school material. Temporary classrooms were constructed and equipped to run on solar power. The volunteer teachers also received school supplies, training, and financial support in the form of incentives. Ahmed now feels happier about continuing his studies, although he is only in 4th grade. After all the struggles and years not being able to safely attend school, children like Ahmed and Nagat now have a proper chance to learn again.



New desks and materials for the teachers' office at Al-Zuhari School. ©NRC



Damages to the original Al-Zuhari School. ©NRC

The Yemen Humanitarian Fund supported the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) to implement a \$1.1 million project providing emergency education and WASH assistance to some 15,000 people affected by conflict in Ta'iz Governorate.

SHELTER AND NFI SERVICES

Shamsan's family got a home

Yemeni Development Network for NGOs (YDN)

Shamsan, a 39-year-old internally displaced person, had to flee from Taiz Governorate with his family five years ago due to the conflict and settle down in Al Udayn District in Ibb Governorate. Shamsan, who is suffering from severe physical and psychological challenges due to the conflict, his mentally unstable wife and their four young daughters suddenly found themselves in Ibb City with no means to keep them safe. A family volunteered to host only the mother and the four daughters for not more than three days and they therefore were left on the streets again with no roof over their heads.

"I am glad and grateful that I finally have a home for me and my family"

In 2020, a Shelter and WASH Project was launched by the Yemeni Development Network for NGOs (YDN) in Al Udayn, Mudhikhera and Jiblah Districts, Ibb Governorate with support from the Yemen Humanitarian Fund (YHF). The project covers the shelter needs by providing rental subsidies for six months. As an immediate response and in coordination

with the Shelter Cluster in the area and community leaders, YDN started searching for an apartment for the family in urgent need of support and safety. Fortunately, an appropriate apartment was found in Jiblah District, providing Shamsan and his family with a safe place to stay and necessary non-food items such as blankets, beddings, a gas cylinder and burner, a food basket and solar energy system. With rental subsidy, families such as Shamsan's have been supported for six months to secure a roof over their heads, which will allow them to focus on finding employment opportunities to feed the family. "I am glad and grateful that is finally I have a home for me and for my family, thank you YDN and YHF", Shamsan said.

Cash assistance for rental subsidies was distributed by YDN over six rounds since October 2020. A total of 680 families (some 4,760 individuals) were targeted with cash assistance to cover urgent needs. From 2020 to 2021, some 680 families received cash assistance for rental subsidies in installments amounting to a total of US\$240,000 over the course of six months. Cash Interventions are an effective way of helping targeted households in a dignified manner. It is meeting the majority

Location: Al Udayn, Mudhikhera and Jiblah Districts, Ibb Governorate



Shamsan and his four daughters in front of their new home. Jiblah district, Ibb Governorate.

of beneficiaries' basic needs by helping them afford their rent and pay monthly bills. It is also improving beneficiaries' lives by having a positive impact on their psychological well-being, food security, health, and educational access, through financial stability. YDN provided cash assistance through the financial service provider to ensure accountability and transparency.

The Yemen Humanitarian Fund supported the YDN to implement a \$754,448 Shelter/NFI and WASH project to provide emergency services for some 17,800 conflict affected people in Ibb Governorate in Yemen.

Ali Abdou Saeed's story of displacement

Yemen General Union of Sociologists, Social Workers and Psychologists (YGUSSWP)

The conflict and intense fighting in Yemen have displaced more than four million people across the country, depriving them of their basic rights and leaving them without a roof over their head. Ali Abdo Saeed and his family were also displaced due to conflict in their hometown. Ali recalls: "Our homes collapsed while we were in the front line."



A vulnerable IDP who fled from Taiz to Hamdan district in Sana'a Governorate. ©YGUSSWP/ Bassam Al-Afari

Armed conflicts often result in the large-scale displacement of civilians traveling long distances in search of safety from the fighting, leaving their homes and with no shelter to protect them.

"The assistance came as a mercy for our kids. They provided us with blankets, mattresses, and plates".

Ali explained, "Me and my family were displaced for two years and four months. We were displaced from Ta'iz Governorate because of the war, and our homes were demolished". In Ta'iz, he moved into the house of one of the landowners and worked for him. But the

Location: Hamdan and Bani Hushaysh, Sana'a Governorate



circumstances became increasingly difficult, and he moved to live in his uncle's house. Ali explained, "Now I am living in my uncle's house and we are five families in the same place".

Due to displacement, many people lose their livelihoods and incomes in addition to their homes and safe environment. They search for work, but the poor economic condition as a result of the conflict coupled with the consequences of COVID-19 are making it even more challenging to find work to support their families. As Ali noted, "I could not find a daily job and life is hard. Adding to this, we are freezing when winter comes. Dignity prevents us from asking for help from other people, so we keep it to ourselves. We do not tell anyone that we are struggling. When there is no way,

you cannot do anything. We have only three mattresses for our kids, and five or six of us have to make do with one cover.”

With thanks to the Yemen General Union of Sociologists, Social Workers and Psychologists supported by the Yemen Humanitarian Fund, the situation has now improved for Ali and his family. They are some of the beneficiaries of YGUSWP’s project aimed to improve living

conditions for IDPs by providing non-food items, shelter materials and rental subsidies for the most vulnerable people in the districts of Hamadan and Bani Hasheesh, Sana’a Governorate. With YHF funding, YGUSWP distributed cash winterization kits to over 6,500 people, rental subsidies to over 1,400 people, in-kind household kits to over 17,000 people as well provision of emergency shelter kits for more than 2,400 people and shelter upgrades

targeting more than 2,900 people.

The Yemen Humanitarian Fund supported Yemen General Union of Sociologists, Social Workers and Psychologists to implement a \$1.2 million project providing emergency shelter and non-food item services to more than 31,000 people affected by conflict in Sana’a Governorate.



Fleeing from conflict in Sadaah Governorate, a displaced boy headed a family who received NFIs assistance at Hamdan district in Sana’a Governorate. ©YGUSWP/Bassam Al-Afari

PROTECTION AND COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES

Multi-purpose community centers Danish Refugee Council (DRC)

Location: Al Tuhayta
District in Al Hodeidah
Governorate



The protracted conflict, ongoing displacement throughout Al Tuhayta District in Al Hodeidah Governorate and the lack of social support systems have weakened social connections and community support. Through the support of the Yemen Humanitarian Fund (YHF), the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) established multi-purpose centers integrating legal, case management, and psychosocial support activities for adults and adolescents including recreational and life skills activities. Among the psychosocial support activities proposed by DRC were perfume-making, henna, sewing, literacy, hairdressing as well as outdoor recreational activities (billiard, ping-pong and football table). Psychosocial support activities in the centers were designed directly with

people who requested activities aiming at facilitating artisan skills for income generation.

The DRC first established a community center in Al Gweriq, Al Tuhayta District in January 2020 and later relocated its mobile Protection



Fatima with her first product in front of the womens’ center in Al Tuhaitah district. © DRC

community center to Okeish in September 2020, where protection services targeted women and adolescent girls. In April 2021, a bigger community center was established in Haima-Jumeeal including two mobile caravans for male-related activities, as well as a palm-tree shelter for female-related activities along with a child-friendly space area, with the aim of helping individuals to regain more adaptive coping strategies, and to relieve stress.

Due to the clashes in Al Jabalia area in early 2018, 50-year-old Fatima, mother of eight, and her family fled their home and sought refuge in Al Tuhayta District located in the west coast of Al Hodeidah Governorate. When clashes erupted again in the area where they lived in early 2019, Fatima and her family had to move again to Al Haima, where she is currently living.

“We were in the line of fire. Bullets, rockets and airstrikes flew above us. Shrapnel as big as the palm of my hand landed in our home from

the airstrikes. It was then we decided to move to Al Tuhayta. People here are very nice and welcoming. Most of my children are married and I live with my two youngest boys. My grandchildren go to the market to find work. They often carry merchandise and sometimes, they help merchants with selling vegetables. The hard labour pays around 500 Yemeni Riyals (US\$0.8) daily which is not enough to feed us.

“With the skills gained here, I can now make a living and support my family”

Since I started coming to the women’s community center, I have learned how to stitch dresses and I can now make perfumes and incense with local materials. I also attended some legal awareness sessions. I cannot read or write, and I have always felt a bit behind in life. But now I know my legal rights and my

duties as a woman, citizen, mother and wife. I have made so many friends and the facilitators are very kind to me. With the skills gained here, I can now make a living and support my family. This place has become my second home. I wake up looking forward to going to the center to meet all the women and learning something new,” explained Fatima.

Like Fatima, forty other women are now producing goods and offering services in the local markets to help feed their families.

The Yemen Humanitarian Fund (YHF) supported DRC to implement a \$1.1 million protection project to establish community centers and protection mobile outreach teams to provide protection services to 10,000 people in Al Dhale’e and Al Hodeidah (Tuhayta District) Governorates.



Women's community centre run by DRC in Al Tuhayta district. © DRC



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The Yemen Humanitarian Fund (YHF) is a Country-Based Pooled Fund (CBPF) that makes funding directly available to humanitarian partners operating in Yemen so they can deliver timely and effective life-saving assistance to those who need it most. So far in 2021, 22 generous donors have contributed \$84 million.

THE YHF THANKS ALL OF ITS DONORS FOR THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT.

