

# REBUILDING LIVES IN YEMEN

August 2017



Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.

**THE CRISIS** Escalating armed conflict since 2015 has dramatically worsened Yemen's chronic poverty and fragility, creating a crisis of unprecedented magnitude in what was already the poorest country in the Arab region.

In a country of 27 million people, tens of thousands have been killed or wounded and 3 million have been forced to flee their homes, and are now internally displaced. With food supplies disrupted, hunger, stunting, and starvation are increasingly common—even as prices surge, incomes plunge or vanish, and people are forced to buy food and other necessities on credit. By 31 July, 2017, the World Health Organisation (WHO) had reported more than 400,000 suspected cases of cholera, and nearly 1900 associated deaths across the country. More than 80 percent of the population needs humanitarian assistance, with women, children, and other vulnerable groups hit hardest.

## UNDP'S RESPONSE

UNDP is responding in ways that promise maximum immediate impact at the community level, helping vulnerable people meet their most urgent needs while building resilience to future shocks. Working with local partners, we are improving service delivery and local governance to help Yemen to build back better and stronger than before.

## Economic Resilience

Long-running conflict has devastated Yemen's already weak economy, destroyed key infrastructure, curbed trade and commerce, and sent prices skyrocketing. Numerous civil servants have gone unpaid for months, while other livelihoods have simply vanished, and many better-off Yemenis have fled the country. Basic commodities are increasingly costly and scarce, and malnutrition is rampant. UNDP is working to train people to improve their livelihoods, stimulate the economy, and rehabilitate the public and private sectors.

Micro-business skills training has focused on Yemen's most vulnerable people, including the internally displaced, women, and youth. UNDP has helped develop apprenticeship programmes, as well as business associations and training for business startups. In response to rampant food insecurity, UNDP has created cash-for-work schemes to help people cope.

## 2016-2017 RESULTS

- Provided **1,016,887** people access to key services including water, education, and improved roads
- UNDP-supported mine risk education reached **335,031** people, including **14,153** internally displaced people
- UNDP-supported mine action cleared **1,852,041** square metres of land, removing **93,117** explosive remnants of war (ERW) and destroying **70,443** ERWs
- **15,617** people—**6,349** women and **9,268** children—benefited from nutrition services
- Created **462,741** workdays for crisis-affected people in infrastructure rehabilitation and other emergency employment programmes
- Built or improved **516** hectares of farmland including terrace planes
- Improved **50** km of roads
- Employed **16,065** people from vulnerable households in cash-for-work programmes focusing on: rain water harvesting tanks, repairing of roads, rehabilitation of schools, and protection of arable land
- Rehabilitated **294** classrooms
- **37,169** direct beneficiaries of wage employment / safety net programs

## Improved public service delivery

The ability of public sector institutions to provide, maintain, or restore basic services has sharply deteriorated since fighting began. An estimated 30 percent of urban infrastructure has so far suffered damage, while more than 1,170 schools are unusable because of conflict-related damage, the presence of displaced people, or occupation by armed groups. At least 20 percent of health facilities have been damaged or destroyed in Yemeni cities, with equipment, medicine, power, and staff in short supply. More than 30 percent of schools are damaged or destroyed in the key cities of Sana'a, Aden, and Taiz.



UNDP is helping the Yemeni people rebuild infrastructure and expand delivery of essential public services, with a particular focus on health facilities in view of the cholera outbreak and high rates of maternal mortality. By providing solar energy,

As part of an innovative partnership between World Bank and UNDP, participants of the Public Works Program are restoring a water reservoir in Hajja, Yemen.

UNDP has helped 20 hospitals and 20 schools to resume function, benefiting 56,000 and 16,000 people respectively.

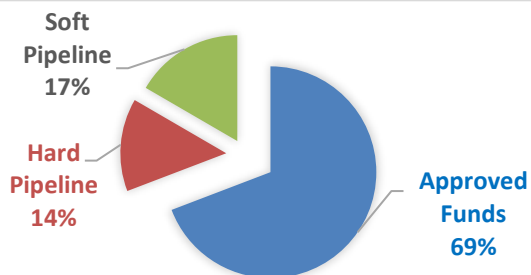
## FUNDING

UNDP is implanting its programme in Yemen in partnership with Yemeni institutions, largely in civil society, and with generous support from donor partners including:

- World Bank
- European Union
- UK
- USA
- Japan
- Germany
- The Netherlands

## PROGRAMME BUDGET 2017-2019 (USD)

- Approved Funds: \$330.7 million
- Hard Pipeline: \$67.8 million
- Soft Pipeline: \$79.5 million



UNDP has also provided street lighting to two marketplaces, and has established or reactivated 30 water associations—key institutions for local water management in Yemen. To build and sustain long-term public services, UNDP has trained eight local authority teams (229 people total) in how to help communities recover from shock. UNDP expects to continue this work until peace, security, accountable governance, and efficient public service delivery are restored.

## Stabilization

With homes, communities, and key infrastructure destroyed, Yemen's large youth cohort is more susceptible to radicalization and recruitment by armed groups. Simmering tensions, conflicts, the presence of armed factions, and widespread landmines and explosive remnants of war have prolonged the displacement of millions of Yemenis.

UNDP is working with local authorities to clear mines and other explosives, and reclaim farmland in an effort to promote stability, security, and safety. Security at the local level will encourage Yemenis in turn to make the investments they need to make to secure their own self-sufficient, peaceful and more prosperous futures, while UNDP works to build peace, deliver public services, and help displaced people return to their homes.