Supporting Internal Displaced Persons in war-torn areas in Yemen

Since the failure of political dialogue process in September 2014 followed by an intensive military conflicts in number of governorates including Aden, triggered a comprehensive civil war in March 2015, which was sequentially followed by the launching of the military operations by the Arab Force Coalition that further exacerbated the humanitarian situation, as well as contribute further deterioration of the Yemeni economic to the level of collapsing. As a result of this unpleasant political processes deterioration, the poverty level increased dramatically and people in need of support increased beyond 80% of the total Yemeni population. Moreover, social basic services decline to the low levels ever and communities coping mechanisms were stretched to the extreme, especially in intensive war zones and rural areas. The daily airstrikes and the on-ground clashes have triggered over 3 million of the displacement population from their original areas, leaving behind their possessions; homes and sources of livelihoods. Hundreds of displaced households looking for safer areas and they had to settle in other communities or villages. In response to this catastrophic situation, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Bank entered into a strategic partnership and secured financing of around USD 50 million to strength communities resilience through cash for work scheme, rehabilitation of basic essential social services and small businesses across the country under Emergency Crisis Response project. Moreover, the grant also intended to serve guard the functionality of the key national institutions such as the Social Fund for Development (SFD) and Public Works Project (PWP). Despite the complexity of the situation on the ground, the World Bank grant was operationalized as of the beginning of October 2016 and within the first 45 days the two implementing partners i.e. SFD and PWP were to provide temporary jobs opportunities to Internal Displaced Persons (IDPs) in 106 districts of the total 22 Governorates.

In this connotation, about 11,000 households have been registered for cash for work scheme; about 230 out of 500 young women have been identified, trained, and employed as community health/nutrition workers and 2,581 pregnant and lactating women and children are enrolled in the nutrition interventions. The cash for work component of the project intended to support the IDPs to secure adequate shelter to protect their families and their health from the wide lack of essential basic social services. Through cash for work initiative, the project already provided temporary basic social services to members of 266 families that include 1,312 individuals. Furthermore, the interventions focused on the rehabilitation and restoration of straw and clay shelters for each family using the locally available building materials, to protect the IDPs from the impact of hot weather and dust. Moreover, and as part of the intervention, it will also support the construction of water cycles supported with safe sanitation system for each four or five households in order to improve their health and the environmental situation. The project will also provide job awareness to improve their life skills and provide psychological support as well.
Cash for Work supported IDPs to secure adequate shelter to protect their families in Mustaba District in Hajjah, November 2016, SFD.

Registration of families in Cash for Work interventions at Taiz Governorate, November 2016, SFD.
Registration of families in Cash for Work interventions at Taizz Governorate, November 2016, SFD.

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