Peace Support Facility

The Stockholm Agreement, brokered by the UN Special Envoy for Yemen in December 2018, forms the basis on which to restore peace and rebuild lives starting in Hodeida and Taiz. To support the implementation of this agreement and any others emerging from the peace process, UNDP has launched the Peace Support Facility (PSF).

By implementing fast, flexible initiatives, agreed by the parties, that deliver tangible, rapid improvements in the daily lives of people, and reinforce and build public support for the political process, the PSF provides an alternative to conflict. At a political level, this helps to build confidence between parties and serves as an incentive to deepen engagement in the peace process. At a community level, development initiatives improve living conditions, encourage the return of displaced families, and create local demand for peace.

The PSF has a 3-window structure which includes:
1 - Implementation of the Hodeidah agreement and new initiatives requested by the parties with a clear link to the Stockholm agreement or any other future agreement between Yemeni parties under UN auspices;
2 - Delivery of discreet activities emerging out of existing Track II initiatives with the goal of catalyzing the political process.
3 - Support to transitional governance arrangements as and when the parties agree and post-peace agreement planning.

To ensure the necessary internal coordination within the UN system, a working level ‘UN PSF coordination group’ representing all three UN offices (OSESGY, RCO and UNDP) has been established to ensure that up-to-date information on proposed projects and interventions is properly exchanged amongst offices.

- The December 2018 Stockholm Agreement provides the foundation on which to restore peace and rebuild lives starting in Hodeida and Taiz.
- The escalating conflict has left physical infrastructure in shambles, leading to massive disruption in movement of humanitarian and essential supplies.
- The PSF responds to the priorities articulated by conflict parties during negotiations led by the UN Special Envoy for Yemen.
- By demonstrating the positive changes that can occur as a result of dialogue, the PSF provides an alternative to conflict.

Handshake between parties at the conclusion of the press conference during the Stockholm peace talks in December 2018.
**Current Initiatives**

Two main initiatives currently being implemented by the PSF include:

a) Improving functionality and safety of operations of Ports Hodeidah, Salif and Ras Issa by rehabilitating vital port infrastructure to ensure unhindered entry of humanitarian aid and commercial shipments;

b) Conducting an assessment of the Mareb Power Plant to determine the extent of the damage, maintenance and spare parts needs to make the main plant operational and to restore electricity services to a significant portion of the Yemeni population.

**Progress**

* Comprehensive damage and capacity assessment of the Ports of Hodeidah, Salif and Ras Issa undertaken with support of two experts from the Port of Rotterdam. An assessment of the two Liebherr gantry cranes is expected to take place in Q2 2020.

* Construction company started works for the rehabilitation of the Training Center of Port Hodeidah and procurement process ongoing for other key port infrastructure.

* Providing technical assistance to ceasefire initiatives to support OSESGY’s role in strengthening de-escalation initiatives, with the goal of expanding the suspension into other de-escalation measures.

* Recruitment and deployment of an electrical engineering team for the assessment of the Mareb Power Plant and other electrical needs in Hodeidah ports and governorate.

![Experts from Port of Rotterdam examining the port site in Hodeidah](image)

**Looking Ahead**

While pursuing the implementation of the interventions in the Hodeidah ports and the assessment of the Mareb power plant, the PSF will also look at other opportunities to contribute to fostering peace in Yemen as recommended by the Steering Committee in its meeting in September 2019.

These additional PSF focus areas may include:

* Discuss with Track II partners opportunities to support local-level initiatives that can foster dialogue and peacebuilding. Particularly attention will be given to initiatives targeting marginalized groups, to promote the women, peace and security agenda and to enhance community safety.

* Support to the implementation of the temporary mechanism for the arrival and processing of fuel ships into the Hodeidah port. In particular, UNDP can provide technical capacity to the UN supervisory mechanism that has been set up by OSESGY;

In addition, the UN Special Envoy for Yemen and the UN Resident Coordinator will continue discussions to identify other possible interventions agreed upon by the parties.

![Rehabilitation of training center in the port of Hodeidah](image)
**Budget and Donor Contributions**

The project requires an estimated US$20 million to implement the first set of initiatives, which are critical to confidence-building.

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<th>Donor</th>
<th>Contribution agreements signed (USD)*</th>
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*Values may vary depending on conversion rate

**About UNDP Yemen**

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has worked directly with the government and people of Yemen for more than 50 years. UNDP projects are designed to restore livelihoods, strengthen resilience to future challenges, and lay the foundation for long-term development.

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