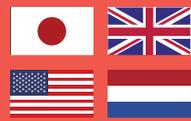


# SUPPORT TO ELIMINATE THE MINES

## FROM MINES AND EXPLOSIVE REMNANTS OF WAR IN YEMEN - PHASE IV - 2016



Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.

### BRIEF

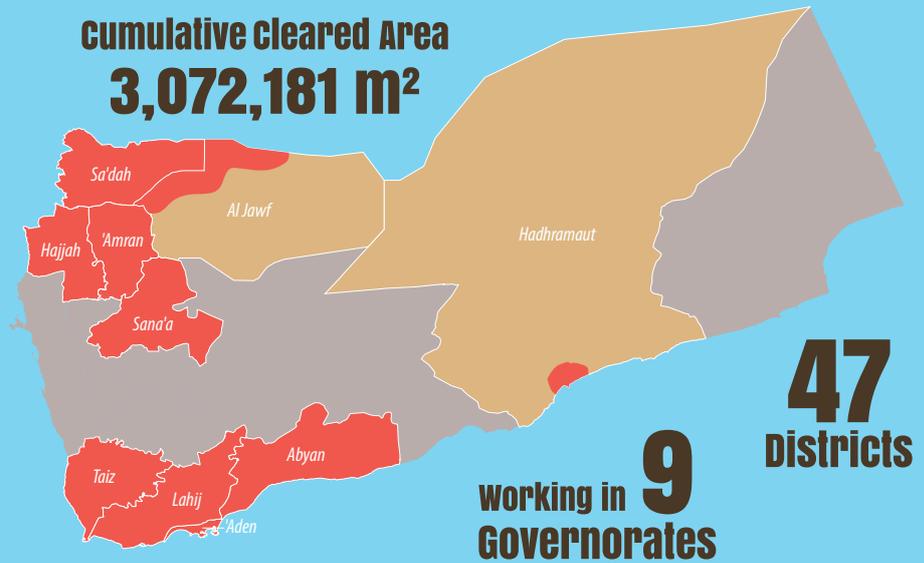
Yemen is a signatory state to the APMB (Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention) since entering into force in March 1999 enacting national legislation in April 2005. Yemen is not party to the 2008 Convention on Cluster Munitions or the 1980 Convention on Conventional Weapons. APMB extended obligations currently expire in 2020. Based on the increased contamination as a result of fighting in 2015-6 from the known or assumed mine use, Yemen will not meet these obligations and will require an extension to the current convention agreement.

Yemen has two state institutions for mine action implementation; NMAC and YEMAC. The former is concerned with advocacy, policy, strategy, convention obligations, political facilitation and priority setting and the latter as the executive institution; conducting and/or coordinating risk-education, victim assistance, survey and clearance operations. In addition, YEMAC is responsible for information management and quality control/assurance of all operations. YEMAC is the national executive body to co-ordinate and conduct the five pillars of mine action in country centrally coordinated from Sana'a with offices in Aden and Sa'ada. YEMAC has the preserve for clearance and survey operations throughout the country and a consortium of national and international NGOs conduct risk education and victim assistance and coordinated by YEMAC.

In response to the impact of the contamination, UNDP is implementing and developing an equitable project north, centre and south of the country. The phase IV project specifically address some of the lacking areas in the overall plan, particularly in the north of the country but should be considered a constituent and essential component of the overall plan.

### Yemen Mine Action Context

Currently, 20 governorates in the north, middle and south of Yemen are affected by unexploded (UXO). There are increasing reports indicating new mines have been planted in such areas as the crossing point to Saudi Arabia between Bab-el-Mandeb and Al Hudaydah, and in Aden and Lahj governorates, including improvised explosive devices. There is considerable and growing contamination of cluster-munitions in urban and peri-urban areas with a high impact on the civilian population.



### Key Challenges:

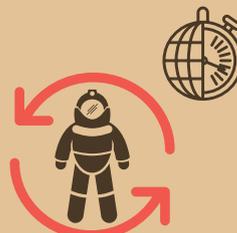
Fluid security situation and access to contaminated sites



Fuel, electricity shortage, mobile communication and internet interruptions still affects staff work



Posting of international staff depending on available slots is hampering the work



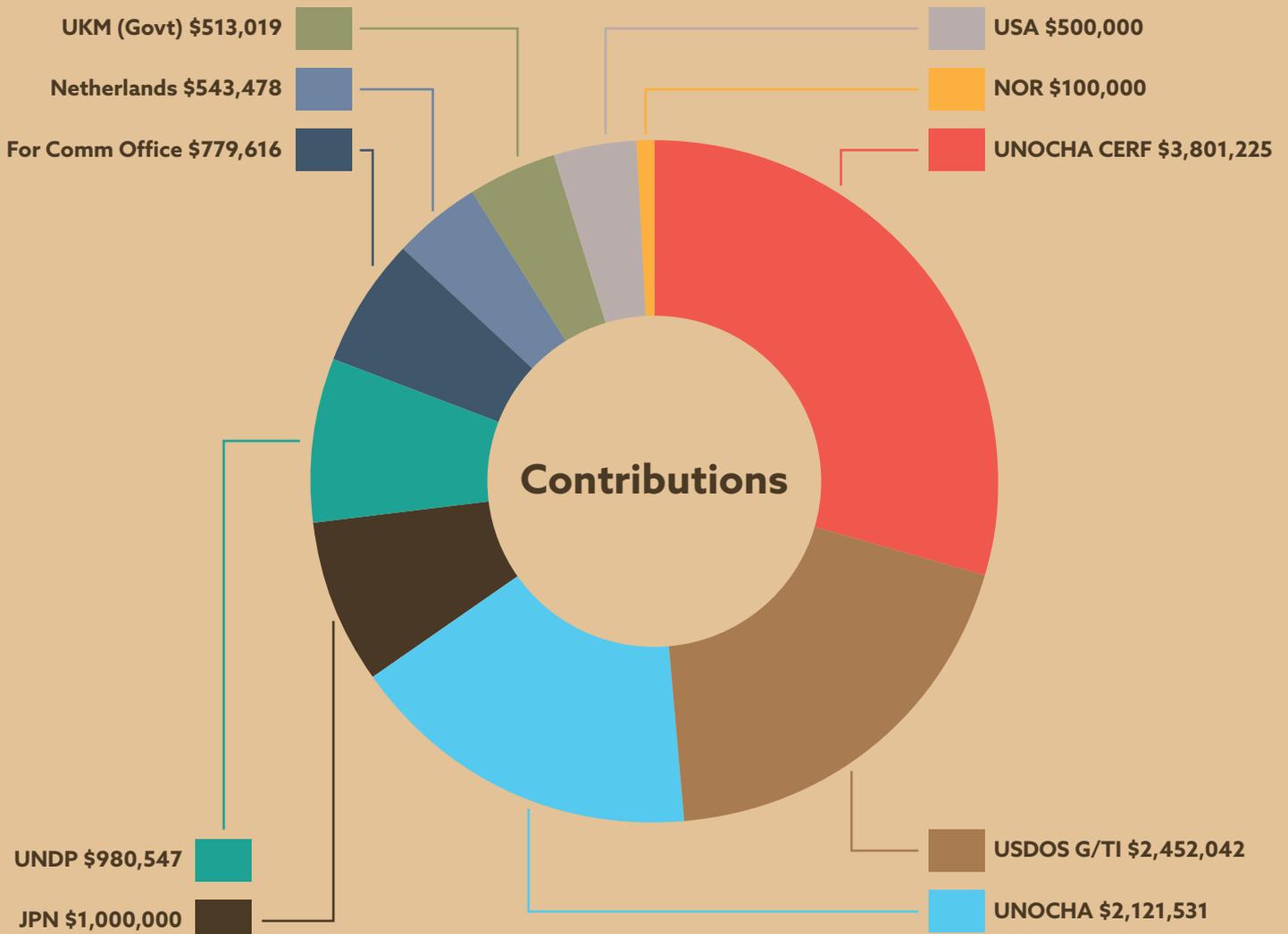
Funding: The fully mobilised structure of YEMAC will need approximately \$15-\$16M



# KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Recommendation:** Improved productivity will be met in two ways; a) increasing the number of field operators and b) the employment of more efficient methodologies for the disposal of mines/UXO and more efficient land release surveys. UNDP will support YEMAC with the development of longer terms plans for survey and clearance operations (annual work plans), longer terms staffing and procurement plans, and national support plans with details on the actual support to be provided. The same are to be discussed and agreed upon by UNDP and YEMAC and constitute the basis for the future activities.
- **Recommendation:** The equitable response across the country based on need means a greater effort is required in the middle and north of the country by UNDP to support the under-resourced YEMAC capacity in the affected governorates.
- **Recommendation:** UNDP will continue working with NMAC/YEMAC to introduce and facilitate international mine action orientated NGOs each to assist Yemen and bringing their own relative advantages.
- **Recommendation:** UNDP will continue to support the under-resourced YEMAC and will continue to follow up intensively on additional funding so that the clearance operations continue to expand. The implementation modality in the coming period, until the situation in the country returns to normal, should be Direct Execution (DEX).

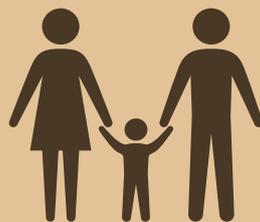
## Utilization of fund between 2013-2016 by Donor



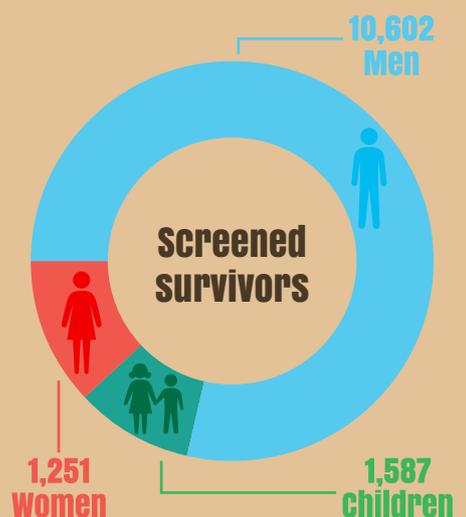
# PROGRESS AGAINST OUTCOME AND OUTPUTS (2016)

- With the exception of UNICEF (risk education), UNDP remained the only UN agency in country to assist with Yemen's mine action issues north and south of the country. In the long relationship UNDP has had with NMAC/YEMAC, the goal has always been to develop the institutions and assist in their capacity development to ensure efficiency and effectiveness in addressing the impact of contamination. While the current political situation in country has altered the approach by UNDP, the goal still remains.
- Towards the end of 2015, and throughout 2016, UNDP introduced a changed operations modality and focused on working with YEMAC in order to reduce emergency threat of explosive devices around the country. The emergency phase is focused on relieving the highly impacted communities. However, there are three overarching strands to UNDP's intervention; a) prevent the situation worsening; b) relief from the impact of current contamination and c) addressing the longer-term issues of convention obligations. All three strands are implemented concurrently and are not mutually exclusive.
- In addition, UNDP continued working with NMAC/YEMAC to introduce and facilitate international mine action orientated NGOs each to assist Yemen and bringing their own relative advantages (DDG - Danish Demining Group, NPA - Norwegian People's Aid and HI - Handicap International with more to follow). UNDP signed an Agreement with DDG for operations in Aden: risk education, IMSMA training (Information Management System for Mine Action) and EOD training (explosive ordnance disposal). There were plans to introduce NPA in the country to review the MDD (Mine Detection Dogs) component based in Sana'a and assist in future operational development, however these plans did not materialise and were postponed to 2017. HI worked with UNDP and YEMAC on the remote survey process. UNDP's approach ensures the continuity of NMAC/YEMAC as a national institution effecting mine action and further develops the concept of national ownership in addressing the needs.
- YEMAC continued to conduct and/or co-ordinate risk-education, victim assistance, survey and clearance operations, information management and quality control/assurance of all operations. It continues working on improving the administration activities for its departments according to the recommendation from the audit reports (review and complete staff profiles; prepare documents / forms needed for field operations in accordance with UNDP requirements; review financial clearance documents for the field operations in Sa'ada, Hajjah and Sana'a). A new YEMAC branch was opened in Sa'ada on 02 April 2016 fully equipped with furniture and other requirements including solar system. Fifty new staff joined YEMAC in April 2016.
- The training operations for field staff continued throughout the year and senior staff continued to participate in regional and international conferences and important events.
- Overall, at peak of activities a total of 551 deminers were active in Mine Action operations during 2016. The number and size of the teams varied, depending on the operational needs: from a 28 strong clearance teams to small teams of four people used in urban areas survey operations.

**262,810**  
ERWS Cleared



**1,375,590**  
DIRECT  
Beneficiaries



# SUCCESS STORY THE AMRAN CEMENT FACTORY

The Amran Cement Factory (ACF) was established in October 1982 as a majority state owned enterprise. The factory, together with its two sister companies, the Al-Barh Cement Factory in Taizz and the Bajil Cement Factory in Al-Hudaydah, were the economic engine for the region. The annual production capacity of the three organisations was 1.5 million metric tons per year (before the crisis), they employed 3,171 staff and provided direct and indirect employment to almost 16,000 people (with 86,000 dependents) among whom contractors, suppliers, retailers and other sectors funded by the Factory. The ACF also supported thousands of families through its social assistance programs.

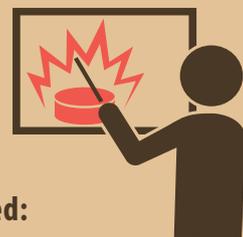


The factory was targeted by a series of airstrikes in 2015 and 2016, claiming the lives of at least 15 people, injuring 71, causing serious damages to the production lines and leaving numerous unexploded ordnance scattered around the factory. The management decided to close all three facilities at the beginning of 2016, leaving its staff, suppliers and contractors without any income. The social programs were also discontinued, further worsening the already dire situation of the local population. Ultimately, the closure of the factory impacted the supply and price of cement at the country level.

The factory management, supported by members of the local authorities, approached the UN/UNDP asking for help in identifying a solution to the problem and finding ways to resume the production. Responding to the request, the UNDP Chief Technical Advisor visited the factory, established that the level of contamination within the factory's perimeter is high and proposed that the management of the factory and the local authorities approach YEMAC asking for their assistance. In their turn, the management of YEMAC responded promptly to the request dispatching a mine action team to the factory. The team mapped the contaminated areas, removed objects posing a threat to the extraction operations and provided conditions for the partial resumption of the production operations.

As a result of the above described activities, the factory managed to resume part of its production, packaging and sale operations, and was able to pay some of the salary arrears to the employees as an emergency relief measure. UNDP continues to closely work with YEMAC and the factory management towards the factory's resumption of full production activities.

Mine Risk Education activities conducted by YEMAC during the year reached:



**305,031**



**People**



**Directly**  
**475 survivors**  
**Supporting**



**14,153**  
**IDPS**

**9**  
**Governorates**



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