

DESK STUDY

Multidimensional Livelihoods Assessment in Conflict-Affected Areas

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Executive summary

UNDP Yemen has undertaken a Multi-dimensional Livelihoods Assessment in Conflict-Affected Areas on behalf of, and in close collaboration with, the members of the Sustainable Livelihoods and Employment Generation (SL&EG) working group¹ and the Livelihoods working group (LWG) within the humanitarian cluster system. It is a comprehensive assessment initiative, including primary and secondary data collection and analysis which will inform the planning of livelihoods recovery in support of wider resilience-building initiatives during and beyond the transition. This desk study collates, analyses and presents multiple sources of relevant secondary data gathered during assessments.

This initiative aims to establish empirical baselines of people's livelihoods status in various governorates of Yemen and examines how they have been affected by recent conflicts. In addition to this desk review, other deliverables include a combined analysis of household surveys as well as participatory qualitative assessments in selected areas and the development of a framework and tools for future assessments. Initial information will form the baseline data for a light trend monitoring system. The Livelihoods Assessment complements the work of other organizations in Yemen, supporting a joint approach to building more resilient communities. UNDP, therefore, cooperated closely with the Government of Yemen and international and national agencies throughout the project.

Humanitarian conditions and poverty levels in Yemen continue to worsen in various parts of the country, especially in areas affected by multiple crises, including regime change, fragmented conflicts and both slow-onset (drought) and sudden (floods) natural disasters. Six successive wars in the north between the Houthis and the Government of Yemen and the conflict in the south between AQAP and the Government of Yemen from 2011 to June 2012 caused displacement and damage to property. Although the majority of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in the south have returned (162,000 people — 85 percent of IDPs), this is not the case in the north, where some 300,000 people from Saada remain displaced, mainly in Hajjah. While high levels of unemployment were among the root causes of the crisis, the events also heavily affected livelihoods, despite government efforts to improve public services and to create job opportunities for the most vulnerable groups of society. Greater efforts from the Yemen authorities and the international community are needed to prevent the impact of current livelihoods conditions from turning into further political and economic conflicts. Importantly, the reduced availability of and access to natural resources is critically undermining the potential for sustainable livelihoods in Yemen, and are increasing sources of tension.

¹ The Sustainable Livelihoods and Employment Generation working group was established in June 2012 to support the Joint United Nations Vision to Support the Transition in Yemen, which in turn supports the Government of Yemen Transition Program for Stabilization and Development. Members include five government ministries and six UN agencies.

Recognizing the importance of livelihoods recovery and economic revitalization in Yemen to building resilient communities for ongoing and future crises, this desk study consists of a review and analysis of secondary data on livelihoods, with a specific focus on selected areas (Saada, Hajjah and Amran in the north, and Abyan and Taiz in the south) and potential linkages with the crisis. The assessment includes an analysis of existing quantitative and qualitative data covering areas such as socio-demography, poverty, inequalities and exclusion, food security, employment and informal income-generating activities, agriculture (including subsistence-based production) and access to water and public services. This desk study focused, in particular, on an analysis of livelihoods, employment and vulnerability at national and subnational levels.

Main findings of the desk review

The available information collected during this desk review reveals that the 2011 crisis impacted several dimensions of livelihoods in Yemen including employment, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), commodity and food prices, and basic services. It is estimated that 15 percent of all private-sector workers and 30–40 percent of factory workers lost their jobs, while the salary of most employees was reduced by around 20 percent, and extended unpaid leave of up to six months given to others. Unskilled workers were hit particularly hard by the stagnation of the construction sector including the stagnation of private, government and local authorities' development projects.

The lack of security, increased input prices, electricity cuts and reduced access to credit are the main factors which led to the suspension or closure of operations of SMEs. Speculation during the crisis led to an increase of wheat prices. The impact on poultry farming was minimal compared to other sectors, despite the increased transportation costs and delivery delays. Most poor households can afford poultry, but cannot afford red meats such as mutton and beef; therefore, these are consumed mainly by households with higher incomes. The fishery sector was also affected by increased fuel prices, which contributed to increasing operational costs by around 70 percent, and reduced electricity supply, which limited producers' capabilities to store and process fish. Access to basic services, including water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) was severely disrupted. Widespread disruption of water projects throughout the country was witnessed during the crisis. Some schools remained inaccessible due to the insecurity generated by the conflict, while others became shelters for IDPs.

The study also reveals that the increased lack of livelihood assets and activities contributed to conflict and created a vicious downward cycle. Land and water scarcity contributed to more than 75 percent of rural conflicts, many of them deadly. A lack of employment, especially among young people, creates a volatile situation which easily explodes into conflict. Deficits in education result in opposing ideological influences. The marginalization of women is perpetuated by traditional practices and discriminatory laws.

However, the desk review also highlighted critical information gaps, which urgently need to be addressed as a basis for the development of any livelihoods recovery programming. Such gaps include in particular:

- a lack of up-to-date information following the recent crisis (i.e. most information dates back to before the crisis in 2011). This includes both national- and household-level data in relation to employment and broader livelihoods needs;
- a lack of age- and sex-disaggregated data, both at national and local levels;
- insufficient data and analysis as to how high levels of unemployment contributed to the crises and continue to be a source of instability; and
- a lack of analysis as to which sectors and specific value chains offer significant potential for employment creation.

Based on these findings, one key conclusion that can be drawn from the desk review is that there is a need for UNDP and other agencies to further support the government to carry out a comprehensive livelihoods assessment at field level, in close collaboration with the members of the SL&EG working group and the LWG within the humanitarian cluster system, to fill the information gaps identified by this desk review. It is also important to further build on the outcomes of the livelihoods assessments that are currently being carried out by various civil society organizations and other UNCT agencies such as UNFPA and WFP, as well as the census and CFSS monitoring outcomes.

More specifically, the desk review underlines the need to:

- further identify the main economic sectors and value chains with significant potential for employment creation, particularly within agriculture, agro-food processing and other sectors of particular importance for income generation at community level. In particular, the analysis of the priority sectors would help to identify the potential for the development of certain agricultural and agro-industrial products and priority interventions to enhance the sector and improve farmers' livelihoods conditions;
- identify opportunities for market linkages between farmers and wholesalers and SMEs, as well as with cooperatives;
- identify the needs for vocational and business training on the basis of the priority areas identified above; and
- build on the outcomes of the desk review and any forthcoming assessments to develop methodologies that meet short-term needs for employment while meeting the need for long-term sustainable employment — for example, the 3x6 approach.

Additional assessment will be critical as a basis to collectively identify priority areas to support employment, self-employment and income generation, with an emphasis on women, young people, vulnerable and marginalized groups and mine victims. Such programmes are needed to accelerate action from relief to recovery and sustainable livelihoods, as a key step to support crisis-affected communities to become more resilient against ongoing and future crises related to either conflict or disaster.

I. Introduction

1. Background

Yemen is in a fragile state of transition following the Gulf Cooperation Council's brokered agreement of November 2011. While the political process is very much in the spotlight, including the National Dialogue, elections and transitional justice, there is growing awareness among various stakeholders that other critical root causes of the crisis, such as poverty and the lack of sustainable livelihoods opportunities, must also be addressed in parallel. This includes examining the link between the impact of both sudden and slow-onset disasters (such as droughts and floods) on livelihoods and conflict as a result of increased demand for the limited available natural resources. The lack of sustainable livelihoods has triggered conflict, and conflict has degraded livelihoods further. This study contributes the understanding needed to break this downward spiral.

Humanitarian conditions and poverty levels continue to worsen in various parts of the country, especially those affected by conflict. Six successive wars in the north between the Houthis and the Government of Yemen and the war in the south between AQAP and the government from 2011 to June 2012 caused displacement and damage to property. Although the majority of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in the south have returned (162,000 people — 85 percent of IDPs), this is not the case in the north, where some 300,000 people from Saada remain displaced, mainly in Hajjah. In addition the impact of the 2011 Yemen Revolution (triggered by a high level of unemployment) on livelihoods is still affecting the population, despite government efforts to improve public services and to create job opportunities for the most vulnerable groups in society. Greater efforts from the Yemen authorities and the international community are needed to prevent the impact of current livelihoods conditions from turning into further political and economic conflicts. This includes the need for a comprehensive assessment of the main livelihoods needs among different population groups in Yemen.

Recognizing the importance of livelihoods recovery and economic revitalization to building resilience in Yemen, this desk study consists of a review and analysis of secondary data on livelihoods, focusing on five selected areas and potential linkages with the multiple levels of the complex crisis. The assessment includes an analysis of existing quantitative and qualitative data covering areas such as socio-demography, poverty, inequalities and exclusion, food security, employment and informal income-generating activities, agriculture (including subsistence-based production) and access to water and public services. This desk study focuses, in particular, on an analysis of livelihoods, employment and vulnerability at national and subnational levels.

Livelihoods are defined as the capabilities, assets and activities required to make a living. Assets comprise of human, social, natural, physical, financial and political capital.² This desk review

² UNDP, 'Guide on Livelihoods and Economic Recovery in Crisis Situations', UNDP, New York, 2013.

provides a mapping of available disaggregated data at the governorate and district levels and identifies the most vulnerable districts where additional household surveys are needed, and data gaps to be covered by the survey. It focuses on five governorates which are among the most vulnerable regions in Yemen: Saada, Hajjah and Amran in the north, and Abyan and Taiz in the south.

2. Objectives

1. To assess the most critical livelihoods needs at national and subnational levels.
2. To identify the most important linkages or sources of conflict in relation to a lack of livelihoods opportunities in vulnerable areas.
3. To map livelihoods interventions launched by international and national organizations at the national and governorate level, as a basis for UNDP to identify critical entry points of engagement.
4. To identify areas where additional research or (field) assessments, including household surveys, are required. Official, relevant data are extremely limited in Yemen, which in part underlines the need for this assessment. This desk review aims to consolidate and assess the figures available from various sources, some of which are based on anecdotal evidence or estimations. Often, figures date back to a few years before the 2011 crisis.

3. Methodology

The desk review is based on the review of:

- available literature on livelihoods and conflict in Yemen;
- reports and surveys prepared by international and national organizations in the various governorates; and
- interviews with relevant government agencies, UN agencies, international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other international organizations.

II. Population

Yemen's total resident population was 23.83 million people in 2011. The estimated figure for 2013 is 25.23 million, of which 49.1 percent are women. Yemen's population is young, with an estimated 42 percent of the population under the age of 15, 23 percent between 15 and 24 years old, and 67–70 percent under the age of 25. The proportion of young people (i.e. 15–24 years old) in the total population is one of the highest in the Middle East and North Africa. Available data from other sources for 2010 indicate that young people constituted 22 percent of Yemen's

population (similar to Jordan and Oman), as compared to 20 percent in Syria, Iraq and Egypt, 18 percent in Lebanon and Libya and 15 percent in Bahrain.³

The population is concentrated in rural areas: 71.1 percent of the total population and 70.5 percent of total households in 2011.⁴ The five selected governorates in this report constitute 29.8 percent of the total Yemeni population, and 82.2 percent of them live in rural areas. The highest concentration of the population in rural areas is in Hajjah (90.6 percent), with the lowest in Abyan (72.2 percent) (see Table 1).

Just under half (49.1 percent) of the total population are women. The percentage of women is about 50 percent in the governorates, with the highest percentage recorded in Taiz (52.2 percent) and the lowest in Hajjah (48.0 percent).

Table 1: Population of Governorates (2011)

Governorate	Population			Rural (%)	Urban (%)
	Total	M (%)	F (%)		
Abyan	528,000	50.94	49.06	74.2	25.8
Taiz	2,885,000	47.80	52.20	77.6	22.4
Hajjah	1,782,000	51.96	48.04	90.6	9.4
Saada	838,000	51.67	48.33	84.6	15.4
Amran	1,061,000	51.27	48.73	82.9	17.1
TOTAL	7,094,000	50.06	49.94	82.2	17.8

Source: Central Statistical Organization, Republic of Yemen, 'Statistical Yearbook 2011'

III. Poverty

Yemen has the highest poverty levels in the Middle East. It ranks 154th out of 187 countries in the UNDP Human Development Index.⁵ Nearly half (47 percent) of the population lived below the US\$2/day poverty line in 2005.⁶ However, there is a lack of up-to-date official information on poverty rates in Yemen. The Central Statistics Office (CSO) in Yemen carried out its last

³ Source: United Nations Population Division, 'World Population Prospects', the 2010 Revision.

⁴ Source: Central Statistical Organization, Republic of Yemen, 'Statistical Yearbook 2011'.

⁵ UNDP, International Human Development indicators 2011;

<http://hdrstats.undp.org/en/countries/profiles/YEM.html>.

⁶ Central Statistics Office, 'Yemen Household Budget Survey 2005'.

census in 2004 and the last Household Budget Survey (HBS) in 2005/6. The HBS measured poverty levels on the basis of household expenditures.

Poverty levels continued to increase significantly in the last few years in Yemen. While poverty affected approximately one third of the Yemeni population in 2006, this rate increased to more than half of the population (54.4 percent) in 2011. The 2011 crisis mostly affected the population in urban areas, where most of the uprisings and armed conflicts took place. However, the highest poverty rates were found in rural areas in 2006 (40.1 percent, compared to 20.7 percent in urban areas). It should be noted that rural poverty increased to 59 percent in 2011 from its pre-crisis level of 47.6 percent.⁷

Higher unemployment rates and/or falling wages, as a result of the crisis, have sharply driven down household income. Households' real income was also reduced in view of the increase in prices of major goods and services such as food and fuel, caused by lower and irregular supplies. Household expenditures also declined sharply after the crisis — by 16.8 percent in 2011.

When comparing the five governorates selected for this assessment based on available data:

- Amran has the highest level of poverty. Data from 2006 show that this region is the poorest (based on household expenditures) in both rural and urban areas: 63.9 percent of the total population in Amran was poor.
- The second and third poorest regions are Hajjah (47.5 percent) and Abyan (45.6 percent), whereas Saada has a poverty rate of 16.6 percent.
- In most regions, the poorest people are found in rural areas, with the poverty rate ranging from 70.5 percent in Amran to 41.5 percent in Taiz (see Table 2). The exception is Saada, where the poorest groups live in urban areas. In Saada 18.3 percent of the urban population is considered poor, compared to 16.2 percent of the population living in its rural areas.

Table 2: Poverty Level 2005–2006 (percentage)

	Total Population	Rural	Urban
Abyan	45.6	50.5	31.8
Taiz	37.8	41.5	23.7
Hajjah	47.5	50.0	21.3

⁷ World Bank, United Nations, European Union, Islamic Development Bank, in collaboration with the Government of Yemen, represented by the Minister of Planning and International Cooperation, 'Joint Social and Economic Assessment for the Republic of Yemen', 31 August 2012.

Saada	16.6	16.2	18.3
Amran	63.9	70.5	33.8
Total	34.8	40.1	20.7

Source: CSO, Household Budget Survey 2005–2006

Available data from the poorest districts in the five governorates indicated that the poverty rate can reach as high as 90 percent in some districts. The rates are in the range of 80–90 percent in five districts of Amran, 50–79 percent in six districts of Abyan, 52–62 percent in six districts of Hajjah, and 51–56 percent in four districts in Taiz.

IV. Structure of the Yemen economy

Available data indicate that the Yemen economy contracted significantly in 2011 after recording a GDP growth of 6.8 percent in 2010. GDP declined by 15.3 percent in 2011, while non-oil GDP declined by 14.8 percent.⁸

The services sector in Yemen was the major contributor to GDP in 2011, followed by the agricultural sector (15.7 percent), then mining and quarrying — essentially of oil (12.7 percent). The manufacturing sector is still weak, contributing only 4.4 percent of GDP (see Table 3). Data for 2011 revealed some changes in the structure of GDP, as the contribution of the agricultural sector increased from 12.9 percent in 2010 to 15.7 percent in 2011. This increase does not, however, reflect a growth in the sector but, rather, the declining share of the manufacturing and construction sectors in total GDP in 2011. This could be explained by the fact that the 2011 crisis affected mostly the urban areas where manufacturing and construction activities are concentrated. The share of agriculture in GDP has actually declined steadily, from 30 percent in the early 1990s to 20 percent in 2006.

**Table 3: Distribution of GDP by Economic Sector, 2010–2011 (at constant market prices)
— percentage**

	2010	2011
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	12.89	15.65
Mining and quarrying*	13.18	12.66
Manufacturing	5.11	4.43

⁸ Source: CSO, MOPIC, ‘Statistical Yearbook 2011’ (National Accounts, 2000–2011).

Electricity and water	0.71	0.63
Construction and building	8.0	7.13
Wholesale and retail trade, restaurants and hotels, maintenance	20.47	٢٠.٠٤
Transport, storage and communications	19.59	١٨.١٣
Financing, insurance, real estate and business services	8.86	٨.٣٠
Personal and community services	1.34	١.٢٩
Producers of government services	8.74	١٠.٧٢
Household sector (household services)	0.05	٠.٠٥
Non-profit producers	0.03	٠.٠٣
Customs duties	1.01	٠.٩٤
TOTAL	100	١٠٠

* The share of oil in total GDP was 13.09 percent in 2010 and 12.57 percent in 2011.
Source: CSO, MOPIC, 'Statistical Yearbook 2011' (National Accounts, 2000–2011)

V. Impact of the 2011 crisis on employment, skilled and unskilled labour, and the private sector

There are no recent official data available on employment. The latest national labour market survey was carried out in 1999, while data on employment and labour come from the HBS of 2006. The CSO is currently preparing for a labour market survey which is expected to start in 2013.

Most Yemenis are employed in the informal sector (91.4 percent in 2011),⁹ which affects the collection of taxes and the state budget. In Yemen, poverty and informality are not interlinked, since more than two thirds of the workers who belong to the richest households are employed in the informal sector. Informality rates among women are higher because of the large proportion of women working in the agricultural sector. Important factors in this are restrictive inheritance rights and Yemen's 1992 personal status law, which limits the civil liberties of women, dictating that their freedom of movement depends on permission from their husbands or guardians. Overall, this has made it increasingly challenging for women to become employed in the formal sector or gain access to finance — for instance, to support formal self-employment (see also sections below on constraints on women's livelihoods).

⁹ 'Joint Social and Economic Assessment for the Republic of Yemen'.

The 2011 crisis resulted in higher unemployment rates, because an increasing number of employees in the private sector lost their jobs. Employees in the public sector, however, mostly kept their jobs but were affected indirectly by reduced purchasing power as a result of high inflation rates, delayed payment of salaries and the physical displacement of employees from areas affected by conflict. To remedy the acute unemployment and reduce political tension, the government created 50,000 additional posts in the public sector, aimed at absorbing fresh graduates.

It is estimated that 15 percent of all private-sector workers and 30–40 percent of factory workers lost their jobs during the 2011 crisis, while the salary of most employees was reduced by around 20 percent, in addition to extended unpaid leave of up to six months given to others.¹⁰

According to a rapid qualitative survey launched by the Social Fund for Development in November 2011, the majority of employees of all categories — skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled — have lost their jobs. Unskilled workers have been particularly affected by the stagnation of the construction sector, including private, government and local authorities' development projects.

The private sector estimated its losses at US\$8–17 billion from December 2010 to August 2011, with domestic production falling by around 14 percent.¹¹ The fuel, electricity and water shortages, combined with increased prices of inputs and the reduced purchasing power of consumers, led to the closure of large numbers of private-sector enterprises. While urban households were generally affected more, rural households which depend on financial transfers from family members working in urban areas were severely affected.

Economic activities were progressively reduced throughout 2011: starting from an approximately 30 percent reduction in the first four months, with resulting redundancies in labour and professional staff of 15–20 percent, to redundancies of 30–40 percent of the labour force in the second four months. In the last four months of the unrest, economic activities were brought to a standstill, bringing redundancies to an unprecedented high level. As a result, job opportunities were limited, and the unemployment rate — among skilled and unskilled labour — increased to about 80 percent. All of these factors and others encouraged the departure of specialized workers, in particular young graduates, to neighbouring countries.

SMEs, which provide sizeable employment opportunities to a large number of poor people, were particularly affected during the crisis by the lack of security, increased input prices, electricity cuts and reduced access to credit, which led to a significant number having to close down. Large

¹⁰ Data from the Chamber of Commerce as indicated in the 'Joint Social and Economic Assessment for the Republic of Yemen'.

¹¹ 'Joint Social and Economic Assessment for the Republic of Yemen'.

enterprises were not affected to the same extent, reportedly because of their political leverage and their access to savings.

The crisis also affected employment in the municipalities. The Ministry of Public Works and Highways and its branch offices, including its department in the Sana'a Municipality, have lost about 150–200 professional staff, several of them seeking employment in neighbouring countries.

VI. Main livelihood activities and the impact of conflict on selected sectors

A. Main livelihood activities

1. Agriculture

Yemen has four main agro-ecological zones: (i) the highland zone (covering 44 percent of cultivated land and with 60 percent of farms); (ii) the eastern plateau (26 percent of cultivated land and 19 percent of farms); (iii) the Tihama zone (26 percent of cultivated land and 10 percent of farms); and (iv) the coastal zone (4 percent of cultivated land and 10 percent of farms). There are an estimated 1.45 million hectares of arable land, while the land under cultivation varies annually due to rainfall fluctuations. In 2008, about 94 percent of arable land was cultivated (1.37 million hectares), of which cereals accounted for 55 percent, fruits and vegetables 13 percent, fodder crops 11 percent, qat 11 percent, other cash crops (coffee, cotton, sesame, tobacco) 6 percent, and legumes 3 percent.¹²

a. Subsistence agriculture

Poor households in rural areas grow small quantities of wheat and other agricultural products (vegetables and fruits) for their own consumption. These farmers usually have less than half a hectare or rent the land. Though there are over 250,000 wheat producers, domestic wheat production covers no more than 10 percent of total consumption in Yemen, and the remaining 90 percent is imported.¹³ Domestic production is limited because imported wheat is far cheaper than local production.

The speculation that took place during the crisis of 2011, however, led to an increase in wheat prices.¹⁴ The Governorate of Hajjah and neighbouring areas which imported a major part of their wheat from Saudi Arabia were particularly affected by the closure and control of the border with this country.

¹² Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, 'Agricultural Statistics Yearbook 2008'.

¹³ 'Joint Social and Economic Assessment for the Republic of Yemen'.

¹⁴ Oxfam, 'Rapid market analysis for Yemen scale-up design', June 2012.

There are — however, few — farmers' associations to represent the interests of small-scale and tenant farmers and through which extension services could be provided to improve production techniques, quality of products and market access.

b. The coffee market

The coffee sector recovered from a decline in the early 2000s and reached its production peak in 2008, with over 100,000 coffee farmers representing 9 percent of all farming households, in addition to thousands working in collecting, processing, retailing and exporting. Coffee is a major exported cash crop, accounting for 10 percent of the value of all agricultural commodity exports in 2008.

Yemeni coffee is renowned worldwide for its excellent quality (second only to Jamaican Blue Mountain). Present Yemeni coffee exports vary from 4000 to 6000 tons/year, down from 12,000 tons/year in the 1950s.¹⁵

The decline in coffee production and export may be attributed to several factors, such as the irregular water supply and/or drought to which coffee trees are highly sensitive, the limited research and extension for coffee farmers, and the absence of effective marketing systems. However, international demand remains high and can absorb significantly increased quantities, provided that quality is increased and consistently maintained.¹⁶

c. The qat market

Qat production has been a substantial source of livelihoods for several poor communities, as it accounted for one third of agricultural GDP in 2009. Data indicate that there were over 600,000 small-scale qat farmers in Yemen in 2009 — more than half of all small-scale farmers. About 14 percent of the labour force is active in qat production, which means that in total qat provides employment to one in seven working Yemenis. About 25 percent of all rural households produce and sell qat.¹⁷

Households in Yemen spend as much on qat as they spend on health care (around 7 percent of total income). The share of expenditure on qat in total income increased, however, for households with lower incomes. In 2011, severely food-insecure households spent 8 percent of their income on qat, and moderately food-insecure households about 10 percent.¹⁸

2. Livestock

a. Poultry farming

¹⁵ IFAD, Economic opportunities programme, 'Programme final design report, Main report', January 2010.

¹⁶ IFAD, Economic opportunities programme, 'Programme final design report, Main report', January 2010.

¹⁷ 'Joint Social and Economic Assessment for the Republic of Yemen'.

¹⁸ Ibid.

The impact of the 2011 crisis on poultry farming was minimal compared to other sectors, despite the increased transportation costs and delivery delays. Poultry is a main livelihood activity for rural households. The poultry sector has in fact witnessed a huge expansion since the 1990s in view of its competitiveness and the dynamism of poultry-farm owners. The poultry sector currently meets 100 percent of local demand for eggs and 54 percent of demand for meat.¹⁹ Many producers are based in Taiz, which has been particularly affected by the crisis, as several producers were unable to get their animals to the market on time due to insecurity and road blockades.

While most poor households can afford poultry, they cannot afford red meats such as mutton and beef; therefore, these are consumed mainly by households with higher incomes.

b. Beehives and honey

There are over 40,000 beekeepers in the country, working on an estimated 1.21 million traditional beehives. The export value of Yemeni honey has risen by an average of 26 percent per annum over the past five years, reaching US\$8.4 million in 2005. The price of Yemeni honey is among the highest in the world. Between 2001 and 2007, the average price of Yemeni honey was between three and five times the average price of the world's 20 largest honey exporters.²⁰

3. Fisheries²¹

Just over half (52.6 percent) of Yemen's total population lives in the coastal governorates. The fishery sector is one of the country's major sources of livelihoods for poor households. It is the major source of employment, income and food security in the coastal areas, as well as one of the main sources of export income. The majority (71 percent) of the 94,000 households involved in fisheries are considered very poor, and 25 percent poor. Most households that depend on fisheries live in rural areas. The fisheries sector absorbs a total workforce of about 94,214 people, with 1.9 percent of this workforce employed in fish processing plants.

The number of fishermen has recorded a steady growth (7 percent per annum) from 32,182 in 2000 to approximately 75,000 in 2010. Almost all fishermen are organized in 129 Fish Cooperative Unions, but most of them lack basic hygiene and waste disposal systems in their settlements. Their income is not diversified, as they depend exclusively on fishery-related activities.

The fishery sector was also affected by the 2011 crisis, with increased fuel prices contributing to increasing operational costs by around 70 percent, and reduced electricity supply limiting the producers' capabilities to store and process fish.

¹⁹ Republic of Yemen, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, 'National Agriculture Sector Strategy 2012–2016', March 2012.

²⁰ IFAD, Economic opportunities programme, 'Programme final design report, Main report', January 2010.

²¹ This section is based on: Republic of Yemen, 'Joint Socio-Economic Assessment Study, Impact of 2011 Political Crises on Fisheries Sector', April 2012.

B. Impact of conflict on livelihoods in selected sectors

1. The construction market

According to the HBS of 2005/2006, 11.7 percent of the working population was employed in construction and building, representing a total of 485,000 people. The construction sector is one of the largest employment sectors in Yemen, particularly among poor people in urban areas and rural migrants. Most of those workers are young people, since many of semi-skilled and unskilled labourers are 15–24 years old.

The sector suffered enormous losses during the crisis, particularly because most construction works funded by foreign investors and the government were suspended. Over 1000 government-funded construction projects which were contracted out by the Ministry of Public Works and Highways (MoPWH) stopped during the crisis. Because Yemen imports most of its construction materials, the increase in prices of construction material inputs (as a result of shortages of supply) also contributed to contractors halting most projects. Production of domestically produced cement stopped during the crisis due to the cost of fuel and shortage of electricity. It is estimated that around 1.6 million working days were lost as a result of the decline in expenditures.

Privately funded construction work was also affected by the crisis. Private investment dried up abruptly, and thousands of informal labourers lost their jobs. Real estate sales came to a virtual halt during the crisis.

2. The water sector

The 2011 crisis seriously affected the access of Yemenis to basic services, including water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH). Widespread disruption of water projects throughout the country was witnessed during the crisis. Public investment essentially stopped, and donors suspended disbursements. Most water projects that were supposed to be implemented by the General Authority for Rural Water Projects (GARWP) to improve access to water for around 239,000 rural inhabitants were suspended because of the deteriorating security situation. In addition, it is estimated that more than 5.7 million people have been affected by the lack of fuel, the absence of resources to perform basic maintenance on existing systems, and inadequate funding for 3628 planned rural water projects.

The impact of water shortages on agriculture was significant. Groundwater irrigation was disrupted by a lack of diesel fuel and spare parts, and by the high costs of these items.

Since water services are dependent on energy, materials and spare parts, supplies of which were disrupted during the crisis, urban areas also suffered from water shortages and distribution problems. Households in rural areas suffered less from a lack of water supply, as the water

networks were not as badly damaged as in large cities. According to MoWE, the total cost of damage and losses caused by the 2011 events are about US\$265 million.

It is worth mentioning that Yemen is one of the most water-deficient Arab countries, with declining freshwater resources and an increasing level of aridity. The lack of adequate water resources, combined with under-investment and weak institutions, resulted in poor water supply and sanitation services. In 2007, only 56 percent of the urban population was connected to a public network, compared to an average of 96 percent in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). Only an estimated 44 percent of the rural population had access to safe water, compared to an average of 81 percent in the MENA region.

3. Infrastructure

Private and public assets were severely damaged during the crisis, particularly in cities which witnessed civil unrest. The most affected cities were Sana'a, Ta'iz, Hodeidah, Aden and Mukalla. The damage in Sana'a and Ta'iz was caused mainly by artillery shells fired from heavy and light weapons, which resulted in most of the cases in partial destruction of external walls and windows. The total cost of the unrest in these five cities is estimated at US\$88.1 million.

Losses sustained by private properties were mostly attributed to the loss of rental income and revenues due to the closure of businesses. It is estimated that the total loss by private properties is US\$18.7 million.

4. The electricity sector

Yemen continues to suffer today from electricity cuts because of the damage caused to the transmission lines in Mareb. They were damaged over 100 times during the political turmoil in 2011, mainly affecting Sana'a. The lack of fuel due to the damage to the oil pipeline from the Mareb oil field to the refinery in Aden seriously disrupted the operation of most power plants, primarily affecting Aden. The reduced electricity supply resulted also in the decline of sales revenues and the collection of payments from consumers. The sales revenue to the government declined sharply, as the amount of electricity sold decreased by 25 percent for most of the year and the collection rate fell to just over 10 percent for several months. It should be noted also that almost all projects to construct plants and generate electricity were stopped during the crisis. The shortages in electricity continue to seriously affect all economic sectors and have led to higher energy prices.

5. The education sector

Education services were seriously disrupted as a result of the armed conflicts and the occupation of schools primarily by Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). Part of the educational infrastructure was also damaged during the 2011 conflict. In September 2011, UNICEF found that more than 150 schools were occupied by either armed forces (34 schools in Sana'a) or IDPs (76 schools in Aden and 43 in Abyan).

Some schools remained inaccessible due to the insecurity generated by the conflict. In the affected areas (mostly in Sana'a, Aden and Ta'iz) some schools were closed, while in others attendance decreased significantly. According to the Ministry of Education, nearly 1.2 million boys and girls lacked regular access to education throughout 2011 and 2012, including close to 300,000 boys and girls directly affected in the conflict-affected governorates (Sana'a city, Taiz, Lahj, Abyan, Aden and Saada). In terms of infrastructure, armed confrontations in many areas in Yemen left around 820 schools out of service: about 592 schools completely or partially damaged, over 100 schools occupied either by IDPs, gunmen or armed forces, and many other schools looted. As of November 2011, about 90,000 children still lacked access to education due to the damage to their schools, the presence of displaced families in their schools or continued insecurity. As a result of the security situation, there were also delays in the delivery of school buildings, equipment and material.²²

The crisis led also to high rates of absenteeism among teachers and administrative staff. According to the Ministry of Education, about 10 percent of the total number of teachers have been temporarily absent from schools, and about 3200 teachers from Saada and Abyan have sought refuge in neighbouring governorates. There were delays in the completion of academic programmes in universities and technical institutes in the affected areas.²³ The capacity to deliver education was further weakened by budget constraints due to the crisis and the resulting overall tight fiscal situation, which led to reduced operational budgets.

The political events have also affected technical and vocational schools. The Ministry of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (MTVET) reported that eight institutes in Zinjibar and Abyan have stopped operating, with six of them partially or totally destroyed and their equipment looted, and the other two being occupied by IDPs. The MTVET also reported a rise in student drop-outs because of the insecurity and overall instability in the country.

VII. Food security in Yemen²⁴

1. The current situation of food security

Food security depends on three main factors: the availability of, access to and utilization of food. The Updated Food Security Monitoring Survey conducted by WFP in 2013 revealed that 43 percent of the population were food-insecure, a 2 percent decrease from the 2011 figure of 45 percent. Other highlights of the 2013 survey include²⁵:

²² Ministry of Education, 'Yemen Education Sector Plan, Mid-Term Results Framework 2013–2015'.

²³ Ministry of Education, 'Yemen Education Sector Plan, Mid-Term Results Framework 2013–2015'.

²⁴ Based on: WFP, 'The state of food security and nutrition in Yemen, Comprehensive Food Security Survey', 2012.

²⁵ Based on: WFP, 'Updated Food Security Monitoring Survey', 2013.

- In 2013, 4.5 million people are severely food insecure, over 6 million are moderately food insecure and 10.5 million are food insecure;
- The major underlying causes of the high level of food insecurity include political instability, conflicts, insecurity, extreme poverty, volatility of food prices, high cost of living, and high unemployment rate;
- Over half of the households reported as experiencing various shocks and deterioration in their economic situation as well as declining purchasing power in 2013;
- Nationally, 60 percent of the households do not have enough food in 2013;
- Over 60 percent of the households is forced to continue using destructive consumption-related coping strategies such as eating less preferred foods, smaller meals, and fewer meals per day;
- Over a quarter of the households in the country continued to purchase a proportion of their food needs on credit;
- About 80 percent of the households are currently indebted – a significant increase compared with 2011.

The 2011 study showed that the number of severely food-insecure households nearly doubled between 2009 and 2011, rising from 12 percent to 22 percent of the population by December 2011. This means that an additional 2.7 million Yemenis have become severely food-insecure. The level of severe food insecurity has now declined to 17.9 percent in 2013. Just over half the rural population (51 percent) were food-insecure, compared to 27 percent in 2012 in urban areas. Almost one third of households in urban areas report that the security situation has affected their ability to access food.

When comparing severe food insecurity at the national and selected governorates level (see Table 4), 2011 data indicate that the percentage of severe food insecurity is higher than the national average in Abyan, Taiz, Hajjah and Amran, while only half of the national average in Aden. Hajjah and Amran have the highest levels of severe food-insecurity (30.7 percent and 25.9 percent, respectively), compared to the national average of 22 percent. The 2013 data shows improvement in Hajja at 20.4 percent and Amran at 23.4 percent, while in Abyaan the situation worsened from 19.1 percent to 27.7 percent.

The increase in food prices has had a huge effect on households. Some 90 percent of households reported that rising food prices negatively affected their household's ability to obtain food. The overall inflation rate for food over the same period is more than 20 percent, with some particular food items having more than doubled in price from the previous year. Not only are households responding by limiting the quantity and quality of their diet, but they are also accumulating debt to do so.

Both the 2011 and 2013 WFP surveys found that the most food-insecure are the smaller households, women-headed households, uneducated households, families depending on agricultural wage labourers and the poorest and indebted households.

Table 4: Food Insecurity Prevalence and Number at National and Governorate Level*

		Food Insecure (%)			Total Number Food Insecure
		Severe	Moderate	Total	
Governorate	Total Population				
Abyan	508,826	19.9	29.7	49.7	252,795
Taiz	2,813,950	22.4	25.4	47.8	1,345,118
Aden	745,792	5.7	17.7	23.4	174,389
Hajja	1,795,456	30.7	22.6	53.3	957,104
Amran	985,929	25.9	20.1	45.9	453,022
National	23,833,000	22.2	22.3	44.5	10,605,685

*excludes Saada and al-Jawf governorates which were not surveyed by WFP in view of the political situation

Source: CFSS, 2012, based on 2011 data.

There are several causes of the deterioration of food security in Yemen, including the high dependence on food imports, the rising international prices of food, and the security situation that limits people's ability to access food. The main shocks that affected people were high food and fuel prices (90 percent of households) and insecurity and violence (16 percent of people).

The governorates of Abyan in the south and Hajjah in the north were particularly badly affected in early 2012, with an estimated 100,000 people forced to leave their homes between February and April 2012 alone. The two governorates reported reduced access to food by 30 percent and 28 percent of their populations, respectively, as a result of insecurity.

2. Coping strategies

There has also been a dramatic rise in the use of coping strategies that households adopt in the face of hunger. The Coping Strategies Index, a measurement of the severity and frequency of food-related coping behaviours, more than doubled between 2009 and 2011.

Nationally, in 2011, around 56 percent of households said that they do not have enough food or money to buy food. The figure is significantly greater among rural (59.8 percent) than urban households (45.6 percent). More than half of all households (54.4 percent) ate fewer meals, nearly three quarters (72.8 percent) ate a limited variety of foods, while more than one quarter experienced going to bed hungry in the month preceding the survey. With households' purchasing power eroded, an average of one quarter of all food is now bought on credit. This

applies particularly to rural households (28 percent), but in Abyan, for instance, more than 40 percent of food is bought on credit. The rising use of credit has led to an increase in household debt. The 2011 survey found that 37 percent of all households had debt related to food (40 percent of rural households and 30 percent of urban households). People without food or money to buy enough food increased slightly in 2013 to 58 percent.

Most households base their coping strategy on the four following assets: remittances, consumption credit, livestock production and subsistence agriculture.

VIII. Lack of livelihood assets as drivers of conflict

1. Water

Yemen is one of the world's 10 most water-scarce countries. In many of its mountainous areas, the amount of available drinking water, usually drawn from a spring or a cistern, is down to less than one quart per person per day. Yemen aquifers (i.e. groundwater sources) are being mined at such a rate that groundwater levels have been falling by 10 to 20 feet annually, threatening agriculture and leaving major cities without adequate safe drinking water. Sana'a could be the first capital city in the world to run dry.²⁶

In 2002, water restrictions were introduced, making it necessary to obtain a permit to drill new wells or even to repair or deepen an existing one. Efforts to register wells that were already in existence failed. Farmers are suspicious that registration will eventually lead to metering and, consequently, to water rights as a function of the area of cultivated land, so that farmers with smaller plots will have fewer rights.

In Amran, the Amran Basin Committee was established in 2008 to manage the scarce water resources. Villagers, increasingly aware of the need for collective action, were angered by the discovery that over 100 new wells were drilled in 2009, almost all of them without a permit. The arrival of a drilling rig sows tension between the farmers and the villagers. Fortunately the committee was able to diffuse a water crisis in the Amran basin, but the risk of renewed tension remains.

With increasing qat cultivation, the demand for water increased and led to well owners increasing the price for water — in effect, doubling the price to local farmers who objected. The committee decided that water would no longer be sold for qat fields outside the immediate territory and fixed the price for water. Later, when one of the well owners tried to breach the rule, the villagers just fired a few bullets at the tyres of the tanker, and this ended the water business.²⁷ Traditional coping mechanisms at the community level are important to manage the

²⁶ G. Lichtenhaeler, 'Water Conflict and Cooperation in Yemen', *Middle East Report*, Spring 2010.

²⁷ Ibid.

first-order scarcity of water. But more important will be the need to develop second-order adaptive capacity at the governorate and national level, in which a systems approach is taken to address the problem.

More recently, the number of local and national-level conflicts over water has increased. For example, a report from the *Yemen Times* indicated that confrontations over access to a natural spring erupted in the Al-Mashana district of Ibb governorate, killing two men from local families. Responding to this, even the Minister of the Environment said that the entire country — not just Ibb — is in the middle of a water crisis. This, he assessed, has caused an increase in fights, as locals scramble to ensure that they will not be left without access to the shrinking resource.²⁸

However, the relationship between water scarcity and conflict is not limited to these deadly scrambles at local wells. It is also helping Al-Qaeda gain legitimacy. For example, in the southern highland areas now controlled by groups linked to Al-Qaeda, water is a powerful currency, as control over the resource is a key priority for villagers to deal with localized tribal and intercommunal violence over control of wells and water sources, particularly in the highlands. “When al-Qaeda takes control over these areas, it necessarily brings with it a semblance of authority where no central authority has been able to establish a foothold. Villagers often welcome this new authority, which establishes control over water supplies and manages disputes, as a positive alternative to total anarchy and uncertainty. As such, water becomes a way for al-Qaeda to gain support and grow its influence among residents and tribes in the highlands.”²⁹

2. Land

The term ‘arable land’ usually implies land and the availability of water, since farm land without water is not of much value. Together the disputes and tensions over land and water account for 75–80 percent of conflicts in Yemen. There is currently no effective land registry providing a national service with complete authority, and no formal ‘technical’ registration system or national land authority that performs cadastral surveys of agricultural land. Communal land, usually grazing land, is by far the most prevalent form of land tenure. It has enormous significance in rural livelihoods, despite being the least productive and valuable land per unit of area. Because land is such a key and contentious issue, Yemenis are very well aware of their traditional rights. However, they are far less aware of their constitutional and legal rights.³⁰

In rural areas, villagers and tribesmen frequently clash over land, typically over contested ownership subsequent to heredity, such as disputed claims of ownership of land within families,

²⁸ *Yemen Times*, 17 April 2103.

²⁹ J. Alic, OilPrice.com, 3 May 2012.

³⁰ H. Thompson, ‘Landmines and Land Rights in Yemen’, Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining, 2010.

or over more marginal pieces of land in tribal borderlands. Because so many rain-fed terraces on the upper slopes of the mountains have been abandoned, it places immense stress on the more productive areas in the land below. Marginal land has minimal value outside providing a surface to collect rainfall. However the ability to drill a borehole and subsequently irrigate the land (mainly for qat production) has raised its potential value.

Rural land conflicts also occur over the right to work. For example, an oil company operates on land with almost no agricultural value. If tribesmen can assert ownership of the land, however marginal, they will have the right to provide goods and services to the company operating on it. Because oil companies pay well for their goods and services, tribesmen frequently fight bitterly over the right to work based on ownership of land.³¹

“Urban land conflicts have occurred primarily as a result of rapid urbanisation, unclear land titling (i.e. lack of formal land registration) and as a result of harsh political realities, i.e., ‘the spoils of war’. In this sense, and particularly in Aden, Lahj, Abyan and Hadramaut in the aftermath of the 1994 civil war, land that had previously been held by the state was taken by the military victors or their commercial agents. Much of this land has subsequently been developed and used for productive commercial ventures.”³² However, the original (pre-1972) owners of the land still claim rights of ownership, as evidenced by a series of high-profile court cases that have been running since 1996.³³

3. Employment

The large unemployed youth population is of special importance in Yemen. Approximately 43 percent of all Yemenis are below the age of 15, and unemployment among 15–24-year-olds rose to 52.9 percent in 2012. Employment for women outside the home is far lower than for men, though women play a crucial role in the informal sector, agriculture and civil society organizations. This large youth population and lack of employment opportunities may feed into conflict and instability by creating “a large group of poorly educated and bored” youth who feel alienated and excluded not only from the State but also from the economy.³⁴ Unemployment, especially among young people, was one of the triggers of the 2011 uprising in Yemen. With approximately 70 percent of the Yemeni population below 25 years of age, and with unemployment so high, poverty, alienation and the loss of hope signal a most volatile situation.

Unemployment and political exclusion have reportedly led many Yemenis, particularly young people, to welcome the sense of identity and ‘belongingness’ that comes with participation in armed or rebellious groups. Such a dynamic has reportedly contributed to recruitment efforts by

³¹ Ibid.

³² Ibid.

³³ Ibid.

³⁴ S. Zuyck, ‘Conflict Assessment of the Republic of Yemen’, United Nations, New York, 2013.

a wide range of factions (some of which are armed), which are able to offer their members not only a sense of belonging but also, in most cases, income and weapons.³⁵

4. Education

Unemployment and poverty are exacerbated by weaknesses in the education system. Stakeholders further indicate that the basic nature of the education system — and its lack of emphasis on critical thinking skills — has led a portion of the population to uncritically accept the ideologies and rationalizations put forward by armed groups, particularly AQAP and Ansar al-Sharia.³⁶

5. Constraints on women's livelihoods

Yemen's 1992 personal status law limits the civil liberties of women, and their freedom of movement depends on permission from their husbands or guardians. This restricts their freedom of association, their ability to access markets, to buy and sell produce, to access banks or credit, to register businesses or to engage in self-employment. In addition, under Yemeni inheritance law, and following the Quranic prescription, a widow inherits one eighth of her husband's assets, while female heirs inherit about half of the land assets that their male siblings inherit. These laws constrain women's access to land, frequently leaving widows and daughters landless. The laws persist, even though they plainly contradict the constitution.

In many tribal areas, and due to a combination of land stress and the domination of tribal law (which operates as an interpretation of Quranic law or *Sharia*), women do not inherit any land at all. Their inheritance is often overruled by men in their immediate family to consolidate land holdings in a direct genealogical line. Female heirs are given 'compensation' in place of land. Since traditional livelihood systems are coming under increasing pressure due to several factors, including land and water supply stress, women are becoming increasingly marginalized.³⁷

IX. Main findings of assessments conducted by international agencies in the five selected governorates

This section assesses the impact of conflict on the most vulnerable northern and southern governorates of Yemen, with particular emphasis on the livelihood conditions of IDPs.

³⁵ Ibid.

³⁶ Ibid.

³⁷ H. Thompson, 'Landmines and Land Rights in Yemen', Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining, 2010.

A. Southern governorates: Taiz, Abyan and Aden

1. Impact of conflict on Abyan governorate

Abyan is considered one of Yemen's poorest and most vulnerable governorates in the region, with a poverty rate of 45.6 percent in 2006. Food insecurity, hunger and a lack of access to water and other basic services are widespread. Illiteracy rates among rural women are extremely high (over 74 percent). Rates of school enrolment in secondary education are 26 percent for girls and 49 percent for boys. These rates drop further to 6 percent for females and 14 percent for males for tertiary education, which directly contributes to a lack of opportunities, instability and food insecurity for households.³⁸

The conflict in Abyan has affected mainly the urban centres, where marketplaces were destroyed and private-sector establishments ceased operations. The violent armed confrontations led to the destruction of the public infrastructure and ruined buildings, particularly in the governorate's capital and largest city, Zinjubar, leaving the city with no water and electricity.

Micro and small enterprises which were growing rapidly before the conflict and which provided many employment opportunities also lost their assets and productivity tools. The crises led to bankruptcy and a high default rate of those unable to repay their loans due to microfinance institutions. According to the Yemen Microfinance Network, the default rate on microfinance loans jumped to 88 percent.³⁹

A rapid assessment was conducted by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and other UN and international agencies in Abyan on 8–9 July 2012, with the aim of identifying and assessing the needs that have emerged since the eruption and ending of the military operations in Abyan.⁴⁰ The assessment focused on:

- food security and livelihoods;
- availability of health services in Abyan;
- identification of WASH needs;
- evaluation of the impact of conflict on population movements (protection);
- evaluation of the impact of the current war and previous clashes on road capacity and how it affects access-related issues; and
- shelter and non-food items.

³⁸ USAID/For All Foundation, 'Youth Livelihoods Opportunities Program in Abyan, Project Final Report', March 2012.

³⁹ UNDP, 'Rapid Early Recovery Needs Assessment for Displaced Population and Host Communities in Aden', March 2012.

⁴⁰ OCHA, 'Abyan Assessment Report', 8–9 July 2012.

The findings of the assessment revealed that the conflict in Abyan had had a serious impact on the lives and livelihoods of the population. The three most serious problems as identified by key informants were water, food and health care, with all groups equally affected. Most of the contributing factors relating to a problem being described as ‘serious’ were attributed to availability, followed by limited economic resources, physical/logistical constraints and security constraints.

The increase in prices of basic commodities and lack of jobs have severely affected both IDPs and host communities. It was noted that 77 percent of the key informants considered income or livelihood a serious problem. Over 80 percent of the assessed communities identified food as a serious problem. Health care and WASH were also considered serious problems in the communities.

Another assessment conducted by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Abyan in August 2012, a Multi-cluster/sectoral Initial Rapid Needs Assessment (MIRA), identified the main problems faced as lack of water and sanitation, lack of health centres, human rights violations, destruction of homes and lack of economic means, as many have lost their source of income.

Non-displaced people in Abyan seem to be the most vulnerable group, according to the UNHCR assessment. They have spent their savings, sold their assets and depleted their coping mechanisms.⁴¹

In addition to the humanitarian assistance provided by UN agencies and international NGOs to conflict-affected areas in Abyan, other programmes emphasized capacity-building of youth organizations and support to income-generating activities for young people. The USAID/For All Foundation’s Youth Livelihoods Opportunities Program in Abyan has recently implemented a project “to empower youth (both young men and women) to build their capacities and gain access to opportunities that will improve the quality of life for this targeted group by strengthening youth organizations and granting income generation projects”.⁴² The project targeted seven civil society organizations and 140 young people (male and female).

Different capacity-building and training activities were conducted with targeted youth organizations on how to manage and grow their projects. The project resulted in a range of job creation and income generation activities established and operational; it targeted young people engaged in these activities, and improved the capacities of the targeted youth organizations.

⁴¹ UNHCR, ‘Multi-cluster/sectoral Initial Rapid Needs Assessment (MIRA)’ in Abyan, August 2012.

⁴² USAID/For All Foundation, ‘Youth Livelihoods Opportunities Program in Abyan, Project Final Report’, March 2012.

2. IDPs and conflict-affected districts in Abyan

The armed conflict in Abyan resulted in the displacement of people in other districts of the governorate. Two conflict-affected districts in Abyan governorate (Mudiah and Lawdar) were targeted for an assessment by the International Rescue Committee (IRC) in June 2012, with the purpose of determining whether an integrated health (including nutrition and reproductive health), hygiene and WASH programme targeting either Mudiah or Lawdar district or both would be needed and feasible. The assessment also looked into how programmes could be tailored to fit the priorities, specific needs and culture of the affected population.⁴³

The entire Mudiya district is considered affected by conflict due to the ongoing conflict between AQAP and the Government of Yemen. As of mid-June 2012, Mudiya is also hosting over 3000 IDPs who fled fighting in the districts of Zyngibar, Hanfar and Lawdar. Most of the IDPs are living with host families or renting accommodation. Over 5500 IDPs have taken refuge in Lawdar, mostly living in the areas of Jahin, Majel and Sora. IDPs are mostly living with host families or renting accommodation, but approximately 700 have taken refuge in schools.

The findings of the assessment revealed that IDPs and host communities suffered from the same problems with the exception of housing for non-IDPs. Food, water and health care were the most important needs.

The majority of the respondents (57 percent) stated that there were no government medical services nearby and that people in the community had to travel as far as 20km to reach a private doctor. Due to the recent conflict in Abyan, few of the basic health units are operational. The district hospitals are operational — however, at severely reduced capacity due to a lack of drug supplies, looting and damage to equipment and the loss of doctors who have fled the area during the unrest.

The state of WASH infrastructure varies from village to village but is in general very low, as 45 percent of the population in Abyan rely on trucked water for a portion of their water supply, and 51 percent rely on unprotected sources. Only 28 percent of the population have regular access to household latrines, and over 50 percent of the population defecate in the open. It was found that in Lawdar and Mudiya districts, sources of water include piped water, open wells and trucked water. Two thirds (67 percent) of respondents stated that they paid for water, whether they had to buy it or not.

3. IDPs and pressure on hosting communities in Aden

The conflict in Abyan has displaced nearly 237,000 individuals (39,500 households), hosted mainly in Aden and Lahj governorates, and damaged the livelihoods of another 180,000–210,000

⁴³ International Rescue Committee, ‘Abyan Governorate, Yemen, (Mudiya and Lawdar Districts)’, June 2012.

individuals (30,000–35,000 households).⁴⁴ The conflict in Abyan has not only had an impact on conflict-affected communities but on the southern region as a whole. The impact on host communities is considered heavy. The displacement crisis put more pressure on the infrastructure and services in Aden, including education, sanitation, electricity, water and health services, and several factors contributed to tensions between IDPs and hosting communities:

- assistance was provided to IDPs but not the poor local neighbourhoods;
- IDPs competed for scarce job opportunities with the host communities;
- IDPs from rural areas had different social roots and values from the urban host communities;
- some IDPs occupied schools, thus disturbing the education system of Aden students; and
- IDPs put pressure on the limited public services, thus affecting the availability of services for people in Aden.

A joint needs assessment undertaken by UNICEF and Oxfam on Abyan IDPs in Aden in June 2011⁴⁵ to assess the humanitarian situation, identify gaps and determine the need for intervention indicates that families depended exclusively on humanitarian assistance, as IDPs undertook no activities to earn income. IDPs reported the lack of food as the leading priority. Most of the displaced population in Aden residing in schools had access to health services, while 39 percent of interviewed families reported having no access to health facilities, some saying that this was due to a lack of money for transport to reach the nearest facility. The general hygiene situation deteriorated, with 67 percent of surveyed homes observed to be dirty and overcrowded, and a lack of sufficient functioning sanitation facilities and cleaning items contributing to the situation. All schools under assessment were connected to a town water network.⁴⁶

A rapid early recovery needs assessment for IDPs and host communities in Aden conducted by UNDP in March 2012 emphasized four areas: livelihoods and economic survival, the social sector, social cohesion and cross-cutting issues. The findings of the assessment showed that the population's livelihoods and economic survival capacities were affected mainly by a loss of income from agriculture, damage to the economic infrastructure and the loss of productivity assets and tools.⁴⁷

The displaced families have not only lost income from agriculture and access to their farmlands due to the risk of mines and unexploded ordinance but have also lost their means of sustenance through the agricultural yields and livestock they had owned or left behind. A significant number of the IDPs had access before the crisis to income derived from agriculture ranging from bananas

⁴⁴ Humanitarian Country Team for Yemen, Abyan and the South, 'Humanitarian and Early Recovery Response Plan', August 2012.

⁴⁵ UNICEF and Oxfam GB, 'Yemen, Joint Needs Assessment', Aden, 9–17 June 2011.

⁴⁶ Ibid.

⁴⁷ UNDP, 'Rapid Early Recovery Needs Assessment for Displaced Population and Host Communities in Aden', March 2012.

and papaya to cotton and groundnuts, and to livestock and chickens for self-consumption. Since the skills of the IDPs are mainly in the agricultural sector, it was extremely difficult for them to find work in a city such as Aden. Those IDPs with some skills coming from urban areas had more opportunities to find employment in Aden, particularly as casual workers.

A common concern among the displaced population was the continued need for food and nutritional support covering both the IDPs and host communities. The food basket was not sufficient, given that the IDPs living with host communities had to share their rations with host communities, especially if the host family was surviving on a limited income and suffering from undernutrition.

Another assessment, conducted by the Humanitarian Country Team for Yemen in August 2012, identified the following main constraints faced by the IDPs:⁴⁸

- a lack of water and sanitation;
- a lack of health centres/units or services and personnel;
- human rights violations/recruitment of children;
- a lack of economic means, as many people have lost their livelihood/source of income; and
- the destruction of homes.

The availability of social services, particularly health care services, was affected, as IDPs were not able to access the appropriate services. The difficulties of IDPs in the south to find work and livelihoods opportunities prevent them from becoming self-reliant and integrating locally; they have relied more on humanitarian assistance. A major complication in assisting IDPs is the fact that 90 percent of them do not live in camps. There were approximately 19,560 IDPs residing in some 74 schools in Aden as of June 2012.⁴⁹

4. Returnees to Abyan

Most IDPs returned home when the security situation began to improve in Abyan in July 2012. It is estimated that 143,187 IDPs (31,017 families) had returned as of 28 February 2013, of which 50.8 percent were women. Most of the IDPs returned to two main districts: Khanfir (58 percent of total returnees) and Zingibar (30 percent).⁵⁰ These two districts were in fact the most affected by the conflict.

⁴⁸ Humanitarian Country Team for Yemen, Abyan and the South, 'Humanitarian and Early Recovery Response Plan', August 2012.

⁴⁹ International Rescue Committee, 'Health Facility Assessment Report: Aden City, Yemen', June 2012.

⁵⁰ UNHCR, 'Yemen Fact Sheet', March 2013, and data provided by UNHCR.

Islamic Relief has started to implement a three-year project on livelihoods and youth in Abyan that will focus on the districts where young people have been affected by Al-Qaeda and with a high percentage of returnees. Other criteria for selecting the districts will be the existence of vocational centres, as the organization aims to support young people to gain new technical skills or to upgrade existing skills. Islamic Relief has also just started a three-year project in Hodeida and Lahj with a focus on nutrition, which is being funded by the UK Department for International Development (DFID) with US\$3.2 million.⁵¹

5. Impact of conflict on Taiz governorate

The Humanitarian Forum conducted a rapid needs assessment in Taiz in December 2011.⁵² A total of 17 local NGOs were trained to conduct the assessment in four locations of the city where the population was seriously affected by the conflict. Interviews took place with a sample of 100 households. The assessment covered the four most conflict-affected districts, namely: Al-Modafar, Al-Ta'iziah, Al-Qahirah and Salah. The assessment focused on the conditions of the households mainly in terms of shelter, access to water, income sources and infrastructure. The main findings of the assessment were as follows:

- 13 percent of affected households are headed by women, and 4 percent headed by minors;
- 48 percent of affected households found shelter with relatives, and 37 percent live in partially destroyed accommodation;
- 38 percent of households are connected to a piped water system that is hardly operational, while 53 percent stated that the water was muddy and of poor quality;
- 48 percent of household described water-related health problems; and
- 17 out of 20 schools were partially (10) or severely (7) affected by fighting. Additionally, some schools were occupied by armed groups. Schools which had been burned or looted need replacement furniture and teaching materials.

The assessment revealed that affected populations were largely dependent for their sources of income on daily skilled and unskilled labour. Though agriculture does not constitute a major activity in the urban area of Taiz, 29 percent of respondents nevertheless indicated that the crisis had negatively affected their crop production (price of fuel for pumps, shortage of water).

B. Northern governorates: Saada, Hajjah and Amran

1. Impact of conflict on Hajjah governorate

Livelihood conditions in Hajjah

⁵¹ Interview with Relief International, 15 April 2013.

⁵² The Humanitarian Forum, 'Taiz Rapid Needs Assessment', December 2011.

A rapid household economic analysis conducted by Oxfam in the two districts of Haradh and Hyran in Hajjah governorate in 2012 revealed that the main livelihood activities in the rural areas of the assessed districts are: agricultural production, rearing of livestock, cross-border/illegal trade, agricultural labour and casual labour. Employment in agriculture is mainly available during the planting and harvest seasons.⁵³

The primary crop is sorghum, which provides both food and fodder, but cash crops, sesame in particular, are no longer cultivated in view of the high costs of agricultural inputs. Small-scale farms, therefore, have difficulty competing and remaining profitable.

Livestock, cattle in particular, constitute an important source of food and income, while donkeys are used by all households as a means of transport. Sheep and goats are used primarily as ‘savings’ that can be converted easily into cash. Goats and cows also constitute a major source of milk and butter for the households.

Women’s access to food and income

Women in general have limited control over the household’s financial resources. Most women access food, income and credit almost entirely through men, and rarely engage in paid employment, though women from poorer households may engage in agricultural labour and collect firewood for sale. In some cases, women make and sell clothes. It should be noted that the 2011 crisis had no impact on changing women’s role in financial decision-making.

The main shocks affecting livelihoods and food security

The main shocks affecting the areas of Hajjah governorate were the reinforcement of the Saudi–Yemeni border, economic contraction and rising prices. The first two shocks have reduced access to livelihood opportunities, and the third has reduced purchasing power. The influx of IDPs from Saada has strained already limited resources but is not a major livelihood shock.

The shocks had the following impacts:

- Asset depletion/loss of livelihoods: The area under cultivation in Hajjah has been reduced due to the high price of agricultural inputs (fuel). For poor/very poor households this means reduced access to labour opportunities and income. Many households have begun to sell off land assets and livestock to meet daily consumption needs.
- Reliance on unreliable, demeaning or hazardous coping strategies: Households from almost all wealth categories have had to diversify their sources of income, as agricultural productivity has declined and it has become harder to travel across the border into Saudi Arabia.

⁵³ Oxfam, ‘Rapid household economic analysis, Haradh and Hyran districts, Hajjah governorate’, August 2012.

- Reduced consumption in terms of lower quality, less diversity and less quantity: Poor and very poor households now purchase the majority of their food, rather than growing it.
- Social impacts of the crisis: Men were the worst affected by the crisis. They also have to take on hard or demeaning jobs for little pay. Women worry about not having enough food for the family and having to prepare meals with little food. School drop-outs are common. Older boys feel the same responsibility for feeding and taking care of the family as men do. Children, therefore, drop out of school if they have an opportunity to earn money. They collect firewood, toothbrush sticks or water to sell. Older boys smuggle qat, and girls herd the goats and sheep.

Coping strategies

Households were using the following as coping strategies: purchase on credit in order to improve purchasing power; self-employment and diversification of income as an additional income: selling firewood is a typical strategy for filling income-gaps; Qat smuggling; and use of savings. The better-off households are able to profit from smuggling and border trade.

Whilst some households have always been classified as ‘poor’ and never owned land, since 2008-2009 a larger number of households have fallen into the category of “poor and landless”, as they sell of productive assets and cannot find alternative means for income generation.

2. IDPs’ livelihood conditions in Hajjah, Amran and Saada governorates

There are around 300,000 IDPs in the north, mainly in Hajjah, Amran and Saada. In Hajjah, IDPs who originated from Saada are concentrated in the district of Harad, mainly in camps (110,653 including 16,384 IDPs originally from Hajjah, as of 1 March 2013). Only 33,319 of them have returned home, while 322,444 are still displaced — one third of them in Hajjah and another third in Saada.⁵⁴

Care International conducted a joint rapid assessment of the northern governorates of Yemen in October 2011, covering Al-Jawf, Amran, Hajjah, Sana’a and Saada. The purpose of this assessment was to analyse the humanitarian needs and response in the five northern governorates affected by the conflict between Al-Houthi and the government where an estimated 1 million people were affected, with forced migration of 320,000 IDPs to neighbouring governorates. Women and children account for about 80 percent of those affected. In addition to the large displacement of people, there have been severe disruptions of basic services and destruction of civil infrastructure.⁵⁵

The assessment covered the following areas: livelihood, food security, WASH, education and protection against various forms of violence. The livelihoods sector was seriously affected by the loss of income and jobs, increased food insecurity and rising food prices, and reduced purchasing

⁵⁴ UNHCR, ‘Yemen Fact Sheet’, March 2013.

⁵⁵ Care International, ‘Joint rapid assessment of the Northern governorates of Yemen’, October 2011.

power. As indicated above, increased fuel prices and electricity shortages particularly affected skilled workers in urban areas, as they have lost their jobs. Households faced serious difficulties in paying for basic services (food, water, shelter, health and education) due to a lack of cash and employment opportunities as well as damage to livelihoods, economic infrastructure and assets.

The findings of the profiling of IDPs which was conducted by the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and UNHCR in December 2010 and again in the second half of 2011 revealed that IDPs faced a major obstacle in accessing work and livelihoods, which prevented them from integrating locally and becoming self-reliant. Though IDPs wished to return home, the lack of livelihoods and the disruption of their usual activities due to conflict in their place of origin were major obstacles that prevented many IDPs from returning.⁵⁶ Before displacement the main source of income for the now displaced persons was crop farming (43.8 percent); and livestock (12.7 percent).

IDPs were reluctant to return to Saada because of the lack of work and livelihood opportunities, which were disrupted by the destruction of agricultural land and the loss of livestock and other economic assets. Their increased dependence on humanitarian assistance is another reason for their reluctance to return home.

Coping mechanisms

Negative coping mechanisms were used by households faced by a lack of income and employment opportunities. Households had to sell their assets, borrow money, rely on child labour to earn some income, and reduce the quantity and quality of the food they consumed. The economic pressure led, in some areas, as in Hajjah, to cases of trafficking and smuggling.

X. Conclusions and recommendations

This desk review has formed the basis for the broader UNDP Livelihoods Assessment Initiative. Its findings, alongside work carried out by other international agencies, will feed into the design of assessment tools and a broader assessment framework.

The desk review highlighted that most of the work undertaken by international agencies is focused on humanitarian assistance that covers, in addition to livelihoods, several areas including health, hygiene, sanitation, nutrition, water and human rights (see Annex: Summary of international agencies' operations in Yemen). Projects which are more geared towards medium- to longer-term development are implemented by only a few organizations, including IFAD

⁵⁶ DRC/UNHCR, 'IDP Profiling and Protection Monitoring', 2011.

(agricultural development), USAID (capacity-building and income generation for youth) and UNDP (youth empowerment and income generation).⁵⁷

Based on the desk review and consultations with international organizations, the following districts were selected for the field-based Livelihoods Needs Assessment with household surveys etc. The main criteria for selection of the districts include the impact of the conflict, the vulnerability of districts and the poverty rate.

Abyan	Taiz	Amran	Saada	Hajjah
Al Mahfd	Al Ma'afer	Al Qaflah	Adh Dhahir	Abs
Khanfir	Al Qahirah	Harf Sufyan	Hidan	Kushar
Lawder	Sharab Ar Rawnah	Raydah	Razih	Mustaba
Zenjubar	Sharab As Salaam	Habur Zulaymah	Saqayn	Wash'hh

Based on these findings, key conclusions that can be drawn from the desk review are that there is a need for UNDP and other agencies to further support the government to carry out a comprehensive livelihoods assessment at field level, in close collaboration with the members of the SL&EG working group and the LWG within the humanitarian cluster system, to fill the information gaps identified by this desk review. It is also important to further build on the outcomes of the livelihoods assessments that are currently being carried out by various civil society organization and other UNCT agencies such as UNFPA and WFP, as well as the census and CFSS monitoring outcomes.

More specifically, the desk review underlines the need to:

- further identify the main economic sectors and value chains with significant potential for employment creation, particularly within agriculture, agro-food processing and other sectors of particular importance for income generation at the community level. In particular, the analysis of the priority sectors would help to identify the potential for the development of certain agricultural and agro-industrial products and priority interventions to enhance the sector and improve farmers' livelihoods conditions;
- identify opportunities for market linkages between farmers and wholesalers and SMEs, as well as with cooperatives;
- identify the needs for vocational and business training on the basis of the priority areas identified above; and

⁵⁷ Yemen Youth Empowerment Project:

<http://www.ye.undp.org/content/yemen/en/home/ourwork/povertyreduction/successstories/helping-young-yemenis-fight-unemployment/>.

- build on the outcomes of the desk review and any forthcoming assessments to develop methodologies that meet short-term needs for employment while meeting the need for long-term sustainable employment — for example, the 3x6 approach.

Additional assessment will be critical as a basis to collectively identify priority areas to support employment, self-employment and income generation, with an emphasis on women, young people, vulnerable and marginalized groups and mine victims. Such programmes are needed to accelerate action from relief to recovery and sustainable livelihoods, as a key step towards supporting crisis-affected communities to become more resilient against ongoing and future crises related to either conflict or disaster.

ANNEX 1: Summary of international agencies' operations in Yemen

CARE International	Summary report: Joint Rapid Assessment of the Northern Governorates of Yemen , October 2011: The purpose of this assessment was, among other things, to analyse the humanitarian needs and response in the five northern governorates affected by the conflict between Al-Houthi and the government in Al-Jawf, Amran, Hajjah, Sana'a and Saada . The assessment covered the following areas: livelihood, food security, WASH, education, and protection against various forms of violence.
FAO	Most of its operations are humanitarian: early recovery. Support to affected farmers with seeds, equipment and other agricultural inputs, as well as rehabilitation of irrigation canals. FAO will be launching a new study on alternatives to qat production.
Humanitarian Country Team for Yemen	Abyan and the South, Humanitarian and Early Recovery Response Plan , August 2012: The assessment identified the following main constraints faced by IDPs: a lack of water and sanitation, lack of health centres/units or services and personnel, human rights violations/recruitment of children, lack of economic means, as many have lost their livelihood/source of income, and destruction of homes.
The Humanitarian Forum	Initial Rapid Needs Assessment in Taiz , December 2011: The objective of the assessment was to clarify the actual situation of the affected population in Taiz, in particular their economic conditions, protection, water and sanitation, education and

	<p>social situation, and their basic needs. The assessment covered the four most conflict-affected districts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be'r Basha and Al-Haseb areas in Al-Modafar; • Al-Hamashah and Al-Me'kab areas in Al-Ta'iziah; • Al-Qahirah district; and • Shamasy and Al-Thowrah, and Al-Mahwa in Salah district.
IFAD	<p>IFAD has been supporting farmers in several agricultural and fishery development projects as well as in rural non-agricultural activities: promoting micro and small businesses. IFAD supports export of farmers' agricultural and fishery products through cooperatives or producers' associations.</p> <p>The relevant projects to the UNDP livelihoods assessment include:</p> <p>1. Pilot Community-Based Rural Infrastructure Project in Highland Areas (2007–2013): The project aims to empower communities to have a role in improving infrastructure; reducing isolation and improving mobility and access to markets and services; and improving the access of poor households to sustainable drinking water supplies. Three of the governorates covered in this project are Hajjah, Amran and Taiz.</p> <p>2. Economic Opportunities Programme (2011–2016): The programme seeks to create economic opportunities for poor rural people. It works with smallholder and landless households to develop value chains for three high-value agricultural commodities: coffee, honey and horticulture products. Four of the governorates covered in this project are Hajjah, Amran, Taiz and Abyan.</p> <p>3. Fisheries Investment Project (2012–2017): The project aims to improve the economic status of small fishing households by creating sustainable and diversified economic opportunities for poor women and men in fishing communities. It includes among others Hajjah, Taiz, Aden, Abyan.</p> <p>4. YemenInvest — Rural Employment Programme (2013–2018): The programme's goal is to improve the economic status of poor rural women and men by creating sustainable and diversified economic opportunities. Relevant governorates: Abyan, Hajjah and Taiz.</p> <p>5. Rural Growth Programme (2014–2019): The programme's goal is to improve food security and reduce rural poverty by stimulating sustainable rural economic growth. One of the governorates to be covered is Taiz.</p>

IOM	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conducted a household survey in Al-Jawf; report in progress; 2. Prepared a report (qualitative) on Abyan; 3. Prepared a report entitled 'Conflict-Affected Communities Assessment in Al-Jawf Governorate', October 2011; and 4. Prepares monthly update of IDPs in Abyan.
International Rescue Committee	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assessment report on Abyan governorate with an emphasis on two districts which offered refuge to IDPs, Mudiyah and Lawder (June 2012): The assessment looks at the health, nutrition, water and sanitation sectors. 2. Health facility assessment report in Aden city (June 2012), covering the health, reproductive health and nutrition sectors.
Islamic Relief	<p>Islamic Relief has just started the implementation of a three-year project in the governorates of Hodeida, Lahj and Abyan. The project, which is funded by DFID with US\$3.2 million, consists of three main components: (1) livelihoods; (2) nutrition; and (3) youth empowerment. In Abyan, the focus will be on livelihoods and youth; in Hodeida, on nutrition; and in Lahj, on nutrition and livelihoods.</p> <p>The selection of the districts in Abyan that will be covered by the survey will be according to a number of criteria: (1) districts where young people have been affected by Al-Qaeda; (2) districts with a high percentage of returnees from Aden; and (3) the existence of vocational centres in the district.</p>
OCHA	<p>Abyan Assessment Report, 8–9 July 2012:</p> <p>Participating agencies:</p> <p>UN agencies (UNHCR, UNICEF, WHO, IOM, OCHA);</p> <p>International NGOs (Save the Children, Intersos, DRC, Oxfam)</p> <p>The assessment focused on the following cluster-specific objectives: food security and livelihoods, health, WASH, protection, logistics, shelter and non-food items, coordination and common services.</p>
Oxfam	<p>1. EFSL Rapid Assessment Report, Governorate of Al Hodeida, July 2011: The objective was to assess the food security and livelihoods needs of the poor population in</p>

	<p>al Hodeida governorate, and to provide recommendations to Oxfam for a potential humanitarian intervention.</p> <p>2. Oxfam/UNICEF: Joint Needs Assessment in Aden, 9–17 June 2011: The main objective of the assessment was to determine the need for intervention, assess the humanitarian situation and identify gaps. The assessment focused on IDPs in the areas of health, hygiene, water and sanitation, food and nutrition, and livelihoods.</p> <p>3. Rapid Household Economic Analysis, Haradh and Hyran Districts, Hajjah Governorate, August 2012: The assessment had the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An increased understanding of the current gaps experienced by the ‘poor’ wealth groups in meeting their basic needs, to determine the right value of cash transfers and improve targeting (primary objective). • An improved understanding of the underlying causes of food insecurity and malnutrition to feed into the design of sustainable food security and livelihoods interventions in the recovery stages of the response (secondary objective). <p>The fieldwork to gather primary data was carried out in five purposively selected villages in the two districts: Haradh and Hyran.</p>
Partners for Democratic Change	<p>Yemen Community-Based Conflict Mitigation Program (Y-CCM), Baseline Conflict Assessment Report, February 2011: The programme will help the Yemeni government including security-sector actors, local authorities including councils and tribal and community leaders, and community-based organizations to establish sustainable structures for short- and long-term interventions addressing conflict over land, natural resources, health services and education, and conflict between corporations and local communities in four governorates: Mareb, Al-Jawf, Shabwah and Al-Bayda.</p>
Relief International	<p>1. Enhancing Basic Education in Yemen through Youth Entrepreneurship and Civic Engagement: Relief International (RI) is running a two-track programme (urban and rural) that addresses both new and traditional forms of entrepreneurship in the four governorates of Sana’a, Aden, Al Mahweet and Dhmar. The urban track concentrates on practical business skills training and experience with respected businesses, while the rural track focuses on agricultural entrepreneurship along relevant value chains.</p> <p>2. Livestock for Life: Fighting Zoonoses Zoonotic diseases, which can be spread from animals to humans, threaten livestock and communities alike in Yemen. The project focuses on identifying and training community animal health workers on zoonoses, primary veterinary care, prevention, surveillance and reporting, and then equips them with livestock health care kits to provide primary veterinary services as necessary to beneficiaries.</p> <p>3. Rapid Response Relief Assistance to IDPs and Returnees In 2010, RI focused on providing shelter, WASH and health assistance in Hajjah and Amran governorates. In 2011, the project was extended, providing additional WASH,</p>

	<p>early recovery and market systems and relief commodities activities, and expanding the beneficiary pool to returnees and the geographic scope to include Saada, Aden and Abyan.</p> <p>4. Food Assistance for Lahj Governorate RI provided nutrition, health and WASH assistance for local communities.</p> <p>5. RI conducted a Food Security Rapid Assessment in Lahj Governorate (November 2012): The purpose of this assessment was to reveal the humanitarian needs and reasonable responses related to food security, and communities' priority areas to improve their lives/livelihoods.</p>
Save the Children	<p>1. Save the Children completed (in December 2012) the draft report of Household Economy Assessment of Coastal Fishing and Lowland Rained Livelihoods Zones, Hodeida Governorate. The Household Economy Approach (HEA) was used in the assessment.</p> <p>The main purpose of this assessment is to produce household economy baseline information to help understand the livelihoods situation and planning. The HEA baseline information analyses how people obtain access to the food and cash they need and the constraints to sustainable livelihoods.</p> <p>2. Save the Children is in the process of completing the draft report on the Household Economy Analysis in two districts in Amran: Souda and Habour. The criteria for selecting districts are based on: the poorest district, indirectly affected by conflict, and districts where humanitarian assistance is going on.</p> <p>3. The same assessment has been undertaken in Hajjah (report not completed yet). Save the Children will soon start the assessment in Taiz.</p>
UNDP	<p>1. Rapid Early Recovery Needs Assessment for Displaced Populations and Host Communities in Aden, March 2012:</p> <p>Assessment objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide prioritized programmatic recommendations for informed engagement in early recovery and social cohesion in the southern governorates. • To establish a baseline understanding on key grievances and underlying causes of instability and parties to the conflict in the region, and the capacities for conflict and conflict transformation. • To highlight areas of specific interest on issues relating to early recovery among various population groups with varying political and social agendas and

	motivations.
UNHCR	<p>1. Supports IDPs in the north (Saada and Hajjah) and IDPs returnees from Aden to Abyan.</p> <p>2. Carried out a Multi-cluster/sectoral Initial Rapid Needs Assessment (MIRA) in Abyan (August 2012). The priority needs were identified as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WASH (lack of water and sanitation, fear of water-borne diseases and other related environmental concerns); • Health (lack of health centres/units or services and personnel); • Protection and child protection (human rights violations/recruitment of children, unexploded ordinance and mines etc.); • Food (lack of economic means, as many have lost their livelihoods/source of income); and • Shelter (destruction of homes). <p>3. A joint UN mission consisting of UNHCR, WFP, UNICEF and WHO was conducted in Malaheet and its surroundings, Al Daher district (Saada governorate), in June–July 2009. The mission had the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide assistance to displaced population in three districts of Saada governorate. • To further assess the situation of the IDPs and verify the actual extent of the displacement in Malaheet and its surroundings. • To draw recommendations for a comprehensive response plan of action. <p>4. A Participatory Assessment of IDPs in Sana’a, Amran, Haradh and Saada was undertaken in February 2012.</p> <p>5. A Profiling of IDPs affected by the conflict in Saada, Sana’a, Amran, Hajjah and Al-Jawf was conducted by the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) for UNHCR in December 2010. A Household Survey based on the stratified cluster sampling approach targeted 1900 households.</p> <p>6. A Yemen IDP Profiling and Protection Monitoring 2011 was carried out by DRC for UNHCR. The profiling aims to provide a core set of data about the displaced population, with a focus on the humanitarian situation, protection concerns and intentions for durable solutions. The assessment covered IDPs in the north and the south, but DRC was unable to access Saada governorate, al-Jawf governorate and the northern parts of Amran due to restrictions imposed by the <i>de facto</i> authorities.</p>
UNICEF	<p>1. For all nutrition activities, please see https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0B69Edc4774R1ZUxLNlpGODRUSGs&usp=s_haring.</p>

	<p>2. For all WASH activities, please see https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0B3hGAfC0W9Q9TjdpTnlpczN5WW8&usp=s_haring.</p> <p>3. The first stage of the National Social Protection Monitoring survey is completed. Draft available on request.</p> <p>4. The UNICEF baseline survey in 106 districts is also now finalized, and a draft will be available shortly.</p> <p>5. UNICEF has participated in the Inter-agency Cluster Assessment Platform reviewing and revising the indicator menu. The detailed information is available through UNOCHA.</p> <p>6. UNICEF is currently planning an external ex-post evaluation of its humanitarian action in the south.</p> <p>7. UNICEF completed a conflict assessment. The report is in draft format and would be available on request.</p> <p>8. UNICEF is actively supporting and contributing to the 2013 DHS and 2014 Census.</p> <p>9. In collaboration with partners, UNICEF recently completed a child labour survey.</p> <p>10. UNICEF contributed to the Arab MDG report, available with other reports at ftp://ucfpub:ucf%5E%5Epub@ftp-ext.unicef.org/Statistics%20NYHQ/.</p> <p>11. UNICEF conducted an Inter-agency Child Protection Rapid Assessment in 31 districts of six southern governorates (Aden, Lahj, Abyan, Dhale, Shabwa and Taiz).</p> <p>12. UNICEF conducted an Inter-agency Child Protection Rapid Assessment in seven districts of Hajjah governorate.</p>
USAID	<p>1. For All Foundation implemented a project for USAID on Youth Livelihoods Opportunities Program in Abyan (final report published in March 2012). The project's overall objective was to empower boys and girls to build their capacities and gain access to opportunities that will improve their quality of life by strengthening youths organization and granting income generation projects. Seven CSOs and 140 young people benefited from the project.</p> <p>2. USAID/CHF Yemen Baseline Survey Report, November 2012: The goal of the programme was to meet the emergency needs of conflict-affected populations and to</p>

	arrest the increasing levels of malnutrition through a holistic approach consisting of WASH and distributions of non-food items. The survey was carried out in all four of the programme's originally targeted governorates — namely Abyan, Aden, Lahj and Taiz. Specific districts targeted in each of the governorates were Khanfar, Lawdar and Zinjibar (Abyan), Khormakser, Al Mansoorah and Darsaad (Aden), Tuban and Al Houta (Lahj) and Taizah and Salah (Taiz).
WFP	Comprehensive Food Security Survey 2012 on the state of food security and nutrition in Yemen: food insecurity is measured in all governorates (by governorate and not by district) with the exception of Saada and Al-Jawf.

ANNEX 2: Summary of agencies' projects in the six governorates: Abyan, Aden, Taiz, Saada, Hajjah and Amran

ABYAN	UNHCR: Multi-cluster/ sectoral Initial Rapid Needs Assessment (MIRA) in Abyan (August 2012) — IDPs
	DRC/UNHCR: Yemen IDP Profiling and Protection Monitoring 2011
	Islamic Relief: Livelihood project, just started
	IRC: Assessment report (health and WASH) on two districts: Mudiyah and Lawder (June 2012)
	Humanitarian Country Team for Yemen, Abyan and the South, Humanitarian and Early Recovery Response Plan, August 2012
	USAID: Youth Livelihoods Opportunities Program
	OCHA: Abyan Assessment Report, 8–9 July 2012
	IFAD: YemenInvest — Rural Employment Programme (2013–2018)
	IFAD: Fisheries Investment Project (2012–2017)
	IFAD: Economic Opportunities Programme (2011–2016)
TAIZ	IFAD: Pilot Community-Based Rural Infrastructure Project in Highland Areas (2007–2013)

	The Humanitarian Forum: Initial Rapid Needs Assessment (December 2011) in four districts: Al-Modafar, Al-Ta'iziah, Al-Qahirah and Salah
	Save the Children: Household economy analysis (to be started soon)
	UNICEF, Inter-agency Child Protection Rapid Assessment in 31 districts of six southern governorates
	IFAD: YemenInvest — Rural Employment Programme (2013–2018)
	IFAD: Rural Growth Programme (2014–2019)
	IFAD: Economic Opportunities Programme (2011–2016)
	IFAD: Fisheries Investment Project (2012–2017)
ADEN	DRC/UNHCR: Yemen IDP Profiling and Protection Monitoring 2011
	IFAD: Fisheries Investment Project (2012–2017)
	IRC: A health facility assessment report, June 2012
	Oxfam/UNICEF: Joint Needs Assessment, 9–17 June 2011
	UNICEF: Inter-agency Child Protection Rapid Assessment in 31 districts of six southern governorates
	Relief International: Enhancing Basic Education in Yemen through Youth Entrepreneurship and Civic Engagement
	UNDP: Rapid Early Recovery Needs Assessment for Displaced Populations and Host Communities in Aden, March 2012
SAADA	UNHCR, WFP, UNICEF and WHO: Joint mission in Malaheet and its surroundings, Al Daher district — IDPs , June–July 2009
	UNHCR: Participatory Assessment of IDPs , February 2012
	DRC/UNHCR: Profiling of IDPs affected by the conflict, December 2010
	CARE: Joint Rapid Assessment of the Northern Governorates of Yemen, October 2011
HAJJAH	DRC/UNHCR: Profiling of IDPs affected by the conflict, December 2010
	DRC/UNHCR: Yemen IDP Profiling and Protection Monitoring 2011
	Oxfam: Rapid Household Economic Analysis in two districts: Haradh and Hyran (August 2012)
	CARE: Joint Rapid Assessment of the Northern Governorates of Yemen, October 2011
	Save the Children: Household Economy Analysis (not completed yet)
	Relief International: Rapid Response Relief Assistance to IDPs and

	Returnees, 2010 and 2011
	IFAD: Pilot Community-Based Rural Infrastructure Project in Highland Areas (2007–2013)
	IFAD: Economic Opportunities Programme (2011–2016)
	IFAD: Fisheries Investment Project (2012–2017)
	IFAD: YemenInvest — Rural Employment Programme (2013–2018)
AMRAN	UNHCR: Participatory Assessment of IDPs , February 2012
	DRC/UNHCR: Profiling of IDPs affected by the conflict, December 2010
	DRC/UNHCR: Yemen IDP Profiling and Protection Monitoring 2011 (except North of Amran)
	CARE: Joint Rapid Assessment of the Northern Governorates of Yemen, October 2011
	Relief International: Rapid Response Relief Assistance to IDPs and Returnees, 2010 and 2011
	Save the Children: Household Economy Analysis in two districts: Souda and Habour
	IFAD: Pilot Community-Based Rural Infrastructure Project in Highland Areas (2007–2013)
	IFAD: Economic Opportunities Programme (2011–2016)