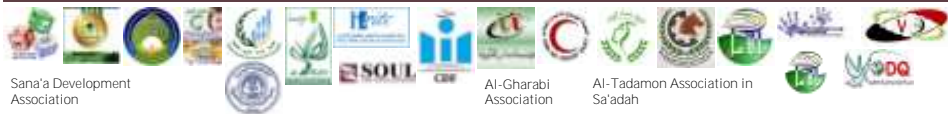


Annual Review



Yemen

2010



Timeline of events

February— Field visit to IDP camps in Hajjah

March— UN OCHA and Oxfam workshops on coordination and cooperation

March—Session in Jordan on humanitarian principles

May—Training session on quality assessment in UK

May—Workshops with Islamic Relief

July—Emergency Relief Fund **workshop in Sana'a with UN OCHA**

August—Distribution of Ramadan Baskets

August—ERF workshop in Hadramout

October—Quality Assessment workshop

December—Train the Trainer workshops



As the unprecedented regional events unfold in 2011, we are looking back at 2010 as a great year for humanitarian work in Yemen. The humanitarian organisations in Yemen were challenged very hard due to the many conflicts the country was facing and the many challenges humanitarian workers were trying to overcome. Humanitarian Forum Yemen stepped in and enabled humanitarian leaders to emerge from within civil society organisations. We introduced an innovative approach to workshops, with dynamic trainers and **fresh methods. Earlier in 2010, we visited the internally displaced persons' camps in Harad** and assessed the needs on the ground and the work to be done.

In 2010 we have also welcomed our Country Director for Yemen, Ahmad al-Sharaji and our Programme Manager, Noha al-Eryani and we are looking forward to a long and fruitful collaboration.

Yemen presents itself as a great opportunity for the emergence of humanitarian leaders. I believe that these humanitarian leaders will be able to shape the civil society landscape not just in Yemen, but also internationally. Let us join hands and support a new civil society, with emerging regional humanitarian leaders!

President, The Humanitarian Forum
International Office

Editorial



We believe that humanitarian work requires the concerted efforts of all public, civil and international bodies in order to alleviate the suffering of the poor and needy. This is why The Humanitarian Forum Yemen (HFY), since its establishment in 2009, has worked to develop the Yemen local Civil Society Organizations' (CSOs) capacity as they are the main helping hand for beneficiaries during disasters and emergencies. The CSOs are able to assess the needs of societies, because they work closely with them. Due to all these facts, the HFY focuses its efforts on CSOs' capacity building in main fields such as strategy preparation, consolidation of good governance on leadership level and financial transparency.

HFY also works towards strengthening coordination among local CSOs in order to implement joint projects and programmes, and between CSOs and society through supervision of projects developed by CSOs, provided that priorities of these projects should be identified by beneficiaries themselves. HFY also tries to bridge the gap between local CSOs and international organizations and donors through convening conferences and participation in sector meetings. HFY, well aware of the need for CSOs to have a better understanding of humanitarian principles and criteria, started an initiative to develop a preliminary draft of humanitarian principles and criteria that are in line with our culture and civilization and suits Islamic sharia'a.

We are grateful to The Humanitarian Forum International Office, which spares no effort to provide us with support. We would also like to thank the Yemeni businessman, Ahmed ba- Zara'a for his support of the Forum's General Secretariat.

It is worth noting that achievements during last year would not have been possible without the great efforts exerted by the HFY Administrative Board and the staff of the executive administration. We are looking forward to a 2011 full of success!

Country Director, Humanitarian Forum Yemen

Focus on Yemen: Situation Update

Yemen is considered one of the poorest Arab countries, yet its NGO sector is growing fast. Ahmad Al-Sharaji tells us how the Humanitarian Forum Yemen is taking a leading role in nurturing and training the next generation of humanitarian leaders.

Crisis and Unrest

Yemen is currently a low-income, food-deficit country, suffering from weak infrastructure, widespread poverty and unemployment, rapid population growth, low education indicators and high gender disparities. To compound these issues, food prices are high, and internal conflict and climate change are increasing both the vulnerability and number of internally displaced people (IDPs).

A recent UNOCHA report estimates that 48% of households in Yemen do not have secure food supplies, and half of all children are chronically malnourished.

The recent unrest has destabilised the situation further, with heavy fighting leading to an escalation in displacement. Yemen itself is a host country for refugees from the Horn of Africa, with UNHCR caring for some existing 200,000 refugees and 300,000 internally displaced Yemenis.

A local solution

In a challenging humanitarian space, it becomes increasingly important to have a strong civil sector. In our view, the way forward is to enable and empower a local civil society to operate harmoniously, by providing training to small organisations and helping them network and strengthen their bonds.



The Humanitarian Forum Yemen is a network of 21 Yemeni humanitarian organisations which was registered in 2009. Its mission is to help people in need by building trust between communities and improving humanitarian action in a network of peer organisations.

The Humanitarian Forum Yemen coaches and mentors NGOs in designing, implementing and evaluating projects which, in the long term, benefit a country challenged by poverty, declining resources, natural disasters and latent conflict.



Our local workshops provide a tailor-made solution for local organisations, while our grassroots networking platform enables local and regional to meet national and international on equal footing.



The following pages will provide a more ample view of our individual workshops and vision for building trust between organisations.

We take our inspiration from our International Office, The Humanitarian Forum, which supports local civil society around the world. The **Humanitarian Forum's vision of a world** in which there is trust between communities and the potential of aid is maximised can come true.

We, the Humanitarian Forum Yemen, share that vision and are working to achieve this locally, for our nation.

Humanitarian Forum Yemen counts among its members **two women's** organisations:

The Organisation of Women Development (WD) works towards helping women take active roles in development, and creating income-generating projects for poor families. **“Without Despair”** targets lone women who receive training for handicrafts and life skills.



Access a list of all Humanitarian Forum Yemen members on our website:

www.humanitarianforum.org

The Yemeni Women's Union (YWU) is the oldest women's organisation in the country. It plays a vital role in empowering women and aims at attaining rights and legitimacy for women, gender equity and advocacy. Its projects include microcredit schemes, basic healthcare services and skill training for women.

Website: yemeniwomen.org/



*"Yemeni trainers will contribute to improving the operations of local CSOs so they can effect change to the **local communities they serve.**"*

Khalid Al-Mulad, Islamic Relief Yemen
Country Director

Our workshops – added value

From North to South and from West to East, Humanitarian Forum Yemen holds a variety of workshops for the civil society.

Below and on the following page you can see a small sample of the places we work in and the activities there. HFY Programme Manager Noha Al-Eryani reports.

Civil Society in Yemen is growing steadily, from 270 organisations in 1990 to over 7,000 in 2009. New organisations have to potential to reach a wider section of the population, who, in many cases, cannot get access to even the most basic services.

These organisations are young and born out of the desire to do good and help the needy. However, it is imperative to help these organisations reach a steady maturity, gain skills along the way and meet other organisations to exchange resources or even knowledge. On this page you will find examples of different types of workshops we convene, from training workshops focused on fundraising and engagement to workshops to the concept of **"Train the trainer"**.

Aden With support from Islamic Relief Germany and the European Commission, Humanitarian Forum Yemen and Islamic Relief Yemen organised an operational engagement and fundraising workshop in Aden in October 2010. 53 senior staff members representing 49 organisations from 18 governorates took part in the workshop, gaining financial and planning skills. The participants were trained on practical aspects of programme design and fundraising, while members of Northern and Southern Yemeni NGOs shared the experience of collaborating for the first time. The group also discussed the economic and social context in which they operate and some identified potential partnerships with other organisations.

The series of workshops continued with a stop in Hodeida in December 2010. The 40 participants formulated a problem statement and then identified a target group for designing a community based project. They were trained on filling funding applications for Yemeni or foreign institutional donors and learned about criteria for grant making as well as essentials of fundraising. The Islamic model of trust (Waqf) was also discussed in detail.

Emergency Response Fund HFY organized a workshop on the Emergency Response Fund (ERF) with UN OCHA. 29 participants representing organizations from Sana'a, Sa'ada, Hajjah, al-Jawf, al-Mahwait, Marib and Amran attended. The aim of the workshop was to introduce the way of writing proposals for the ERF and its required conditions. The same workshop was organized in Hadramout for 19 organizations from Shabwah, Mukala, Sayoon and al-Mahrah. It was also organized in Aden for 53 participants from different governorates of the country.

18 carefully selected individual Yemeni participants gained skills in strategic planning, financial management and project cycle management. These attendees came from five governorates namely Sana'a, Aden, Ad-Dahlia, Hodeida and Hadramout and 7 of the 18 were women. The trainees can then pass on the information learned to their own organisations, thereby creating a **"Train the Trainer"** scheme to benefit local civil society.

Networking to help

The Humanitarian Forum Yemen has created a strong network of local organisations, enabling them to partner with each other and raise their voice on the international arena of NGOs. Ahmad Al-Sharaji tells us what HFY has been doing in 2010 to bring organisations together on equal footing.



IDP Camp Visit

14 persons representing HFY member organizations made a field visit to IDPs camps in the Hajah governorate. The aim of that visit was to build trust between the CSOs and beneficiaries and assess the needs on the ground. Dr. Hany El-Banna, President of the Humanitarian Forum International Office was also present.

Coordination and Cooperation



In March, HFY organized a workshop with UN OCHA and OXFAM on coordination and cooperation to discuss humanitarian principles and the SPHERE handbook. The workshop was attended by 27 participants, most of them from HFY member organizations. Representatives of organizations from Jawf, Aden and Sa'ada were also present. The aim of the workshop was to raise awareness about the meaning and importance of coordination and cooperation, introducing new tools to improve emergency response. It fulfilled this promise and so much more, as OCHA agreed to translate its page into Arabic to facilitate the access of reports, updates and project templates/proposals.

HFY believes in social solidarity and in the importance of charitable work.

Ramadan Food baskets

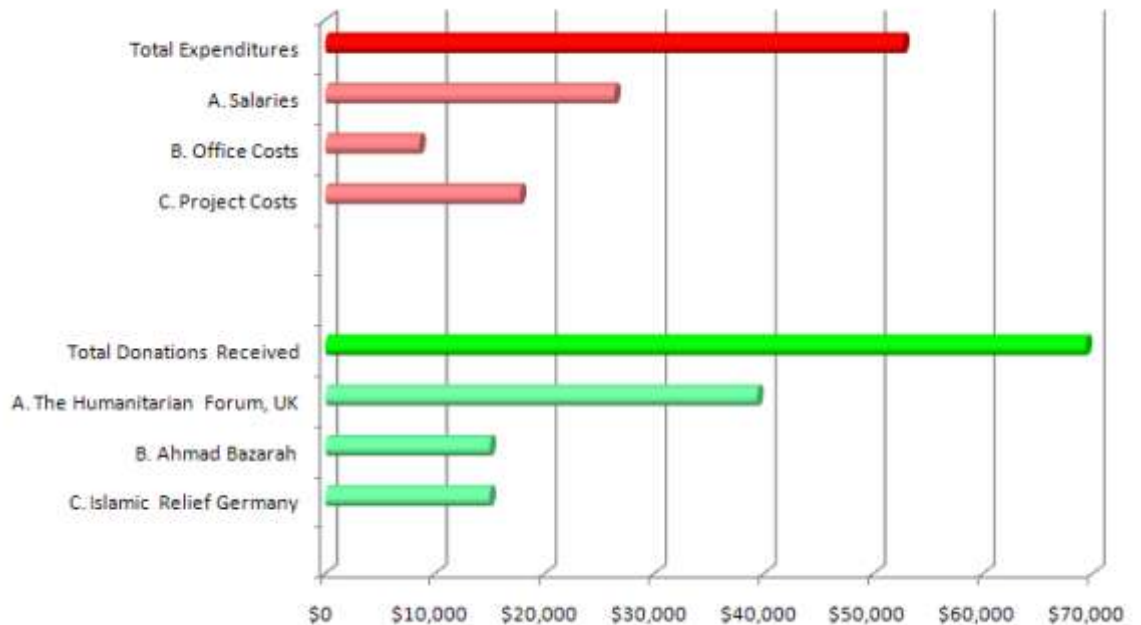
In order to alleviate the suffering of poor people, especially during the

Holy Month of Ramadan, the members of HFY's administrative board and the executive management, distributed jointly Ramadan food baskets to the needy. Distribution covered the Al-Marwan area and the main funding bodies were the following organizations: Al-Salih Institution Al-Nibras Association, Charitable Society for Social Welfare (CSSW), Al-Wijdan Developmental Organization Al-Ihsan Organization and Droob Al-Amal Organization (previously Al-Marwan). In total, 400 Ramadan food baskets containing essential food items were distributed to the people in need.

Looking forward

Together, we have achieved a lot in 2010 as we find new ways to work together and build skills. In 2011, we want to connect more local humanitarian organisations, through workshops and meetings. We aim to develop their joint thinking about humanitarian principles and accountability. Last but not least, we will develop our online networks with a new website and fresh content all around. We look forward to working with you to achieve this.

Finance



Trustees

Abass Ali Zabarrah, Yemeni Red Crescent Society

Ali Abdualrhman Al-Akow, Al Saleh Social Foundation for Development

Yahya Al Daba, (Aleslah) Charitable Society for Social Welfare

Ramzeah Al Eryany, Yemeni Women Union

Mohammad Zaid, Almu'tamen Social Development Organization

Ahmad Zeid, Al Nebras Society

Abdu Al Wahab Jahaf, Al Tarabout Organization

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