

UNDP Results

Yemen



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Resilient nations.*

Approach

Yemen has been experiencing both the uncertainty of regime change and the effects of armed conflicts, with consequences that affected millions of people, many of them from the country's poorest and most remote areas. During the 2011 unrest and demonstrations in Yemen, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) developed a transitional plan that laid out the foundation for the organization's longer-term interventions in the country once a political solution was reached. The plan was rolled-out as soon as the former President stepped down and UNDP was critical in ensuring the success of the February 2012 election for a new President.

UNDP is at the forefront of the post-crisis agenda in Yemen, coordinating the efforts of the international community, from elections, national dialogue and human rights to transitional justice, rule of law and early crisis recovery, including assistance to internally displaced persons (IDPs). UNDP is also working closely with the Government and other UN agencies on strengthening civil society institutions, especially grassroots-level non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to be used as reliable implementing partners for new development projects as well as to deliver humanitarian assistance and basic services to the population in need.

R E S U L T S

Elections

- Within 45 days of a transition process agreement struck by the former Government of Yemen and the opposition, UNDP supported Yemen's Supreme Commission on Elections and Referenda to administer elections for a new President, held on 21 February 2012. Voter turnout exceeded 60 percent.
- UNDP established a multi-donor basket fund to support the elections and the country's transition to democracy.
- UNDP procured and delivered polling kits and other equipment to 28,742 polling stations and trained staff at those stations; the organization also worked with the National Postal System to ensure than 90,000 polling officials and 102,000 security staff received payment.
- A voter education campaign was launched to reach millions of Yemenis through advertisements via radio, television, online media, mobile phones and on public transit; one SMS campaign alone reached six million Yemenis.
- UNDP established a woman voter mobilization campaign that reached out to 10,500 female high school students of voting age, their teachers and 2,100 women who are local community representatives in different parts of the country; another 10 female religious preachers and imams received training on the important role women play in elections.
- UNDP created a specialized website (www.mdbf.undp.org.ye) to ensure coordination among donors supporting the elections.

Crisis prevention and recovery

UNDP is leading the UN's early recovery efforts, part of a greater humanitarian response plan for Yemen. UNDP will continue to support humanitarian operations, particularly in northern and southern parts of the country that are in a crisis situation. The organization focuses specifically on mine action, support to IDPs and programmes that promote social cohesion and cooperation between different groups. Some key UNDP results include:

- UNDP opened a regional office in Yemen's north that is responsible for coordinating a much-needed survey of existing mine and unexploded ordinances in the region; in the last 12 years of its activities the nationally managed Mines Action Project supported by UNDP and key donors has cleared 100 percent of "high-level" contaminated areas; 97.8 per cent of "middle-level" contaminated areas; and 76.8 percent of low-level contaminated areas (excluding two sensitive areas (Abyan and Sa'adah).
- UNDP, along with Yemen's Social Fund for Development, has collected all data needed for a comprehensive early recovery needs assessment for both IDPs and host communities in the hard-hit Aden governorate.
- A UNDP early recovery project in Sa'ada governorate—the site of an ongoing violent conflict—distributed 240 tonnes of

fertilizer and 120 tonnes of seeds to the poorest and most vulnerable farmers there.

- UNDP has been working with IDPs across the country to help them find jobs and start new businesses; for example, in the Abyan governorate, over 540 IDPs received training in communications, advocacy, leadership, customer service, accounting and needlework; over 110 IDPs have received tools critical for their livelihoods, such as GPS devices for fishermen and beauty salon kits for beauticians.

- Another 40 displaced young people in the Aden governorate in the country's south participated in a UNDP-sponsored vocational course on mobile phone care and maintenance.

HIV and AIDS

While 2011 was a year of great change for Yemen, UNDP continued to build on its HIV and AIDS programming there. As a trusted development partner and co-sponsor of UNAIDS, UNDP's main focus is to build the capacity of government at all levels as well as work closely with civil society to support a well-coordinated and effective response to HIV and AIDS.

- In 2011 alone, 95 key members of civil society in four governorates received important training on HIV and AIDS outreach and the impact of stigma, in partnership with local NGOs in each of those places; each of the trainees—who included men who have sex with men, female sex workers and local activists and community leaders—pledged to immediately bring similar training to five more people from their community, bringing total outreach to 465 members of civil society.

UNDP Activities in Yemen: 2012

Theme	Funders	Total amount US\$ Millions
Democratic Governance	Denmark, Germany, Japan, USA, Yemen, DFID, European Union, Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, UNDP, UN Peace Building Fund	\$8,387
Poverty Reduction • Local economic development and youth employment • Economic recovery, private sector development and social cohesion	Japan, Yemen, UNDP	1,811
Environment and Energy • Local governance of drinking water in rural areas	Finland, Yemen, CIDA, UNDP/MPTF	381
Crisis Prevention and Recovery • Security sector reform • Fighting corruption	Australia, Germany, Sweden, USA, Yemen, European Union, UNDP, UNOCHA	5,744
Total		\$16,323

Source: UNDP Yemen

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