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Empty Stomachs: According to a new report released by the International Food Policy Research Institute, Yemen was recently classified as having “alarming” level of hunger. The country’s progress to reduce malnutrition is considered the lowest in the Arab world, the report says. *Read more on Page 4* (Photo by Nima Tamaddon)



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Military designs new uniform to thwart terror

Nasser Al-Sakkaf

SANA'A, Oct. 23—In response to the ease that armed militants have had in purchasing and obtaining military uniforms the military has announced it is redesigning its uniforms.

The new uniforms will be issued to all military forces regardless of their unit, the Interior Ministry announced recently.

“The new uniform has been approved but not yet distributed. There are many soldiers to prepare the uniform for,” said a source at the Interior Ministry who spoke to the Yemen Times on the condition of anonymity.

The new uniforms are expected to be distributed by the military directly. The source told the Yemen Times that no decree has been issued allowing shopping centers to sell the new uniforms. Currently, a shopping center must have a license from the Interior Ministry and Defense Ministry to sell the official clothing. Only individuals with military identity cards are allowed to purchase the uniforms, according to the regulations.

One problem that has not been addressed according to Mohammed Al-Khalid, a security affairs researcher, is that “Al-Qaeda [in the Arabian Peninsula] militants can get the military uniform from soldiers who conspire with them.”

Forces that oppose the government are accused of obtaining official uniforms and using them to their advantage in order to penetrate military circles.

“Some military forces are in league with Al-Qaeda. These are the

ones who mainly provide the militants with military uniforms. Terrorists can [also] buy the military uniforms from markets in different governorates,” said Ali Aida, a spokesperson for the Abyan Popular Committee.

Despite increased security around the country, militants have been able to carry out attacks against military units. Aida told the Yemen Times that recently five non-military armed men dressed in uniforms were caught crossing a checkpoint in Juar district.

“These were not the only [men] captured disguised as soldiers. Many others [have been] seized in various Abyan districts,” Aida said. The five captured in Juar have been sent to Aden for investigation, he added.

On Friday morning, four armed

men wearing military uniforms entered the Brigade 111 headquarters gate and killed five soldiers and wounded 30 others, according to officials.

Recently several other large-scale attacks have taken place across the country.

Military camps in Shabwa were attacked in late September, when armed men believed to have been dressed in military uniforms surrounded the camps and set off car bombs, killing 22 soldiers. Another 21 soldiers were taken hostage in Abyan but have since been released.

On Sept. 30 armed men stormed the Second Military Region headquarters in Mukalla, taking control for several days before the military raided the headquarters and retook the military region.

Six injured in prison riot in Sana'a

Incident may have been incited by soldiers' taunting of religion

Nasser Al-Sakkaf

SANA'A, Oct. 23—A prison riot left four prisoners, one guard and the director of investigations injured in a Political Security prison in Sana'a on Tuesday, according to officials. One prisoner has been charged with attempted murder of the director of investigations.

During the riot, prisoners captured two soldiers working as guards and held them as hostage, according to Adel Al-Hamadi, the city's prosecutor. They were set free Tuesday evening after two representatives from a human rights group and Al-Hamadi, went to the prison to negotiate the guards' release.

In a letter published in the Al-Wasat newspaper recently, prisoners complained that soldiers guarding the facility had insulted Allah, which many are speculating may have culminated in Tuesday's riot.

“Prisoners managed to call their relatives, indicating that they were able to get a hold of the guards' cell phones,” said Abdulrahman Barman, an attorney with the human

rights group, HOOD: Defending Rights and Freedoms. Political Security prisoners are banned from having phones in prison, unlike some low-security inmates.

Several protests broke out in the prison in September after soldiers allegedly desecrated Muslims' holy book, the Quran. The prisoners say they filed a complaint with the director of investigations, who—their claim—threatened to ban visitations and limit water and medicine.

“The prosecution will investigate the attempted murder on the investigations director of the Political Security prison, Mohammed Al-Numili,” Al-Hamadi said.

Barman says Al-Numili was attacked with a sharp object when prisoners were able to overthrow the guards and open the prison doors around 1 p.m. on Tuesday. According to Barman, by 6 p.m. security had regained control and the hostages were released an hour later.

While prisoners held in Political Security facilities used to be primarily those with charges of drug trafficking, the prison is now known for housing those who have been detained for their alleged connections with Al-Qaeda or Al-Qaeda-affiliated groups.

“Most inmates are accused of be-

ing Al-Qaeda affiliates and taking part in terrorist acts,” said Barman.

The charges against inmates at Political Security remain controversial.

Attorney Abdulbasit Ghazi told the Yemen Times that his brother has been detained in the Political Security prison since September 2012, accused of participating in armed attacks targeting military and security forces.

“This is a common accusation against those being held in the Political Security prison—fabricated

charges against individuals who haven't been convicted of any particular crime,” he said.

Ghazi said his brother informed him last month that he and other inmates had complained to prison authorities about the Quran desecrations, but they were ignored, he said.

The Political Security prison in Sana'a was the site of a notorious Al-Qaeda prison break in 2006, when 23 affiliates, including leading figures such as Baseer Al-Wahishi and Qasim Al-Raimi, escaped.

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Three Houthis killed on the way to celebrate Ghadir Day

Samar Al-Ariqi

SANA'A, Oct. 23—Three Houthi affiliates were killed on Wednesday and three others injured in an ambush by unknown gunmen while they were heading to Ibb governorate to take part in Ghadir Day festival, an official said.

According to Ali Al-Zalm, the deputy governor of Ibb, the festival was organized by Houthi supporters in the Al-Aras village of Yareem district.

The Houthis celebrated Ghadir Day on Wednesday across the country, including in areas that the celebration of this Shia festival were banned during the reign of former President Ali Abdulla Saleh.

Ali Al-Bukhaiti, the spokesman for the Houthis at the National Dialogue Conference, said ceremonies began Tuesday evening with jubilant crowds in Sa'ada

governorate, the epicenter of the Houthis, as fireworks were set off.

Houthi affiliates in other cities reportedly celebrated this occasion indoors. Last year for the first time, Houthis celebrated Ghadir Day in the capital city in a heavily fortified hall.

Each year on the 18th of the Dhu al-Hijja on the Islamic calendar, Shia Muslims including the Houthis celebrate Eid Al-Ghadir when they commemorate the appointment of Imam Ali by Prophet Mohammed around 14 centuries ago.

“Celebration of this year’s Eid is not as strong as the last one due to the deteriorated security environment nationwide,” said Al-Bukhaiti.

While the Shia Houthis say the Ghadir festival is a day to promote the aspiration of freedom seekers and emancipation from slavery,

some Sunni Muslims reject the historical credibility of this occasion.

Sheikh Abdulwahab Al-Humai-kian, the head of Al-Rashad Salafi Union Party, a group known to oppose Houthi ideology, said, “Celebrating Ghadir Day is politically motivated because Houthis are trying to consolidate power.”

Al-Humaikian calls the holiday controversial.

Last year, the Houthis celebrated Ghadir Day by shooting gunfire in the air which resulted in several reported injuries.

Brigadier Mohammed Al-Qaedi, the public relations manager at the Interior Ministry, warned against shooting in the air to express joy, saying this is a punishable act and perpetrators will be held accountable.

“Anyone who wants to celebrate is fine. But they should not hurt others,” said Al-Qaedi.

Southern Movement wants subcommittee meetings held outside of Sana’a

Leaders says they fear unstable security

Mohammed Al-Hassani

SANA'A, Oct. 23—National Dialogue Conference (NDC) Southern Movement members are demanding the 8+8 subcommittee meetings be held outside of Sana'a because of uncertain security in the capital city.

The 8+8 subcommittee, formed in September from the Southern Issue Working Group, was created to offer recommendations for the future structure of the state and to give the Southern Movement a concession to secure their continued participation at the conference.

NDC Deputy Secretary General Yasser Al-Ro'ini told the Yemen Times “the general secretary is ready to transfer the committee’s sessions outside Sana'a,” but he

insists security authorities have been providing full protection for ongoing sessions being held at a hotel in Sana'a.

The demand comes amidst a Southern Movement and Houthi boycott of the NDC’s concluding plenary session. The Southern Issue and Sa’ada Issue Working Groups have yet to finish their final reports. The Southern Movement is demanding a two-region federal state in place of the proposed five-region state.

The Southern Movement issued a statement on Tuesday claiming they had information about assassination attempts on Southern Issue Working Group members,

saying that previous attempts were made on the group’s NDC head, Mohammed Ali Ahmed.

Southern Movement representatives had previously demanded moving dialogue sessions abroad, after a leaked document alleged that results of NDC had been pre-determined by leaders of the General People’s Congress (GPC) and the Joint Meeting Parties (JMP).

NDC Secretary General Ahmed Awadh Bin Mubarak said on Tuesday that the 8+8 subcommittee will resume its sessions following U.N. envoy Jama Benomar’s arrival in Sana'a within the coming days. Benomar presides over the subcommittee’s meetings.

Human Rights Watch:

US drones killed 57 Yemeni civilians in six separate strikes

Human Rights Watch



Ahmed Al-Sabooli holds the photos of his father, mother and 10-year-old sister who were killed in 2012 drone strike.

Ali Saeed

SANA'A, Oct. 23—It was Sept. 2, 2012 when Sami Al-Ezzi, a farmer who was working in his fields in the village of Sabool, about 16 kilometers from Rada'a, southeast of Yemen's capital Sana'a, saw something above head, according to Human Rights Watch's (HRW) latest report.

“I heard a very loud noise, like thunder,” Al-Ezzi says in the HRW report. “I looked up and saw two warplanes. One was firing missiles.”

The incident Al-Ezzi is talking about is an alleged American drone strike that took place in the village of Sarar, two kilometers from Al-Ezzi's farm. HRW says in their report released Tuesday that 12 civilians were killed in the strike.

The Sarar-drone strike is one of six selected air attacks carried out in Yemen that the rights group investigates and documents in its most recent report called, “Between a Drone and Al-Qaeda: The Civilian Cost of US Targeted Killings in Yemen.”

The organization writes that in the six strikes it documents in the report between 2009 and

2013, out of 82 people, at least 57 of them were civilians.

“Rushing to the scene, in the hamlet of Sarar ..., residents found a horrific sight: the battered Toyota Land Cruiser that had served as the daily shuttle service between Sabool and Rada'a lay on its side in flames. Charred bodies had been flung from the vehicle and lay on the road, dusted with flour and sugar that the victims were bringing home from market. Every-one killed was a resident of Sabool or the neighboring hamlet of Humaydah,” the report reads.

Ahmad Al-Sabooli, a 23-year-old villager who says he quickly arrived at the attack site said that three of his family members were among those killed in the attack.

“The bodies were charred like coal. I could not recognize the faces,” the organization quoted Al-Sabooli as saying. HRW says after moving closer, Al-Sabooli realized that one of the bodies was his mother's and another, his 10-year-old sister. He then recognized his father among the dead.

“That is when I put my head in my hands and I cried,” Al-Sabooli tells HRW.

The report says the intended target of the strike, Abd Al-Raouf Al-Dahab, an alleged local Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) leader whose late brother Tariq was believed to have led the January 2012 takeover of Rada'a, was not killed in the strike.

“The U.S. says it is taking all possible precautions during targeted killings, but it has unlawfully killed civilians and struck questionable military targets in Yemen,” Letta Tayler, senior terrorism and counterterrorism researcher at HRW and author of the publication said in the report.

“The U.S. should investigate attacks that kill civilians and hold those responsible for violations,” Tayler said. “It's long past time for the U.S. to assess the legality of its targeted killings, as well as the broader impact of these

strikes on civilians.”

The last alleged U.S. air raid was reported in August when a van carrying two passengers was targeted in Lahj, in south Yemen. Yemeni officials, who asked not to be named, say the truck targeted in the strike was loaded with weapons and the two persons inside are believed to have AQAP ties.

As a part of its so-called war on terror the U.S. has allegedly carried out between 134-234 drone strikes between November 2002 and July 2013, according to a similar report on drone strikes issued this month by the Al-Karama Human Rights Organization.



Biodiversity protection project in Yemen

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“Protection and sustainable usage of biodiversity”

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The objective of the project is to contribute to the local economic development and to biodiversity conservation through the sustainable management of natural resources. Project activities will be planned and carried out in close cooperation with EPA (Environmental Protection Authority). Target group is the population living inside or near protected areas. The project comprises three components: a) Sector policy advice; b) Protected areas and harnessing their value; c) Dissemination of the results.

Tasks:

- Facilitate the implementation of biodiversity management plans within the Socotra communities
- Qualify local communities in providing services (incl. tourism services) for the management of protected areas
- Close cooperation with local and regional administration as well as with other development programs and initiatives active in Socotra

Qualification and skills:

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Glenn Greenwald to the Yemen Times:
“Even if Hadi wants to stop using American
drones, I don’t think he has the power to do that”

Interview and photo by
Sadeq Al-Wesabi

Glenn Greenwald is an American journalist who reported bomb-shell NSA leaks for The Guardian and has received international acclaim for his writings on U.S. national security. The former Guardian columnist left his post last week and currently resides in Brazil. As part of his focus on national security, he has commented extensively on America’s counter-terrorism policy in Yemen, including the use of armed drones to battle Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP).

Yemen Times interviewed Greenwald in Rio de Janeiro about the nature of relations between Yemen and the U.S. as it relates to security issues and counter-terrorism tactics.

“Obviously, the Yemeni government has been dependent on the United States government for many years,” Greenwald said. “The ability of the Yemeni government to restrict the U.S. government in terms of what it does inside Yemen is almost nothing.”

Greenwald has made it no secret in his writings that he objects to the current use of U.S. drones in both Yemen and Pakistan, two nations the U.S. has targeted with the war technology.

The American government has increasingly drawn scrutiny from the international community for its drone policy.

This week, four separate reports were issued by the United Nations,

Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International and AlKarama calling on the U.S. to disclose more information about its covert operations and to offer more transparency about its drone program.

“The American government doesn’t want Americans to ask them the question, ‘Why are there so many people who want to harm the United States?’ because that would make them question [their own] policies,” Greenwald said.

Greenwald says questioning the policies of the U.S. that contribute to anti-Americanism is non-existent in America’s political culture.

“If you start asking this question then you start to realize that one of the main answers is because the U.S. government has brought so much violence to [these targeted] parts of the world for so long.”

Over the last decade, many areas of Yemen believed to be AQAP strongholds have been targeted by American drones. Civilians, including children and women, have been killed in the bombings.

Despite criticism from human rights groups and growing anger from Yemeni and American citizens, the strikes have continued. The Yemeni government has been criticized for support of the American strikes. Greenwald is also critical of Yemen’s transitional president, Abdu Rabu Mansour Hadi, who has been vocal about his support



Greenwald says U.S. counter-terrorism policy undermines U.S. national security. “[As long as] the U.S. government continues what it has been doing, which is using violence through drones in Yemen, Al-Qaeda’s strength is guaranteed.”

for U.S. drone strikes.

“The Yemeni government needs to show the population that it’s willing to defend the sovereignty of Yemen,” said Greenwald, who said that the Yemeni government has adopted many tactics from the U.S. that hinder transparency.

Last August, President Hadi justified his decision to allow the use of drones in Yemen, defending the accuracy of the technology used. Greenwald is critical of the president’s stance.

“It’s not true that drones are precise weapons that kill only the wanted,” he said. “There is evidence that drones have killed civilians over the years in multiple countries, including Yemen.”

In a report released by Human Rights Watch Tuesday, the human rights group reveals that nearly 70 percent of those killed in six drone strikes between 2009 and 2013 were civilians.

For Greenwald, the issues surrounding counter-terrorism policy are not black and white. Officials need to spend more time examining the root causes of terrorism and why extremism thrives in a country like Yemen, Greenwald said.

“In a country where there is extreme corruption, people feel as though they cannot solve problems through political processes, so they turn to violence.”

“When [people] are very poor

and have no hope, they turn to religious extremism,” Greenwald said. “When they are being assaulted by a foreign power and watching people [being] blown up into pieces, they turn to anger, revenge and violence.”

Greenwald believes that drones create more sympathy for AQAP and groups associated with the organization.

“The ability of Al-Qaeda to capitalize on anger towards the U.S. is probably the most powerful weapon they use to strengthen themselves,” he said.

Although President Hadi recently asked the U.S. to provide Yemen with its own drones and training for Yemeni forces, Greenwald says this does not legitimize the use of the technology. He argues the issue is about “using violence itself, not who is doing it.”

When asked about his thoughts on the government holding dialogue session with AQAP, Greenwald responded, “I believe in improving people’s situations economically and giving them democracy [so that they can] elect their own government and have control over their own fates. But I also believe in trying to have dialogue with extremist groups.”

Greenwald says that as long as “the U.S. government continues what it has been doing, which is using violence through drones in Yemen, Al-Qaeda’s strength is guaranteed.”

“You cannot assault a population for so long without [getting] them extremely angry—this is just basic human nature,” he said.

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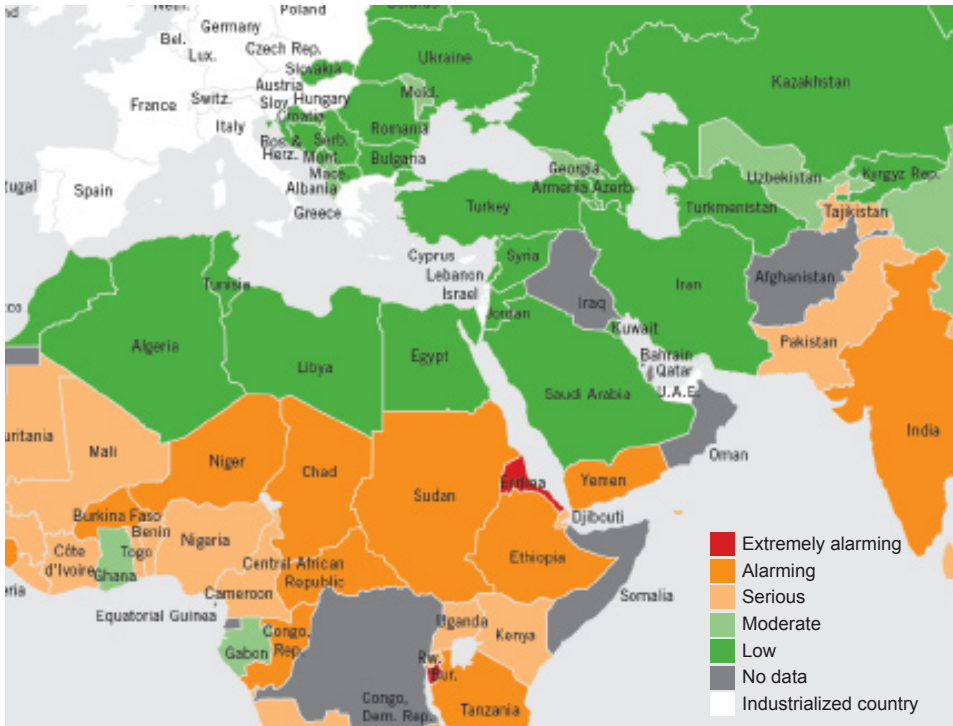
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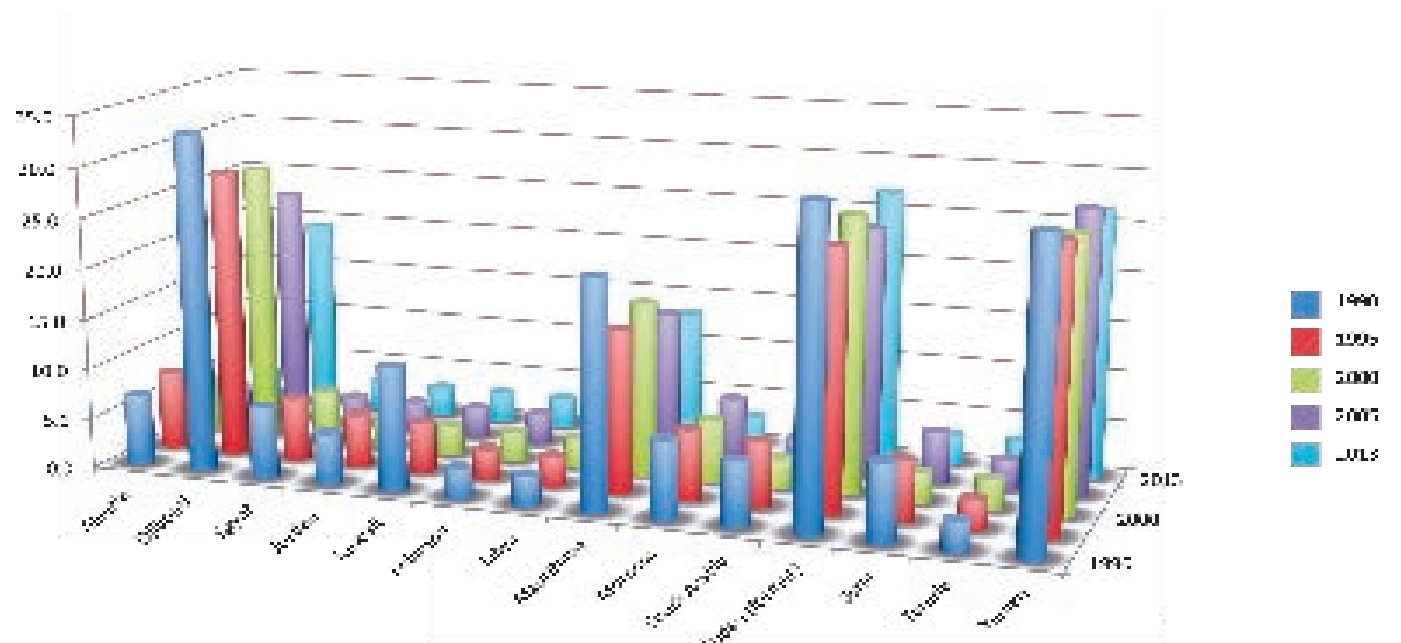
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Yemen's empty stomach statistics categorized as 'alarming'



Map of Global Hunger Index (source: IFPRI)



Global Hunger Index for the Arab world
(Visualized by the Yemen Times)

Nima Tamaddon

Yemen is one of 16 countries classified as having "alarming" levels of hunger, according to the Global Hunger Index (GHI), published by the International Food Policy Research Institute.

In its latest report, released on Oct. 18, the Washington, D.C.-based think-tank said that Yemen is one of a number of developing countries that is "very vulnerable to weather shocks but less frequently exposed to them."

This year's index, called: "The challenge of hunger; Building resilience to achieve food and nutrition security," identifies hunger levels across 120 developing countries and countries in transition.

"Poor and vulnerable populations need more resilience, and a vital part of building resilience involves boosting food and nutrition security," the GHI report says. "Given that access to enough healthy food is a basic human right, it is critical that governments and nongovern-

mental and international organizations take steps to build resilience in a way that increases their food and nutrition security."

Resilience is defined by the report as the capacity not only to absorb milder shocks, but also to learn from and adapt to larger ones and to fundamentally transform economic, social, and ecological structures in response to the most severe ones.

The report scores countries based on three equally weighted measures: the percentage of people that are undernourished, the under-five population that are underweight and the mortality rate of children under five.

According to the index, Yemen has reduced its hunger score from 29.8 in 1990 to 26.5 in 2013, a poor performance compared to other countries in the region.

The GHI ranks countries on a 100-point scale. Zero is the best score, which signifies a country with no hunger, and 100 is the worst. Neither of these numbers are reached in practice. An increase in a country's GHI score indicates

that the hunger situation is worsening and a decrease in the number shows improvement.

The report, which for the eighth year tracks the progress in combating hunger and undernourishment, indicates that global hunger is decreasing and the overall world GHI score has fallen by 34 percent since 1990.

However, world hunger still remains "serious" in 19 countries, including Yemen—these countries are suffering from hunger at "alarming" or "extremely alarming" rates. According to the index, three sub-Saharan countries in Africa with the highest levels of hunger—Burundi, Eritrea and Comoros—fell into the "extremely alarming" category.

Most countries where the hunger situation is already "alarming" or "extremely alarming," according to the report, are particularly vulnerable to the negative effects of climate change, population pressure, regional conflicts and financial crises.

Twenty-three countries have reduced their GHI scores from 1990 to 2013 by 50 percent or more. Among

them, Kuwait uniquely stands out.

"Kuwait's progress in reducing hunger is due mainly to its unusually high score in 1990, when Iraq invaded the country," the report said.

After Kuwait, countries noted for their impressive improvements in reducing hunger since 1990 are Vietnam, Thailand, Cuba, Mexico and Venezuela.

Although Yemen's GHI score in the same period was reduced by 3.3 points, the index shows that the country's progress is the worst of all Arab states.

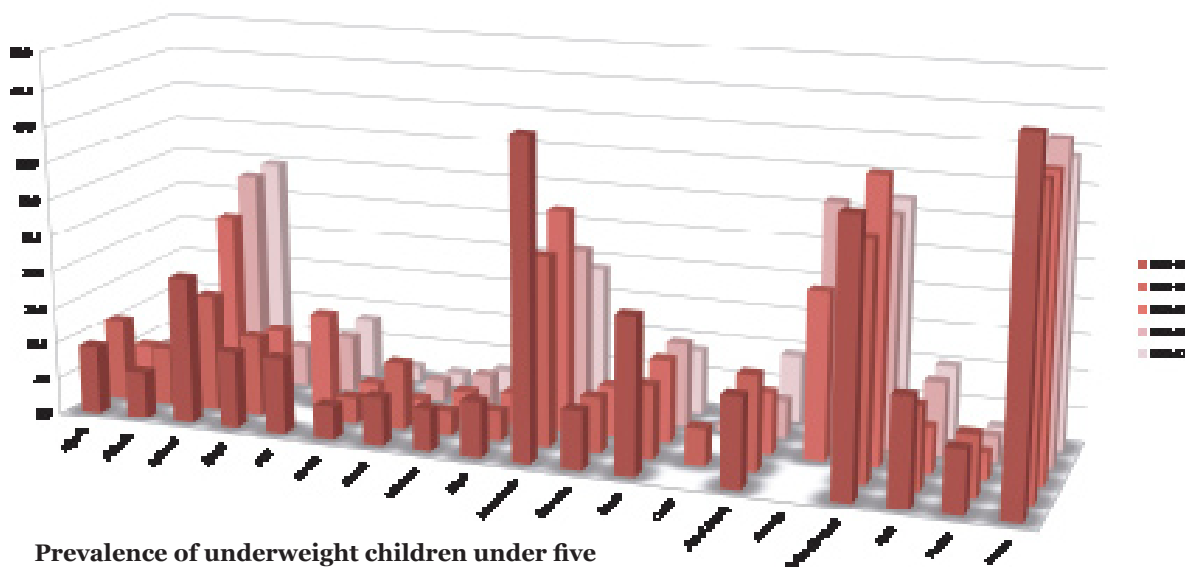
Comparing Yemen with other Arab countries, the report says Djibouti, Mauritania and Morocco have had better performances in reducing their GHI scores during the past two decades.

In June 2013, another report released by the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization categorized Yemen as a country with high numbers of "stunted children" suffering from malnutrition.

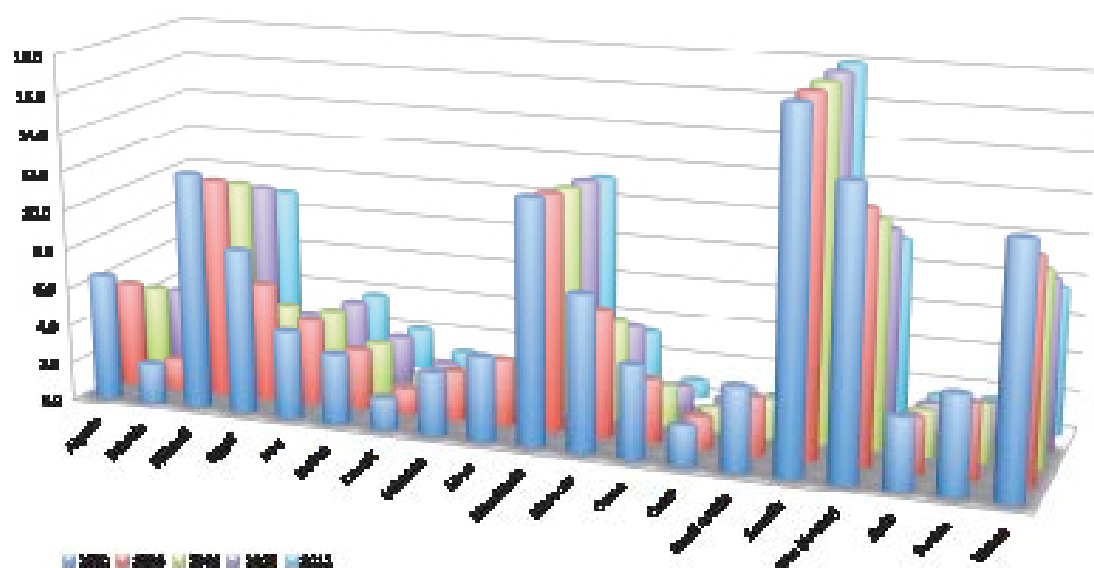
Among regions and countries that had been flagged by the GHI report, the Horn of Africa and the Sahel—the area that stretches across Afri-

ca at the edge of Sahara—are more vulnerable because their situation "has been exacerbated by food and financial crises and large-scale humanitarian crises such as the recurring droughts."

"Recurring crises in recent years—a combination of sporadic rainfall, locust infestation, crop shortages, and high and volatile food prices—have negatively affected food and nutrition security in the region, eroded the coping capacity of already vulnerable groups and weakened their resilience to shocks," the report states.



Prevalence of underweight children under five years by percent
(Visualized by the Yemen Times)



Under-five mortality rate in the Arab world
(Visualized by the Yemen Times)

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YT vision statement

“To make Yemen a good world citizen.”

Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf,
(1951 - 1999)
Founder of Yemen Times



OUR OPINION

Yemen is a transitional democracy, we are not there yet

Despite claims in our Constitution and what we tell the world, and despite the fact that we are a republic with many years of electoral practice, Yemen is not a democracy, at least not yet.

The point is that it is a work in progress. We embarked on the path of democracy more than five decades ago, but we have not yet managed to establish a real democratic environment. That being said, it is not fair to be judged as and expected to act as a true democratic county.

Even established democracies in the more advanced part of the world have their problems with what this word really means and whether the best interest and needs of people are represented. So why should Yemen, a nation in transition, be required to act as if everything is in order?

The simple fact is that the process-oriented approach to the Gulf Council Countries (GCC) Initiative and the post-dialogue phase is not going to work in Yemen. When masterminds worked together in 2010 and 2011 to find a solution for Yemen's political and popular unrest, they came up with a fine plan. This plan aimed to peacefully transfer power from one regime to another, using consensus methods followed by elections.

At the time, it seemed like the perfect plan. After all, it was the result of international and local intellect combined. But now as we implement this plan, it is obvious that some of the steps will not work.

Sticking to the plan regardless of the consequences and changing variables is not wise. We have seen how it backfired in Iraq and Egypt, and we, as Yemenis, are not willing to go through what these two trouble-ridden countries are going through.

Good management requires revisiting the problem and analyzing the situation given the new factors. For example, it is not feasible to have a constitutional referendum any time soon even if we manage via miracle-to draft the new constitution.

If we jump into a referendum according to the GCC plan, it will be turned down by the South. Saying no to the constitution gives legitimacy to the alternative proposal in the South, which is separation.

We need the time to take real measures on the ground and establish trust in the South before we offer them the chance to vote on Yemen's new constitution. This constitution is the most powerful result of the transition and is the foundation of a new Yemen. We cannot afford to have it delegitimized or trashed because we wanted to stick to a plan.

The GCC Initiative needs to be revisited. We as Yemenis, refuse to be rushed into becoming a democracy we are not yet ready for.

Nadia Al-Sakkaf

Drones cast a shadow over the right to life

Anthony Biswell

On Oct. 25, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) will debate a report recently submitted by Christof Heyns, the incumbent United Nation's special rapporteur, on extra-judicial, summary or arbitrary executions.

The report provides a rigorous legal assessment of the “use of lethal force through armed drones from the perspective of protection of the right to life.” The purpose of which appears to be designed to limit “permissive interpretations” over the “rules and standards” of the use of drones—which according to Heyns, could pose a potentially grave threat to international security—with regards to safeguarding the sanctity of an individual's right to life.

“The expansive use of armed drones by the first states to acquire them, if not challenged, can do structural damage to the cornerstones of international security and set precedents that undermine the protection of life across the globe in the longer term.”

Many of the legal arguments, as presented by the special rapporteur, strike a chord with the ensuing debates that continue to rage inside Yemen.

The complicit role Yemeni ruling authorities have played in allowing U.S. drone strikes within Yemen's borders is a source of brooding contempt among Yemenis—who say they are giving up national sovereignty and resent the loss of civilian lives and livelihoods.

In June, a clear message of disapproval was delivered by members of Yemen's National Dialogue Conference (NDC), wherein a resolution was passed calling for the prohibition of extrajudicial, summary and arbitrary executions through the use of drones.

In no uncertain terms, the report outlines the legal grounds on which the national coalition government, headed by incumbent transitional President Abdu

Rabu Mansour Hadi, and the previous regime, headed by former-President Ali Abdullah Saleh, might have to rethink. These actors may be held accountable for the United States' seemingly free reign over Yemeni airspace and the onerous humanitarian consequences that this open invitation has yielded.

As highlighted by the special rapporteur, under the eyes of international law:

“States cannot consent to the violation of their obligations under international humanitarian law or international human rights law. A state that consents to the activities of another state on its territory remains bound by its own human rights obligations, including to ensure respect for human rights and thus to prevent violations of the right to life, to the extent that it is able to do so.”

The potential legal case building against Hadi and his transitional government cohorts may be strengthened further still if he is in fact handed his own battalion of armed drones. It's hard to imagine a vehemently anti-drones citizenry stomaching the Yemeni government's acquisition of drone technology.

Heyns himself stops short of providing any explicit reference to the U.S. per se, or the controversial drone campaigns currently operating in Pakistan, Yemen or Somalia, for example. However, his stringent analysis of the compatibility of drone strikes with international law, and in particular international humanitarian and human rights law, inevitably places U.S. conduct firmly under the spotlight.

The U.S. has seemingly looked to build its legal platform surrounding the use of American drones abroad upon the foundations of Article 51 of the U.N. Charter, and the right to self-defence in the face of a global “war on terror.” This argument alone, however, does not guarantee that the U.S. drone campaign is in-line with international humanitarian and human rights' obligations.

“Action taken lawfully in self-defence, such as the use of drones to target individuals in another state's territory, must

serve the purpose of halting and repelling an armed attack and must be both necessary and proportionate to that end.”

The report puts a strong emphasis on the stated international legal requirements and obligations that states must adhere to with regards to proportional force being used as a last resort towards an imminent threat.

“The legal test remains whether there is sufficient evidence that a person is targetable under international humanitarian law, by virtue of having a continuous combat function or directly participating in hostilities,” the report said. “If there is doubt, states must refrain from targeting.”

Furthermore, questions marks were duly raised within the report over the validity of signature and follow-up strikes. “Insofar as the term ‘signature strikes’ refers to targeting without sufficient information to make the necessary determination, it is clearly unlawful.”

Critics of U.S. drones strikes have also sharply criticized the U.S. for what they consider to be a failure to explore alternatives to extra-judicial assassinations and for failing to distinguish between civilians and non-civilians.

Heyns indirectly integrated such criticisms within his legal profiling of armed drones. Heyns indirectly singled-out the glaring absence of transparency and accountability surrounding the use of (American) drones, under the Obama administration, in the international arena.

“Accountability for violations of international human rights law (or international humanitarian law) is not a matter of choice or policy, it is a duty under domestic and international law.”

For those in Yemen who have lost their loved ones as result of indiscriminate drone strikes, the notable absence of transparency and accountability is understandably a bitter pill to swallow.

Just ask Faisal bin Ali Jaber, who sent a letter to Obama on July 31 of this year, seeking answers for the deaths of his nephew and the death of his brother-

in-law, Salem Ahmed bin Ali Jaber—a preacher known for delivering anti-Al-Qaeda sermons—in August of 2012.

Kat Craig, the legal director at the human rights charity, Reprieve, told the Yemen Times that Heyns' report was “a clear criticism of the shadowy drone program carried out by the CIA and Special Forces, which has never been officially acknowledged by the U.S. government. He warns that “A lack of appropriate transparency and accountability concerning the deployment of drones undermines the rule of law and may threaten international security.”

“Among Reprieve's clients are young Pakistani children who saw their grandmother killed in front of them—the CIA must not be allowed to continue to smear these people as ‘terrorists,’” she added.

The death of innocent civilians, as a result of so-called “surgical” U.S. drones strikes, serves as a viable recruitment tool for Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) affiliates, thereby illustrating the self-defeating, counterproductive nature of U.S. drones strikes in Yemen. The least the U.S. and Yemeni authorities could do is ensure that calls for greater transparency, accountability, and compensation are met with a degree of sincerity rather than being completely ignored.

The U.N. special rapporteur subsequently looks to address this palpable flaw by promoting the idea of greater public scrutiny over the use of drones in foreign territories.

“States must be transparent about the development, acquisition and use of armed drones. They must publicly disclose the legal basis for the use of drones, operational responsibility, criteria for targeting, impact (including civilian casualties), and information about alleged violations, investigations and prosecutions.”

Anthony Biswell is a Gulf and Yemen analyst, currently based in Sana'a. An extended version of this piece can be found on his personal blog: <http://anthonybiswell.blogspot.com/> Follow him on Twitter @AnthonyBiswell

Misdefining Syria's civil war, and how to correct it

Sami Mahroum
Dailystar.com.lb
First Published Oct. 23

The agreement reached between the United States and Russia to eliminate Syria's chemical weapons ties the disarmament process to negotiations aimed at ending the country's civil war. That is surely a sensible approach. Unfortunately, two major problems with the proposed Geneva-based process will prevent it from achieving its goal. But an alternative formula might just work.

The first problem with the U.S.-Russian approach is a failure to recognize the constraints facing the warring parties. The current regime—maintained for more than 40 years as a unitary, all-encompassing actor—has little leeway to offer concessions: There is no such thing as a part-time dictatorship. Any political agreement with the opposition would require the transfer of control of at least some political, security and economic resources that were previously controlled by President Bashar Assad's family and its inner circle.

A regime that is so heavily indebted to its supporters is highly unlikely to accept such an outcome, which would reduce its ability to reward—and, more important, to protect—its loyalists at home and abroad. For example, a post-conflict Syria in which the opposition controls a substantial part of the state is unlikely to maintain a strong relationship with Iran and Hezbollah.

The opposition is in a similar position, though for the opposite reason: It is far

from being a unitary actor. As a loose umbrella of very different groups, the opposition would be likely to experience a dynamic similar to that on the government side, with a power-sharing formula, however temporary and transitional, leaving Assad's opponents with fewer resources than they would have if they had full control of the state. This alone would intensify conflict and divisiveness within the opposition, potentially leading many within its ranks to reject any peace settlement, prolonging the war.

The second problem with the U.S.-Russian peace process approach is its definition of the parties to the conflict: the Assad regime and the opposition. Some segments of Syrian society, particularly religious minorities, remain on the regime side for fear of the unknown; but they do not trust the regime to safeguard their interests. This is particularly true for Christians and Druze, but also for secular elements within the Sunni majority.

What is needed is a shift in the way the conflict is perceived. The reality is that both the regime and the opposition comprise a wide spectrum of groups that stand on one side of the conflict or the other for a variety of group-specific reasons.

So far, the international community has recognized this diversity only on the opposition side. This has allowed the regime to claim some legitimacy, while denying intimidated third-party groups a voice. Thus, instead of insisting on a peace process that brings the regime and the opposition together, the political path to peace in Syria should bring the many different segments of Syrian society together, regardless of which side of the conflict they

are on.

Representatives of the Alawites, Christians, Druze, Kurds and Sunnis, as well as representatives of nonreligious groups and smaller minorities, should go to Geneva to help create a new political contract for a new Syria. Admittedly, choosing representatives from each community will be a challenging task. But because the talks will aim for a broad national pact (agreeing on issues like freedom of speech and religion) and a temporary transitional period of national-unity government, the representatives can be “wise men”—men and women known to have the respect of their communities.

This approach would circumvent the problem of selecting regime and opposition representatives, which has so far prevented the Geneva talks from taking place. Composing the negotiating teams along ideological, ethnic and sectarian lines would help to transcend the dichotomy of regime versus opposition. Groups that the regime claims to represent could represent themselves directly, which might well create incentives for them to disentangle themselves from their support for the regime.

Nonetheless, moving from a two-party negotiation process to a multiparty process has its own hurdles. Multiparty negotiations tend to be more complicated and can drag on indefinitely. But they are also more democratic and more representative, and skilled negotiation design and facilitation can help to mitigate many of the challenges.

This is why it is important to set strict limits on the agenda. Agreement on, say, a commitment to a multi-confessional,

secular and democratic state should be enough. The framework for the transitional period can be borrowed from successful precedents like those established in South Africa and, more recently, Yemen. United Nations facilitators can help the parties involved reach agreements on a transitional government and a road map to a new constitution, referendum and elections.

The question is what happens until and during the dialogue. This is where the U.N. Security Council can play an important role. It should be easier for all Security Council members, especially China and Russia, to support a plan for an intra-Syrian dialogue that brings all parties together. The Council would permit the use of military power to enforce a ceasefire, regardless of the source of violations. Both the U.S. and Russia might go a step further by creating a joint operations center to monitor a cease-fire and prevent new flows of arms or militants from entering the country.

The international community, especially the U.S., the European Union, China and Russia, along with Turkey, Saudi Arabia and Iran, would have no role to play in an intra-Syrian dialogue. But their support would be crucial, because they would pledge to back any agreement coming out of the dialogue and reject any deal that implies the country's breakup. Without a pledge to preserve Syria's unity, very few Syrians would be willing to negotiate. And, without inclusive negotiations, the war will not end.

Sami Mahroum is academic director of Innovation and Policy at INSEAD.

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The battle for control in the North

Houthi-sponsored Sa'ada wars exhibit reassembles in Sana'a

Story and photos by
Ali Ibrahim Al-Moshki

With the expanding influence of the Houthis as they attempt to secure power in the post-Saleh period, an initial week-long Houthi-backed exhibit has been extended to run for an entire month. Tents have also been added to what is being called a "mobile museum," which includes hand-crafted displays of events and battles from the six wars fought between the group known as the Houthis—Zaidi Shia rebels in the North—and the Yemeni government between 2004 and 2010. The exhibit is being held off of Tahrir Street, near Tahrir Square.

A similar display featuring many of the same exhibits and photographs currently being shown also ran for a week in July. Due to what organizers call popular demand, the extended exhibit was organized to run again this month.

The Cultural Youth Forum, a



group representing the Houthis, organized the event, which began on Oct. 6. They also released a report in early October claiming that 6,531 Houthis were killed in Sa'ada between 2004 and 2010 by government forces.

Supporting Houthis say the point of the exhibit is to give Yemenis a sense of the extent of the dam-

age inflicted upon Sa'ada over the course of six years.

Six of the exhibit's 10 tents were dedicated to visualize effects of the wars. In each of the six tents,

clay and plastic models of prisons, people, homes and other infrastructure were put together to show visitors—most of whom had never been to Sa'ada—the extent of the destruction.

The exhibit included plastic prison models, showing Houthi prisoners being tortured at the National Security Bureau's prisons.

Five television screens were placed in two tents to show photos and video clips of sheikhs, clergy and the former President Ali Abdullah Saleh, giving speeches, which Houthis say incited people against them.

As more Yemenis learn about Sa'ada, Houthi organizers claim they are gaining popularity and even receiving new members.



This model shows an air strike by military warplanes killing a family in Sa'ada.



Marran Mountain in Sa'ada, where Houthis say the military poisoned drinking water.



Nushoor area in Sa'ada is surrounded by mountains. The military imposed a siege around the area during the second war on Sa'ada, leaving many casualties. The war destroyed 3,679 farms in the governorate, according to the exhibit.



Houthis say 2,852 children lost limbs during the wars.



A military prison in Sa'ada that Houthis say was used for torture.



Military forces are accused of blocking humanitarian aid meant to reach civilians in Sa'ada.



A clay model of a mosque in Sa'ada allegedly destroyed by government military forces.



One of the schools damaged in Sa'ada by the military. During the six wars, 466 educational and service facilities were destroyed, Houthis say.



According to statistics compiled by exhibit organizers, 15,384 houses were demolished during the six wars.

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A well known international English language teaching college is about to be announced in Yemen. This college, whose name will be announced in the next few weeks, has a mission of delivering not only quality English language teaching to young Yemeni men and women but also aims to deliver English for special/specific purpose-or ESP-for staff and professionals in the various development sectors covering special courses such as report writing, business and corporate communication, English for Aviation, etc.).

The college will also provide quality training for English language teachers. This training will include Teacher Knowledge Test (TKT) as well as other related professional development courses (such as Distance Delta, teacher training workshops and Celta) to ensure the teaching we deliver represents the highest quality. Our teacher recruitment and deployment program also includes an ongoing teacher training and professional development program, including regular in-service training , peer coaching, professional networking and online (College sponsored) subscription based courses.

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- Supervise, manage and coordinate all logistics related activities from the technical and management point of view in a professional manner.
- Manage the supply chain by ensuring that the program staffs are well informed and well prepared for incoming pipeline and related schedule. Manage supplier list and supplier data base.
- Submit regular weekly and monthly logistics reports to Logistics Manager.
- Assist in the recruitment of national logistics staff in coordination with the Logistics Manager.
- Oversee the team of end-use monitors to verify that distribution has occurred according to the intentions and plans of the donors, Oxfam and project partners.
- Ensure adequate transport means, review transport related documentation and arrange daily transport to the field with the team leaders.
- Line manage Logistics assistant, drivers and security guards.
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- Support in staff development and capacity building activities for logistics staff.

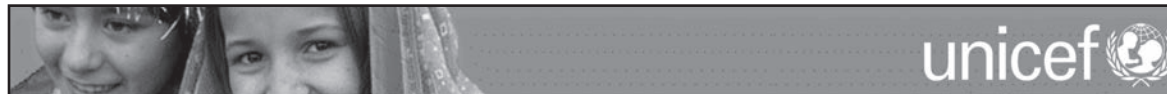
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EXTERNAL VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 46/2013

If you are a committed, creative Yemeni Organisation and are passionate about making a lasting difference for children, the world's leading child rights organization. UNICEF would like to hear from you.

Post Title : EPI RED Consultant
Duration : Elven months
Duty Station : Saada

PURPOSE:

To support the successful implementation of an Equity focused immunization through a traditional RED approach with a strong community based component (which is an innovative approach in Yemen) aimed at reducing the barriers to immunization and to strengthen the routine immunization system.

MAIN DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Programme Planning and Development in the selected districts for the implementation of Equity focused approach:

1. Using an Equity lens, review the micro planning in the selected districts for the implementation of the equitable RED approach, to ensure the vulnerable populations (as per the definition in the equity specific plan of action for Yemen) are located and targeted in the microplans.
2. Accountable for the collection of disaggregated data (age group, gender, geographic location and ethnicity if possible) during the implementation of community based immunization, as planned in microplan.
3. Accountable for proper planning of integrated EPI, MNCH and IMCI sessions in selected districts, before the activity is launched as planned.
4. Accountable for disparity identification and analysis in the selected districts for the implementation of Equity focused approach.
5. Provide Guidance at the Governorate and District levels in the planning and implementation of community based interventions, targeting the underserved.
6. Ensure HSS throughout, Contribute towards ensuring that health systems strengthening efforts address immunization inequities.

Programme Delivery in the selected districts for the implementation of Equity focused approach:

1. Ensure coordination with governorates and districts for planning and proper supervision plan during the implementation of Immunization activities targeting the underserved.
2. Provide guidance and technical support to government and NGOs for planning and service delivery at district level.
3. Identify training needs, coordinate, and participate in the development of training and orientation activities for government personnel and beneficiaries, for the purpose of capacity building, equity and sustainability of the EPI programme and promotion/expansion of coverage of services.
4. Coordinate the integrated health services delivery and health education,
5. Ensure monthly meetings between the community, the CHW and the health facility staff planned and achieved.

Monitoring and Evaluation

1. Ensure timely collection of immunization data and monitoring of immunization coverage for Measles, penta 3, Pneumococcal, Rotavirus, polio in selected districts.
2. Ensure disaggregation of data per gender, age, immunizing officer (health facility or CHW), and district.
3. Analyze and evaluate data to ensure achievement of objectives and recommend corrective measures as appropriate.
4. Provide technical support to government counterparts and other partners on planning and management of integrated monitoring and evaluation of the programme (integrated with

Coordination

1. Behave as the link between UNICEF and EPI /selected Governorates.
2. Ensure coordination of surveillance activities (polio, disease surveillance) with WHO governorate teams.
3. Collaborate with other UNICEF sectors, particularly Nutrition and programme communication to ensure integration of the Immunization Programme with other interventions particularly the CMAM programme.

Expected Deliverables and Time line

- Monthly: Report summarizing Programme Planning and Development activities in the selected districts for the implementation of Equity focused approach (microplaning, Integration with MNCH, IMCI and Nutrition, collection of disaggregated data, Identification and analysis of disparities in specific communities / districts to target the underserved, HSS strengthening through Equity focused approach).
- Monthly: Following the trends and Progress reporting of the implementation of the integrated community based services delivery.
- Quarterly: Use of clear indicators to monitor the achievement and results of immunization coverage among the priority districts selected for inequities: with the EPI data manager, target districts under performing and plan adequately.
- In collaboration with EPI National training specialist at MOH, Ensure quarterly capacity building of district and Governorate data managers with primary focus on priority districts for inequities on Vaccine management, routes of vaccination, safe injection and waste disposal.

Expected Background and Experience

- University Degree in one of the disciplines relevant to the following areas: Medicine, Public Health, Pediatric Health, Global/International Health, Health Policy and Management, Family Health, Socio-medical Sciences, Health Education, Epidemiology, or other fields relevant to immunization.
 - Three (3) years of practical professional field experience in public health / immunization / IMCI / MNCH / Nutrition at national, governorate or district level in development, planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of health/Immunization programs.
 - Fluency in Arabic with a working knowledge of English (written and spoken).
 - Computer literacy; including knowledge of spread sheet, word processing,
 - Specific Technical Knowledge
- Knowledge of latest theories, principles, methods and technology in a significant number of the following areas:**
- Immunization programmes
 - Immunizations
 - Health system planning and management
 - Public Health training material development and conduct of training programme

If you meet the requirements stated above, please send your application, enclosing comprehensive curriculum vitae, duly completed United Nations Personal History form (which can be downloaded from www.unicef.org/employ) stating telephone number, email address and detailed contact address quoting the vacancy number to: **yemenhr@unicef.org** **not later than 10 days from the date of this publication.** For additional information on UNICEF, please visit our website: **www.unicef.org**

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Only short listed candidates will be contacted.



IDPs return amid continuing insecurity in Yemen's war-torn Abyan

IRIN

First Published Oct. 7

A large-scale aid effort focused on rebuilding conflict-hit Abyan Governorate in southern Yemen is yielding positive results, but more than a year after Al-Qaeda-linked militants were driven out, the police and an accompanying sense of security-have yet to return.

Most residents have moved back though, markets have sprung to life, rebuilding work has begun and an international aid effort has helped people restart their lives.

With landmines largely cleared, and schools and hospitals being rebuilt, the attention for aid workers is now switching from emergency provision, to early recovery and livelihoods, even if many of the underlying challenges of security and development remain.

"This was the fastest return I've ever seen - I never thought this would happen," Asif Hayat, head of Aden's Mercy Corps office, told IRIN. "They [displaced people] started going back very soon and we even had to redesign our program mid-implementation to do our distribution through the communities that had returned."

Unlike the more protracted displacement crisis in the north of Yemen, Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) who had fled Abyan en masse to the neighboring governorates of Aden and al-Lahj started returning in large numbers not long after government forces drove back Ansar Al-Sharia (Partisans of Islamic Law) militants in late June 2012.

The latest IDP figures from the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) show 162,253 IDPs have returned to Abyan since the crisis, while just 6,133 IDPs remained outside the governorate as of the end of April.

Insecurity hampers aid delivery

But the security situation is a major concern, and something that continues to hamper the delivery of aid in Abyan, especially following a perceived deterioration in security in the last six months.

In May, staff with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) were kidnapped on two separate occasions within a few days. They have since cut back on surgical support at the main hospital in Jaar, even if they continue to provide medical support, and will hand over two rehabilitated hospital wings in mid-October.

"We continue to work and expand our program where the security situation allows and with difficulties of access for international staff," said Daniel Cavoli, head of the ICRC's Aden sub-delegation, "but we've been able to implement our program and are working hard to serve Abyan."

The restrictions mean the monitoring of aid programs is more difficult, and international agencies often depend on local partners to help implement projects.

"When you implement with locals you find it easier to penetrate," said Manenji Mangundu, program manager for Oxfam in the southern city of Aden. He said beneficiary villages are often best placed to provide security updates.

But he said the capacity of local partners can be limited, something

other aid workers also said was an issue.

"The security fabric has not changed, which means travel for program staff to the field is extremely restricted," said Hayat from Mercy Corps.

"We are trying with remotely managed programs with local implementing partners - local staff better able to move around. But this brings with it a lot of monitoring challenges and quality issues; our engineering projects require specialist monitoring and guidance."

One strategy has been to introduce lots of benchmark payment mechanisms to keep a steady evaluation going of a program's implementation. But in areas like micro-finance, lenders have been difficult to attract because they fear they will have few means of chasing up repayments.

Unpopular "Popular Committees"

On the road from Aden to Abyan's capital, Zinjibar, after an initial police checkpoint, almost all the subsequent roadblocks are manned by members of the armed "Popular Committees".

These were the groups co-opted by the government to help drive out Ansar Al-Sharia militants, and they continue to be responsible for day-to-day law and order.

"They are the people in control of everything - they are police, judge, everything," said Abdullah Masq Saleh, an IDP from Abyan still living in Aden. "No-one can say that security is returning to Abyan. There are no official security forces. We want a police station. There are only checkpoints of Popular Committees."

The "Popular Committees" are varied in terms of their composition; some were local self-defense groups created by communities for their own protection against Ansar Al-Sharia, others were motivated by a religious belief that al-Qaeda-allied militants were un-Islamic; while others were armed groups formerly allied to Ansar Al-Sharia who agreed a truce with the government and switched sides.

The Committees' situation remains ambiguous, not least because of their lack of uniforms and the limited funds they receive from the state. Aid workers complain that it is often difficult to differentiate the Committees' forces (some of whom seem to be children), from tribal gangs, criminals, or even Ansar Al-Sharia.

"The Popular Committees are patrolling and they are the decision-makers, but they have no background in justice, in law - they are just taking their arms and acting as judges and police," said Abdullah Mohammed Al-Jifry, an analyst who works with the Abyan Social Cohesion Organization, which tries to reduce community conflicts.

"The danger with the Committees is that even the communities are now complaining about them. The Committees themselves are sometimes in conflict with each other - and with the tribes as well."

Al-Jifry said the Committees could only serve as a temporary stopgap until the government is able to provide a more professional service and also tackle the underlying issues that encourage insecurity, like the lack of development and the neglect of the governorate

by the state.

Ansar Al-Sharia was able to take control of Abyan and seek to establish what they called an Islamic caliphate in 2011 because of the weakness of the central government, which at the time was struggling to control Arab Spring-inspired protests. Some locals credit Ansar Al-Sharia with establishing a degree of stability in Abyan because of its ability to impose order on warring tribes.

Al-Qaeda-affiliated militants remain active in the governorates to the east of Abyan and assassinations and attacks by various groups have spiked in recent weeks in major cities and towns across the country.

Some community leaders fear Ansar Al-Sharia could return to Abyan, pointing particularly to the recent rise in the building of mosques that are not under the control of the state, and that could harbor extremists.

"We are still dependent on the Popular Committees for security, but the government has a very serious intention to bring back the police, hopefully this year," Mahdi Hamed, head of the services committee on Abyan local council, told IRIN. "The committees don't really have the capacity to rule everything."

The head of the government's Executive Unit for IDPs in the south, Col Abdullah Mohammed Al-Duhaimi, said things were improving: "The biggest problem was the security. Alhamdulillah [praise be to God], nowadays we can say that it is more than 90 percent better than it was before. Still we need very strong government intervention - it's been very low so far."

The local government recognizes that security has improved even if "it is not yet what it was," says Hamed. But he does not see Ansar Al-Sharia returning. "We just hope that these things never happen again. There's no chance for war to come back - we don't wish it and we don't expect it. We've suffered more than enough. Abyan suffered and paid a lot."

On the security front, major progress has at least been made on dealing with the issue of mines and unexploded weaponry. "Things are safer; life is going back to normal," said Iskander Yousouf, who until recently was coordinating work in the south of Yemen for the Mines Action Centre (YEMAC). Since May 2012 they say they have cleared 10 zones of mines, removing around 80,000 mines and unexploded ordnance.

"Life is coming back"

The devastation caused by the fighting between the government and Ansar Al-Sharia militants left few buildings untouched in the areas where fighting took place.

The humanitarian coordinator for Yemen, Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed, told IRIN it was vital to help people rebuild their homes and communities, and to give them the skills to earn a livelihood.

"What we are worried about is that these people will go back [to Ansar Al-Sharia] again because we know from facts that Al-Qaeda used to provide support to the families," he said.

"So if these people don't see any effort from the international community or from the government, and the government has very limited capacity now, they will go back as again more dangerous than before, and that could be an element that could make the whole [transition] process collapse."

The immediate work focused on restoring water and electricity services in the towns and cities, and rebuilding the physical infrastructure. Many residents have now received partial grants from the specially-



established Abyan Reconstruction Fund, although several people from Abyan complained to IRIN that the varying amounts people receive were unfair, and said corruption was rife.

A recent assessment by Mercy Corps suggested returnees' appetite for non-food items (distributed in large numbers) was diminishing and the majority of those assessed stressed the importance of providing long-term livelihood support.

Humanitarian agencies like the

ICRC, the International Organization for Migration, and Mercy Corps have been running cash-for-work projects and livelihoods training, including cleaning irrigation channels, providing fishing equipment and distributing seeds.

"There's almost now an issue of overcrowding - it's hard to find a beneficiary who hasn't received some support," said Mercy Corps' Hayat. "As long as we can support a same family in different ways then I'm in support, but we don't want us

to train one person in mechanics, in farming and in commerce."

But coordination has helped, he says. "The clusters here are very effective - I'd say they are the most coordinated I've come across."

And Hamed from the local council in Abyan is also upbeat about the work done so far by U.N. agencies and others: "The infrastructure-everything in Abyan-has come back."

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• مطلوب مدرسين للعمل في المدارس التركية اليمنية لكافة التخصصات العلمية والأدبية القسم العلمي قسم انجليزي حاصلين على بكالوريوس كحد أدنى مع خبرة 3 سنوات.ت: 525121، فاكس: 525124

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عن الثانوية العامة، رخصة قيادة سارية المفعول، خبرة لاتقل عن سنة في نفس المجال، يرجى إرسال السيرة الذاتية على فاكس رقم: 261262-01 أو التواصل على الرقم 510788-01

سيارات

• سيارة BMW 318 موديل 99 علما أن شكل السيارة من (-99 2005) نفس الشكل ذو محرك 4 اسطوانات بناقل سرعة اتوماتيكي، أسود ملكي. السعر 7000 دولار قابل للتفاوض. 733824568

عقارات

• للبيع: سيارة BMW موديل 91، بحالة جيدة، جيد عادي لون أسود. 736336666، 777773688

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• مبنى دورين على شارع 16 الذي يتوسط الخط الدائري الغربي وشارع هائل ، 4 لبن، أرض حره. الدور الأول حجر كله ومسلح، الدور الثاني الواجهة فقط حجر للإتصال: 777384017

معاهد

٠١/٤٤٥٤٨٣/٣/٤
٠١/٢٦٤٢٣١
ف: ٠١/٥٥٧٤١٥
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معهد يالي
معهد التي
المعهد البريطاني للغات والكمبيوتر
معهد اكسيد
معهد مالي
معهد هورايين

شركات التأمين

٠١/٥٥٥٥٥٥
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الشركة اليمنية للإسالمية للتأمين
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مدارس

تلفاكس: ٠١/٤٤٠٨٤٠
موبايل: ٧٣٣٤٥٥٦٤٥
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روضة واحة الأطفال
مدرسة رينبو
مدارس صنعاء الدولية
مدرسة التركيبة الدولية
مدرسة منارات

سفريات

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عند ٠١/٥٣٥٠٨٠
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قدس فلاي
سكاي للسفريات والسياحة
عطلات الصقر
مركز أعمال الصقر
العالمية للسفريات والسياحة

مطاعم

مطعم ومخازنة الشيباني (باسم محمد عبده الشيباني)
تلفون: ٥٧٣٦٦٢ - ١٠٠٩٢٥٠ - ١٠٠٥٧٣٦٢ فاكس: ٩١٦٧٦٢

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BETTER KNOW A NEIGHBORHOOD: A YEMEN TIMES SERIES

Lively Tahrir mixes the masses

cluding Aden. Patrons say Restaurant Street, which popped over 20-years-ago, brings Sana'a's residents together to indulge in popular Yemeni dishes, satisfy their taste buds and to debate politics.

Chairs made of both iron and wood offer support to the district's locals, many of whom stop by for a simple, but classic, tea with mint.

Sana'anis and non city dwellers from all social classes—the skilled, unskilled, highly-educated, soldiers and those tasked with cleaning the city's streets—can be found in the neighborhood joint. Many restaurant frequenters say the restaurants offer a space to openly discuss current events.

Mohammed Shahir has been a Tahrir resident for over 20 years. His favorite restaurant on the row is Mina Aden for Popular Dishes—one of Tahrir's most famed eateries with food hailing from the Southern port city. With its long coast that has been conquered and re-conquered for centuries, Aden is a seafood enthusiast's dream. This Adeni restaurant, located in heart of Sana'a, does

not disappoint, Shahir says. Grilled fish is a favorite, served with rice or bread and spicy tomato salsa called sahawick. Another popular dish is salona, a spicy potato dish.

Despite living on the other side of the city, Yahya Abu Talib, who is retired, comes to Restaurant Street every morning with his friends for breakfast. After finishing his daily tea, he warmly parts from his friends and takes a walk through the district.

"Tahrir is my love. It is the epitome of beauty, magic and civility," Abu Talib says.

Bordering the Old City, Tahrir is not only famed for its culinary traditions but also its antiquity. It's one of the oldest neighborhoods in Sana'a. It hosts several government institutions and ministries, including the Ministry of Culture, The Army Morale Guidance Department, Parliament and the Cabinet, among others.

But Abu Talib says the government, despite its presence in Tahrir, neglects the district. Disorder and disorganization started three years

ago, he said, when supporters of the former regime of Ali Abdullah Saleh set-up camps in Tahrir Square during the popular uprising that eventually forced Saleh to step down. The square which is now vacant was at one point covered in large tents housing pro-Saleh protesters.

"It became one of the most and crowded and noisiest districts in the capital," Talib says.

While other parts of the city tend to quiet down around 9 p.m., people in Tahrir can be spotted out until past midnight.

Tahrir also has a rich history. The Sept. 26, 1962 revolution, which brought down the imam—started in Tahrir. The events which began in 1962 and continued for years brought down a kingdom and transformed the country into a republic.

Ali Al-Shawqani is a retired security guard who continues to watch over Tahrir Square, out of his love for it. He has been guarding the square for over 35 years, he says.

Sitting on one corner of the square, an older gentlemen named Saeed Al-Sabghi told the Yemen Times that Tahrir was a part of him.

"This place is inseparable from me. I come here every now and then



Offering horse rides in Tahrir help this local provide for his family.

to sit and mull over the events of my life and to think about what is going on around me," Al-Sabghi said. "It's where I feel relaxed."

Now that the uprising tents are gone, people fill the square on Friday, rushing to have their photos taken as they ride the horses that offer entertainment in the area.

Ahmed Al-Madhaji owns one of the horses, using it to earn a living. Every morning he leaves his home in the Bab Al-Sabah area of the Old City with his brown horse and heads to the square. A photo on the horse costs YR500, about \$2.50.

"This horse and Tahrir Square are my only source of income," he says.

The square isn't the only place to making a living in Tahrir. Tahrir has markets, including the one on Jamal Street that sells clothing, footwear, perfumes, glasses and household products.

"After the Old City, Tahrir is [probably] the most popular destination for people who need to do some shopping," Nawal Al-Humidi, a local resident says. While Hadda has abundant products in stock, Tahrir has cheaper prices, she adds.

The ease of transportation to Tahrir makes it popular destination for non-Tahrir residents who come to visit its markets, museums, hamams, hotels and restaurants.

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