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**Home away from home:** A group of Somali men, who identified themselves as refugees, gather on a busy street in Sana'a. Yemeni officials are currently meeting with international organizations to discuss ways for Yemen to assist its swelling population of migrants and refugees from the Horn of Africa. **Read more on Page 2**  
 (Photo by Ali Ibrahim Al-Moshki)

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## Yemeni officials sit with NGOs to discuss migrant and refugee issues

As thousands continue to pour in from the Horn of Africa, Yemen examines its economic burden

Story and photo by  
Ali Ibrahim Al-Moshki

SANA'A, Nov. 11—The National Committee for Refugee Affairs announced on Monday that there currently more than one million African refugees in Yemen. The committee said the number includes both those who have entered the country with legal paperwork and those who have not.

The announcement was made during the opening session of a regional conference being held in Sana'a on asylum and migration from the Horn of Africa to Yemen. The conference, which will run through Wednesday, was organized by Yemeni officials, in cooperation with the United Nations High Com-

missioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

Conference organizers say they are working to establish a regional plan to combat and reduce human smuggling and trafficking of refugees and migrants, an issue of growing concern for NGOs.

Yemen, a country already coping with high unemployment and levels of poverty, is spending large sums of money to support non-nationals that find their way to the Arabian state. Ali Muthana Hassan, Yemen's deputy minister of foreign affairs and head of the National Committee for Refugee Affairs, said Yemen spends about \$1.2 billion on its refugee and migrant population every year, a sum the nation cannot afford.

There was also a call at the conference for more financial support to assist refugees and migrants to return to their home countries voluntarily.

"We will try to set up a mecha-



Yemen is the only country in the Arabian Peninsula that is a signatory of the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 protocol.

nism to deal with legal migrants and assist them to [return home]," said Christopher Horwood, the coordinator of the Regional Mixed Migration Secretariat, a small unit associated with UNHCR.

Although Horwood recognized the economic burden refugees and

migrants can place on a country, he praised Yemen for its tolerant role in accepting displaced populations.

"Yemen has put in tremendous efforts to assist refugees. All countries in the region should act like Yemen," he said.

## NDC inches closer to wrapping up as political factions offered compromises

Mohammed Al-Hasani

SANA'A, Nov. 11—Angered political factions at the National Dialogue Conference (NDC), namely the General Peoples Congress (GPC) and the Southern Movement (Hirak), have showed willingness to continue to progress the conference forward after members from both groups have stalled talks by staging boycotts.

"We need to show progress to the world and put more pressure on the political factions to come to an agreement and conclude the conference, which should have finished on Sept. 18," said Dr. Yasin Saeed Noman, the deputy chairman of the conference, who also led the plenary session on Monday.

"We want to get all the [Working Groups] reports, except for Southern Issue and State Building, out of the way before the U.N. Security Council's meeting on Yemen on the 13th of this month," Noman said.

The Sa'ada Working Group's final report was discussed on Monday, and the Good Governance Working Group reached a consensus on their report later Monday night. The Transitional Justice Working Group's report remains to be discussed this week.

NDC representatives say next week the conference will be paying undivided attention to the Southern Issue Working Group's report. The State Building Working Group's report, which is expected to be the last to be presented, hinges on the Southern Issue's report.

Under pressure from the U.N., the 85-member Hirak bloc at the National Dialogue Conference (NDC) resumed official participation as a whole on Saturday following an over month-long boycott by roughly half of its members.

The rift between the members of the Hirak who continued to participate throughout the conference and those boycotting was bridged

by politicians in the conference and the U.N. special envoy to Yemen, Jamal Benomar, who is leaving Yemen on Tuesday to present his report to the U.N. Security Council.

"The return of the Southern Movement representatives is based on their belief that the Southern Issue will be heard fairly," said Abdullah Naji, a prominent Southern Movement leader.

"In recognition of efforts made by the U.N. special envoy to Yemen, the Gulf Cooperation Council's representative and ambassadors of the ten countries, the peaceful organization of the Southern Movement has decided to resume participation in all works of the NDC," the Southern Movement said in a written statement.

There appears to be progress to draw boycotting GPC members back into talks as well. The GPC had left talks due to disputes largely centered on questions regarding former President Ali Abdulla Saleh's immunity in the Good Governance and Transitional Justice Working Groups. Saleh is part of the GPC.

While members of the Good Governance Working Group, including Mubarak Al-Bahhar, an independent youth participant, have advocated for a removal of the immunity that was granted to Saleh via the internationally-backed Gulf Cooperation Council's Initiative, as a compromise to GPC members, the issue has been deferred to the Transitional Justice Working Group.

"[Saleh] is still messing around and causing problems so this is why we as youth of the revolution feel that the immunity deal should be cancelled," said Al-Bahhar.

Compromises include a new article that instead of trying to remove Saleh's immunity would prevent the former president and close family members from running for political office once the new government is formed.

### Correction:

A news story on the second page of the Yemen Times published on Thursday, Nov. 7, 2013, entitled, 'Race for Survival' marathon draws attention to malnourishment among children, included an incorrect reference to the Tawasul Foundation. The article identified the organization as a local partner of the CARE organization. The Foundation is a local partner of Save the Children.

## Human Rights Ministry to meet Yemeni deportees at Saudi border

Ali Ibrahim Al-Moshki

SANAA, Nov. 11—A five-member team from the Human Rights Ministry was stationed at the Saudi-Yemeni border crossing at Hardh in Hajja governorate on Sunday. The team is receiving Yemeni migrant workers who are being deported from the neighboring country, following a change in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's labor law.

More than 55,000 Yemenis have been deported back to Yemen so far, according to Col. Abdulla Hadi, a director at Yemen's passport control authority.

According to Saudi's revised labor regulations, which went

into effect last Tuesday, foreign workers must now work for their original visa sponsor exclusively. Before the implementation of the revisions to the Saudi regulations, many Yemenis, who legally entered Saudi Arabia, were allowed to work for several companies, after initially being brought over by a sponsor company that guided their visa proceedings.

"The [Yemeni human rights] team will meet with the deported expats and make sure humane conditions are being carried out during the deportation procedures," said Mutasim Al-Fatish, the general manager of notifications and complaints at the Human Rights Ministry and head of

the team stationed at the border.

According to Fuad Al-Ghaffari, assistant to the Minister of Human Rights, Hooria Mashhour, the ministry has received numerous complaints about police brutality at the border.

Amjad Al-Khawlani, a deported Yemeni migrant, said he experienced physical abuse at the border.

"Some of my friends and I were beaten by Saudi security guards. They took about SR2,000 [\$533] from me," he said.

On Saturday, Mashhour called on Saudi Arabia to treat Yemeni laborers being deported with respect and to maintain humanitarian standards at the border.



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Eligible students include men and women who represent the region's cultural, religious, and geographic diversity and are from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds, who could otherwise gain admission to, but would be unable to afford, four years of college. Tomorrow's Leaders scholarship recipients should be prepared to begin the program in the Fall 2014 term.

The primary objective of the MEPI's Tomorrow's Leaders scholarship program is to build a cadre of university-age leaders who are civic-minded, intellectually able, and professionally skilled, who will become the community, business, and national leaders of the future. The program intends to nurture leadership skills and the spirit of civic engagement and volunteerism among outstanding university-age students at the American University of Beirut, the American University in Cairo, and the Lebanese American University. Selected students will join the 165 Tomorrow's Leaders already studying at these universities.

Scholarship recipients may pursue an eligible undergraduate degree in a selected field at one of the three host institutions. In addition to their studies, recipients will be expected to engage in community service activities and participate in internships. Limited English-language training will be provided for some participants.

Participation in the program includes: travel, academic fees for four years of university at AUB, AUC, or LAU, a study abroad experience in the U.S., accident and sickness insurance, housing, and a monthly allowance during the school year.

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Further information is available at [amideast.org/tl](http://amideast.org/tl) or [amideast.org/yemen](http://amideast.org/yemen). Information about the Middle East Partnership Initiative is available online at [mepi.state.gov](http://mepi.state.gov).

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# Never-ending lines

**Gas shortages lead to congested stations and impatient consumers**

**Story and photo by Nasser Al-Sakkaf**

SANAA, Nov. 11—Crowds of people have been queuing at gas stations in Sana'a and other cities across the nation since the middle of last week, waiting their turn to fill their tanks with a supply that is not being replenished fast enough.

The Ministry of Oil says the gas shortage is a result of random roadblocks by tribesmen across the country.

The spokesperson for Yemen's Oil Ministry, Abulqawi Al-Odaini told the Yemen Times that oil tankers bound for the capital are being forced off the road as tribesmen—who unofficially control the areas—erect security checkpoints.

Ayman Mohammed, a taxi-driver in the capital Sana'a, said he waited at a gas station for half an hour in order to refuel his car. Others have reported waits as long as



**A fear that Sana'a could run out of gas supplies has caused consumers to buy more than they immediately need.**

two hours.

Asem Ali, a worker at a gas station in Sana'a, said fuel is reaching stations, but it's not keeping up with demand. It seems like the lines never stop, he said.

The shortage is also being exacerbated by a fear that the country

will run out of fuel, Al-Odaini said. People are buying more than they need to stockpile it, he said.

Sana'anis typically consume 1 million liters of gas per day, according to Al-Odaini, but demand has recently increased to 1.5 million liters.

"People have repeatedly been threatened by gas shortages. This leads them to want to store it," said Latifa Al-Thawr, a professor of economics at Sana'a University. "But it just creates more shortages."

Many believe the state's inability to protect roads from armed groups and a fear of running out of gas is only part of the reason stations are drying up. In an interview with the Yemen Times, investigative journalist, Mohammed Al-Absi, said the government's lack of cash to pay for imported fuel is a key reason behind the long lines of cars at stations.

The government has been increasingly importing fuel and diesel due to a decrease in Yemen's oil production, according to a report by the Central Bank of Yemen (CBY) released in late August.

According to the report, the state spent roughly \$1.8 billion on imported gasoline from January to August of this year.

Officials at the Oil Ministry declined to comment on a government cash shortage.

The price of gas currently in Sana'a is YR125 (\$0.6) per liter.

## Food and oil prices spike in Sa'ada as conflict continues

**Pro-Salafi tribesmen block major route, prohibit the transport of supplies**

**Rammah Al-Jubari**

SANAA, Nov. 11—There has been a hike in food and oil prices in the North as armed, pro-Salafi tribesmen continue to occupy unofficial checkpoints on the road connecting Sa'ada to Haradh, in Hajja governorate, as part of a growing conflict with Houthis in the area.

The tribesmen have been block-

ing the transport of supplies on the road since Wednesday.

"We don't block the road at all times. We are only prohibiting weapons and food supplies from entering the areas [controlled] by the Houthis," said Ali Masood, one of the pro-Salafis tribesmen.

However, Sa'ada residents say they are being affected. Ez Al-Deen Moaid told the Yemen Times that the prices of almost all food items have doubled and that residents are about to run out of cooking gas.

"A gas cylinder was YR1,300 [\$6] a week ago, but the price has

risen to YR3,000 [\$14], and the price of everything [else] is [also] increasing," Moaid said.

Food and fuel prices are expected to continue to rise if the roadblock is not dismantled.

Sad Rakan, the director of Supply and Trade in Sa'ada, said residents' reactions to the blocked road is also contributing to the price hikes.

"Traders are taking advantage of the fear [that there might not be more]. Residents are contributing to the hikes by purchasing more than they need," he said.

Masood says residents are free

to enter and leave the area as they wish. Merchants and traders are allowed to enter the area if a non-Houthi sheikh can confirm that they are not Houthis, he said.

Several local sources have countered this claim, saying it is very hard to get out of the area.

The operations officer at the Industry and Trade Office in Sa'ada, Abdulmalik Al-Shara'abi, said a few people are getting through, but most people fear for their lives and aren't attempting to even try to use the blocked road, adding that public transportation has seized to exist since the road blocks began.

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# Palpable disparity: 'Opportunities afforded to women are not many'



**Yemeni women respond to dead-last ranking in recent Global Gender Gap Report**

**Samar Qaed**

The World Economic Forum (WEF), an international NGO headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, issued its eighth annual report on the global gender gap at the end of October, ranking Yemen as the worst country out of 136 for gender equality.

The 2013 statistics focus on four areas—education, health, economics and politics—where reductions in gender inequality have narrowed in countries throughout the world. However, Yemen as well as other low-ranking nations like Pakistan and Chad, failed to move up the list.

A country's rank is based on an overall score in the four areas, which is expressed as a percent. According to the WEF's website, "the Index is designed to measure gender-based gaps in access to resources and opportunities in individual countries rather than the actual levels of the available resources and opportunities in those countries." For example, "the Index penalizes or rewards countries based on the size of the gap between male and female enrollment rates but not for the overall levels of education in the country.

According to the report, 86 countries reduced their political participation gender gap between 2012-



**Nabeela Al-Mufti**

2013. Despite what was seen by many as a turning of the tide during Yemen's 2011 popular uprising when thousands of Yemeni women took to the streets to demand political reform, the country did not earn high marks in terms of closing a political gender gap in the nation. Yemen remains one of the few countries in the world with only one female member of Parliament.

However, Yemen is currently debating at its post-uprising, reconciliatory talks—the National Dialogue Conference (NDC)—whether it will enact a 30 percent quota for women when its new government is formed.

Saudi Arabia, Yemen's neighbor to the north, known for its restrictive gender-based laws, including barring women from driving, ranked slightly better than Yemen at 127. The WEF's report founder and co-author Saadia Zahidi said in an interview with the BBC that



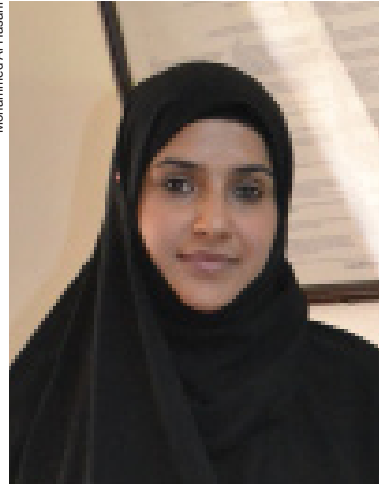
**Naderah Abdulqadus**

Saudi is an example of a country that is investing in education and health but is not integrating women into its economy, preventing it from closing a wide gender gap.

The Yemen Times asked some well-known Yemeni female political and social figures for their reactions to the most recent report, including whether they thought it was reflective of the country's current situation.

**Nabeela Al-Mufti, human rights activist and NDC representative**

"I agree with the results of the report. Developmental disparities [between men and women] are significant in every aspect. Opportunities afforded to women are not many. They are usually only granted these opportunities for political motives or partisan interests, not to boost education or improve health access. For example, female en-



**Amal Al-Makhdi**

rollment in public schools is low, but there is no plan to do anything about this. So the situation persists, unchanged. This happens because there is no government financial backing to increase the number of females working, in comparison to males, in institutions. Women's societal participation should be practical. This can be obtained by reinforcing legislation that guarantees women's rights."

**Naderah Abdulqadus, writer and journalist**

"With regard to Yemen's ranking in the report, it makes sense in a country that has low levels of education, [high] illiteracy and drop-out rates and a lack of law enforcement. Part of the problem happened after unity when many laws were changed. There was a law in [former] South Yemen called the Family Law that was known for its protection of women and guaranteeing women's



**Asma Al-Zindani**

social rights. But this law was annulled after the country unified [in 1990]. This has contributed to the spread of child marriages and negative consequences that come along with it. How will Yemen ever rank at the top of international reports on freedoms and rights when women are not given the chance to be part of the decision-making process? We see a number of women in leading roles, but this not typical. Two or three women in the government pyramid does not mean Yemen should be celebrating. There is only one woman in Parliament."

**Amal Al-Makhdi, NDC representative for Ansar Allah, the political wing of the Houthis**

"[I'm not surprised] that Yemen came in last in the report. Women in rural areas still work unpaid while men make money. So the gap is still big. Because of a lack of development, health and education

services in rural areas, women will continue facing difficulties in pursuing their studies. Meanwhile, males [have opportunities] to go to cities [where options are greater]. Educational infrastructure should be provided so that women in rural areas can reach university levels. Saudi Arabia appeared ahead of Yemen in the report because of Saudi's healthy economy. However, I believe Yemeni women are more politically active in comparison with Saudi women. This is positive."

**Asma Al-Zindani, a member of the Islah Party and lecturer at Al-Eman University**

"I respect and trust the annual report of the World Economic Forum. What I am concerned about is the way women are not being perceived in accordance with Islamic Sharia [law], which guarantees women's rights. People's separation from religious doctrine has made women's rights difficult to reach. Women are vulnerable because people, both those in power and not, do not reinforce Sharia. If Sharia law is followed, our scientific and economic situation will improve. We will then be able to achieve things. However, we have become unfamiliar with our religion. Therefore, the solution is to create an institutionally Islamic civil state that treats everyone equally. Otherwise, Yemen will continue to appear at the bottom of the list for international reports on freedoms, rights and economics."



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# Asking the wrong questions: Did Arab revolutions fail?

Ramzy Baroud  
TripoliPost.com  
First Published Nov. 5

Challenging the falsehoods and simplifications that surrounded the so-called Arab Spring from the very start doesn't necessarily mean that one is in doubt of the very notion that genuine revolutions have indeed gripped various Arab countries for nearly three years.

In fact, the revolutionary influx is still underway, and it will take many years before the achievements of these popular mobilizations are truly felt. One can understand the frustration and deep sense of disappointment resulting from the state of chaos in Libya, the political wrangling in Yemen and Tunisia, the brutal civil war in Syria, and of course, the collective heartbreak felt throughout the Arab world following the bloody events in Egypt.

But to assign the term "failure" to Arab revolutions is also a mistake equal to the many miscalculations that accompanied the nascent revolutions and uprisings from the start. Many lapses of judgment were made early on, starting with the lumping together of all Arab countries into one category—discussed as singular news or academic topics.

It was most convenient for a newspaper to ask such a question as, "who's next?" when Libya's Muammar Al-Gaddafi was so pitilessly murdered by NATO-supported rebels. It is equally convenient for academics to keep contending with why the Egyptian army initially took the side of the January 25 Revolution, the Syrian army sided with the ruling party, and why the Yemeni army descended into deep divisions.

In the rush to emphasize one's intellectual authority, if not ownership over the narrative and for political reasons as well, the Arabs were dissected in every possible way, stretched in every possible direction, and reduced in ways so useful, yet so flawed, so that quick answers could be obtained.

While answers were readily available of why the Arabs revolted, time has proven much of the early discourses inane and misleading. The direction of these revolutions has headed in sharply different ways.

This is a testament to the uniqueness of circumstances, historical and otherwise, which surround each country—as opposed to the wholesale representation offered by the media. It is an argument I made soon after Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali fled the country.

My argument was a response to the euphoria of expectations made by media "experts" and journalists who clearly had little understanding, or dare I say, respect of history or knowledge about the complex realities in which each Arab country is situated.

Many went on to write books, while others inspired audiences around the world with fiery speeches about collective Arab Islamic awakenings even before we conjured up basic ideas of what was

truly manifesting before our own eyes. These manifestations were at times very violent and involved many players, from Qatar to China, and groups so varied in roots, ideology and sources of funds.

But as the plot thickened, much of the distorted accounts of "twitter revolutions" and such, grew less relevant and eventually faded away. Take the case of Libya as an example.

Those with simple answers, reflecting truly modest understanding of Arab societies, could hardly understand the complex nature of Libya's tribal society, the socioeconomics governing relations between East and West, urban areas with desert towns and Libya's African context and relationships.

When NATO used the Libyan uprising, mostly in the eastern parts of the country, to achieve its own political objectives, it converted a regional uprising into an all-out war that left the country in a status comparable to that of a failed state.

Almost immediately after NATO declared the Libyan revolution victorious, the excitement over the Libyan component of the "Arab Spring" became less visible, and eventually completely dissipated. Since then Libya has hardly followed a path of democracy and reforms.

In fact, the harms that resulted from the Libyan crisis, such as the massive influx of weapons and refugees to other African countries, destabilized the entire country of Mali.

As a result, Mali too went through its own upheaval, military coup, civil war and finally a French-led war in the course of two years. Unfortunately, these issues are hardly discussed within the Libyan context since Mali is not Arab, thus such inconvenient stories do no service to the simplified "Arab Spring" discourse.

The consequences of the Libyan fiasco will continue to reverberate for many years to come. But since simple arguments cannot cope with intricate narratives, media "experts" and other intellectual peddlers have moved elsewhere, selling the same tired arguments about other Arab countries by insisting on the same failed, expedient logic.

While some parties continue to ascribe the same language they used in the early months of 2011 to these revolutions, the shortcomings of these revolutions eventually gave credence to those who insist that the "Arab Spring" was entirely a farce-incepted, controlled and manipulated by U.S. hands, and funds of rich Arab countries.

These critics either have no faith in Arab masses as a possible factor of change in their own countries or have been so accustomed to judging the world and all of its happenings as a colossal conspiracy where the U.S. and its friends are the only wheelers and dealers.

As vigilant as one must remain to the many drivels promoted as news in mass media, one must not fall into the trap of seeing the world through the prism of an American plot in which we are co-conspirators, hapless fools or unwilling participants.

Arab revolutions have not failed, at least not yet. It will take us years, or maybe even an entire generation to assess their failures or successes. They have "failed" according to our hyped expectations and erroneous understanding of history.

What popular revolutions do is that they introduce new factors that challenge the way countries are ruled. In post-colonial Middle East, Arab countries were ruled through dictators—and their local associates—and foreign powers.

The harmony and clashes between the dictator and the foreigner determined the course of events in most Arab countries—in fact in most post-colonial experiences around the world.

This is where the real significance of the mass mobilizations in Arab countries becomes very important, for the "people"—a factor that is still far from being fully defined—challenged the rules of the game and mixed up the cards.

True, they sent the entire region into disarray, but it is the price one would expect when long-disempowered, disorganized, and oppressed people challenge powerful regimes and foreign powers.

Arab revolutions have not failed, but they have not succeeded either. They have simply challenged the status quo like never before. The outcome of the new conflicts will define the politics of the region, its future, and the relationships between governments and the upcoming generations of Arabs.

Ramzy Baroud is an internationally-syndicated columnist and the editor of *PalestineChronicle.com*. His latest book is *My Father Was a Freedom Fighter: Gaza's Untold Story* (Pluto Press, London).



## OXFAM

### INVITATION TO TENDER FOR SUPPLY OF WATER EQUIPMENT, MATERIALS AND CONSTRUCTION OF WATER NETWORKS

Oxfam is a development, relief and campaigning organization dedicated to finding lasting solutions to poverty and suffering around the world. We believe that every human being is entitled to a life of dignity and opportunity; and we work with poor communities, local partners, volunteers, and supporters to help this become a reality.

OXFAM is inviting tenders for the following:

1. Ref No: OX/YEMEN/REQ 7101, 7102, 7103— Supply & delivery of polyethylene pipes and fittings.
2. Ref No: OX/YEMEN/REQ 7109, 7141— Supply, delivery & installation of submersible pumps & generators.
3. Ref No: OX/YEMEN/REQ 7119— Construction of elevated tank and pumping room in Al Durdihah district.
4. Ref No: OX/YEMEN/REQ 7120, 7121— Civil Works of Water Supply in Bani Helal and Al Durdihah districts

Tender documents are available for collection from our offices in Yemen as follow:

Sana'a office located in Diplomatic area, Tel: 01- 444568/9	Aden Office, Located in Khour Makser, Tel: 02- 232271
Hodeidah office, located in trading area, Tel: 03- 219383	Haradh office, located in main road, Tel: 07- 245420

Please report at the reception desk with official letter from your company. Tender documents will be issued at the logistics office between 9.00A.M to 4.00 PM. Tender documents will be issued from Saturday 11/11/2013 To 17/11/2013. For more information please feel free to call on Tel numbers: 01- 444568/9.

Oxfam is not bound to accept any application or give reasons for rejection or acceptance.

### دعوة إلى تقديم العطاءات مواد ومعدات مياه وتنفيذ مشاريع شبكة مياه

منظمة أوكسفام، هي منظمة التنمية والأغاثة والحملات المخصصة لإيجاد حلول دائمة للفقر والمعاناة في جميع أنحاء العالم. ونحن نؤمن أنه لكل إنسان الحق في حياة كريمة، ونحن نعمل مع المجتمعات المحلية الفقيرة، والشركاء المحليين، والمتطوعين، والداعمين للمساعدة في جعل هذا حقيقة واقعة.

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1. المرجع مناقصة رقم: OX/YEMEN/REQ 7101.7102.7103 توريد انابيب بوليثلين مع التوصيلات.
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4. المرجع مناقصة رقم: OX/YEMEN/REQ 7120. 7121 تنفيذ الاعمال المدنية لمشروع مياه مديرية بني هلال والدرديحة - حرض - حجة.

وثائق المناقصة متاحة في مكاتب المنظمة باليمن كالتالي:

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الحديدة، الحي التجاري تلفون 03 219383	حرض - الشارع العام، تلفون 07 245420

الرجاء التقدم الى مكتب الاستقبال بالمنظمة مع رسالة رسمية من شركتكم، والحصول على وثائق المناقصة من قسم خدمات الامداد والتأمين بالمنظمة من الساعة 9:00 صباحا وحتى الساعة 16:00 مساءً وستصدر وثائق المناقصة اعتباراً من يوم تاريخ 11/11/2013 حتى 17/11/2013.

لمزيد من المعلومات الرجاء الاتصال على الرقم: 01-444568/9

مع العلم بان منظمة أوكسفام غير ملزمة بتقديم أية أسباب لرفض أو لقبول العطاءات.



## Yamaan

### Invitation to Application

for the Services of an agency(s) to Distribute and Market Vouchers

Ref: Reproductive Health Programme III, Voucher Management Agency, BMZ ID 2007 65230  
Financing: KfW, German Development Bank  
Project: Yemen Reproductive Health Voucher Programme

Yamaan Foundation for Health and Social Development requests applications from an agency(s) to design and implement a voucher distribution and marketing strategy for the distribution of reproductive health vouchers in districts of Lahj Governorate from January to December 2014.

Issuance of this Invitation to Applications does not commit to an award. No payment or reimbursement will be made for costs incurred in bid preparation and submission.

The deadline for submission of proposals is Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December. The bid for services and the price quotations must be submitted in separate sealed envelopes during office hours (8am – 4pm, Sunday to Thursday) to the address below:

Yamaan Foundation for Health and Social Development  
Attention: Dr. Eman Alkubati, Programme Director, Safe motherhood & Family planning Voucher Programme

Hadda Al-Surma Street, in front of Al-Dewan restaurant  
Sana'a, Yemen  
Tel: (+967) 01-428738  
Fax: (+967) 01-413638  
E-mail: [Eman.Alkubati@yamaan.org](mailto:Eman.Alkubati@yamaan.org)

Applications submitted after the deadline will not be accepted or opened. Complete copies of the Terms of Reference and further information concerning this Tender may be obtained upon request submitted in writing via email to the attention of Mohammed Al-Zurqa [Mohammed.alzurqa@yamaan.org](mailto:Mohammed.alzurqa@yamaan.org) and copied to [Eman.Alkubati@yamaan.org](mailto:Eman.Alkubati@yamaan.org). The latest date for receipt of questions regarding this Tender is Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November at 17:00. No questions will be accepted after this date and time.

## PROGRESSIO

Progressio Yemen is currently seeking qualified candidates for the following post:

- Local Governance and Gender Adviser, based in Al-Hodeida
- Women Rights and Advocacy Adviser, based in AL-Hodeida

To know more about the required qualifications, roles and responsibilities of the post please visit the following link:

[www.progressio.org.uk/jobs](http://www.progressio.org.uk/jobs)

Interested candidates for these posts must complete Progressio's application form specifying the post they are applying for to the following e-mail address: [Recruitment@progressio.org.uk](mailto:Recruitment@progressio.org.uk). Please note CVs will not be considered.

For further information and an application form, please visit

[www.progressio.org.uk](http://www.progressio.org.uk)

Closing date: 18<sup>th</sup> Nov 2013  
Interviews: Late of Nov 2013 (in Sana'a)  
(Only short listed candidates will be contacted)

Progressio has been leading the way on practical international development issues for more than forty years. Whether through placing development workers overseas, or in our policy and advocacy achievements, Progressio has a track record of making a difference

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“MARIE STOPES INTERNATIONAL - YEMEN is a non for profit UK based INGO working in Reproductive health, Family Planning, training and Health Education in Yemen. MSIY exist in Yemen since 1998 based on the cooperation agreement between the Government of the Republic of Yemen (Ministry of Planning & Development) and MARIE STOPES INTERNATIONAL.

Marie Stopes International in Yemen is seeking to recruit suitable candidates Female Doctor for the following positions:

### 1. Quality and Training officer for MSIY.

The officer is responsible to be part of the quality and training unit, ensuring the effective and professional implementation of Quality of MSIY services and Training needs to disseminate of relevant, accurate and consistent information about Family planning, reproductive health and women's health issues in all program components.

### Main Responsibilities

#### Quality and Training

- Ensure maintenance of MSI standards, protocols and values using tools of regular visits to different governorates using the internal audit checklist for monitoring (at least twice a year).
- Ensure all program staff understand and promote MSIY goal, mission, Vision and the guiding principles.
- Motivate service providers towards improving clinical skills and performance.
- Collaborate with Quality and Training Manager to constantly improve quality of services, access protocols and updating on all resources and information.
- Ensure service providers have the necessary information in Arabic to do their work properly, acquire more information and upgrade their skills.
- Hold regular training needs assessment of service providers (doctors, midwives, paramedics, counsellors).
- Monitor the progress of clinical training in centres and projects.
- Upgrade SPs skills and share knowledge on a regular basis through the tool of case management studies
- Develop plans and curricula and run specific training courses in IP, FP, PAC and other MSIY areas of expertise for service providers in all program components .

### Expected experiences:

- Bachelor degree in Medicine
- At least Diploma/ master degree in Obs/Gyn. Or community medicine
- Working with MoPHP/ NGOs in R.H/ F.P field
- Computer /reporting skills
- Excellent English and communication skill

### Competencies:

- Technical/ Training knowledge
- Result oriented
- Team work
- Willing to Travel inside and outside Yemen

Deadline for CVs and Cover letters in English is 21November 2013. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. Email : [khadija.mustafa@yamaan.org](mailto:khadija.mustafa@yamaan.org).



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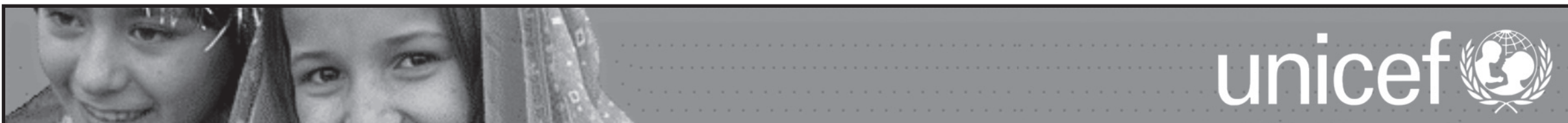
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## EXTERNAL VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 51/2013

If you are a committed, creative Yemeni 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: **Consultant (Engineer)**  
Duration : **6 months**  
Duty Station: **Hodeida, Taiz & Dhamar**

### PURPOSE:

To support the Government of Yemen in the need assessment and implementation of the rehabilitation work for Health facilities in the project sites in Hodeida (12), Taiz (3) and Dhamar (1).

### Specific Tasks

1. Visit and conduct need assessment in the 16 HF's and prepare Bill of Quantities (BoQs) for the required rehabilitation, maintenance and construction work.
2. Provide professional support to the Ministry of Public Health and Population, in the announcement of the tender to selected contractors for the implementation of the required rehabilitation and maintenance and/or construction of maximum one room per facility if needed and this to be based on the findings of the assessment and as deemed necessary.
3. Close supervision and monitoring of the selection process to ensure competitive and transparency including value for money and evaluation of the tenders and contract award.
4. Provide support, technical assistance and day to day support for the actual rehabilitation, maintenance and construction work with supervision at governorate level for effective coaching and monitoring of the implementation and achievements measured through the completion of work using standard checklist at district level and the number of joint monitoring and supportive supervision conducted to the project sites at district level.
5. Develop Monitoring and evaluation plan as part of the consultancy exercise to be used as an exemplary template for follow up by both MoPHP and UNICEF.

### A. Detailed work plan

1. A detailed proposal of the implementation of the assessment of the targeted health facilities as per the identified list, which includes preparation of bill of quantities including work plan that details how will the logistics, coordination be conducted at national level and transmission modalities to the project support committee managing level at UNICEF and Ministry of Public Health.
2. Feasibility plan.

### B. Actual construction with supervision from one contractor

The Construction Phase shall include the following:

1. The company to be selected for the intended rehabilitation to assign a Full Time Project Manager to oversee the construction activities;
2. Develop a system of efficient cost control and monitoring of expected cost;
3. Prepare simple schematic monthly progress reports highlighting actual and

potential problems, need for urgent decisions, and likely deviations from overall timing and costing plans;

4. Make recommendations to the OWNERS on all claims of the CONTRACTOR relating to the execution and progress of the work, such as progress payments, variation orders, contract time extensions and suspensions, including interpretation of the Contract between the OWNERS and the CONTRACTOR;
5. Inspect and examine the actual construction of the project with such frequency and duration as may be necessary to fully instruct the CONTRACTOR's representatives on the work, the merits of the material and workmanship, and seeing to it that the work is done, in every 2 particular aspect, strictly in accordance with the plans and specifications. During such project visits and on the basis of the CONSULTANT's observations, the CONSULTANT shall keep the OWNERS informed of defects and deficiencies in the work of CONTRACTORS and shall condemn work found failing to conform with the Contract Documents, Annexes or Special Provisions of the Construction Contract, if any, and decisions of the OWNERS as conveyed;
6. Certify work accomplished and the CONTRACTOR's monthly payment application with reference to the updated final cost estimate;
7. Determine, together with the authorized representative of the OWNERS, the issuance of corresponding Certificate for Payments based on their observations and the CONTRACTOR's application for Payment, for the consideration of the OWNERS. These certificates will constitute a certification to the OWNERS, which the work has progressed to the stage indicated and that to their best knowledge and inspection, the quality of the work performed by the CONTRACTOR is in accordance with the Construction Contract Documents.
8. The CONSULTANT and the OWNERS' representative shall conduct the necessary inspection to determine the date of substantial and final completion of construction and thereby issue the final certificate of payment to the CONTRACTOR;
9. Interpret for both the OWNERS and CONTRACTOR the contents and intents of the Construction Contract Documents, such as the working drawings, specifications and general conditions;
10. Assist in the technical and legal handing over process, guarantee and maintenance control, final payment and preparation of the project completion report;
11. Assist the OWNERS working out technical details, the quantification of materials, and the preparations of cost estimated for each project, taking into account the provincial cost variations determined by the varying ecological and environmental conditions;

### C. The Guarantee and Closing Phase shall include the following:

1. Provide periodical supervision and report to the OWNER upon completion of the project; a report accompanied by a set of "as-built" plans indication any change and the reason for it, its authorization and effect on the final costs and utilization;
2. Collate and submit to the OWNERS three (3) sets of "as-built" plans including architectural, structural, electrical, sanitary, service-connected equipment and fixed furnishings and site planning work, all necessary for record purposes, building maintenance and repairs;
3. Advise the OWNERS and the CONTRACTOR of any and all finishing touches on construction or installation activities necessary to render the building operational or ready for occupancy; and;

4. Certify the completing of the project according to plans, Specifications and scope of work and recommends acceptance to the OWNERS.

### Coordination and Implementation

The consultant engineer will implement the need assessment, preparation of bill of quantities and the monitoring and evaluation parts of the required rehabilitation work and he or she will be required to ensure the following working modalities:

- A. The consultant engineer should have the capacity to ensure timely preparation of all the required bill of quantities including the provision of the best value for money to achieve the project, full time work for a total of 180 days.
- B. The consultant engineer will ensure submitting a high quality report in English and Arabic, which includes high quality reports and documentation for the details.
- C. The consultant engineer should have proven experience in organizing similar rehabilitation work, and his or her CV should be available as part of proposal submission.
- D. The interested consultant engineer should submit a detailed technical and financial proposal along with the supporting certificates and/or any other relevant supporting documents.

### Expected Background and Experience:

- > Advanced university degree in engineering or other field related.
- > Minimum experience of 5 years in working with similar projects.
- > Must be a licensed Architectural and Engineering Consultant with Management firm.
- > The consultant engineer should have documented experience in implementing similar projects at national level, especially in Yemen.
- > The consultant engineer should have the ability to coordinate with government entities, companies, local councils, and other existing community structures.
- > The consultant engineer should have the capacity to identify an experienced logistics and administration team at national level that has proven experience in organization of similar conferences.
- > Ability to advocate and lobby for the participation of good contractors in the competitive process based on the tender announcement.
- > The consultant engineer should have the capacity to submit proposal, conduct need assessment, prepare bill of quantities, ensure visibilities, documentation and is able to write final report.

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](http://www.unicef.org/employ)) stating telephone number, email address and detailed contact address quoting the vacancy number to: [yemenhr@unicef.org](mailto: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](http://www.unicef.org)

UNICEF, is committed to diversity and inclusion within its workforce, and encourages qualified female and male candidates, including persons living with disabilities, to apply to become a part of our organization. UNICEF is a smoke-free environment.

Only short listed candidates will be contacted.





# Post wedding reality check

New husbands navigate economic responsibilities after orchestrated mass ceremony

Story by Ali Abulohoom  
Photo by Ali Ibrahim  
Al-Moshki

It was a huge celebration on Oct. 31 when 2,000 couples were married in a mass wedding party for orphaned men in Sana'a. The event, which was privately organized by the Orphanage Development Foundation, had planners bragging about the potential of the ceremony to make it in the Guinness Book of World Records for the largest wedding of its kind. However, the global record-setting brand has yet to confirm if the one-day event qualifies for the book.

Never-the-less, the fanfare surrounding the fourth annual mass wedding in Yemen (which was funded this year by the former Emir of Qatar, Sheik Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani) has now died down and reality is setting in for the newly-wed couples. Many are even criticizing the organization for "paying for the party"—including a \$750 personal grant—but not helping the grooms (who typically assume financial responsibility in Yemeni society) with long-term economic planning. They are now left to build lives on their own.

The majority of the men who participated in October's nuptials are products of a program at the Orphanage Development Foundation. The men grew up in the foundation's care facility and were provided with primary and secondary education including either courses



Men who participated in the fully funded mass wedding received jambiyas as gifts as well as a \$750 grant.

at a trade school or university. According to the foundation, individuals are allowed to stay with them as long as they are students.

However, it does not directly arrange for employment once the men are finished with their degrees or certificates, said Yasser Al-Razehi, the director of international relations at the foundation. Once they have finished school

or have gotten married, Al-Razehi says, then it is time for them to leave and make their own way in the world.

The foundation says they organize and secure funding for the wedding because the men would never be able to afford one otherwise, which often times includes exorbitant dowry costs. According to Ahmed Al-Ghazan, a social re-

searcher at the Sana'a Social Studies Center, dowries in Yemen generally range from YR200,000 (\$930) to YR2 million (\$9,300), barring the extremely poor, extremely wealthy and Yemenis paying higher dowry prices for women who hold citizenship from Western countries.

But critics say the foundation, by helping marry these men off, is paving the way for youngsters to

start families they are not capable of supporting.

Mohammed Farhan, from Mahweet governorate, is the brother of one of the grooms. He told the Yemen Times that his brother, 19, is unemployed and has dropped out of high school.

"My brother will have to find a job if he wants a decent life," Farhan said, adding that he is worried about his brother's future now that he has a wife to support.

While employment is not a condition set forth by the foundation to be a participant in the mass wedding, the foundation does have criteria to be selected. One must be 18-years-old, qualify as an orphan—meaning the individual's father is dead but not necessarily his mother—and he must have a marriage contract.

In Yemen and many other Arab and Muslim countries, a marriage contract is signed well before there is a wedding celebration. The bride and groom are considered legally and Islamically married, but cohabitation and other marriage customs are typically reserved for after the wedding ceremony. Young men with few resources sometimes have a marriage contract years before they can afford a bride's dowry and celebration costs.

The foundation helped Yahya Al-Qubati, 33, pay the \$1,500 dowry

his father-in-law asked for a marriage to his daughter. The foundation offered half of the cost, which was lowered due to Al-Qubati's orphaned status, and the young man's cousin helped him come up with the rest.

While Al-Qubati doesn't regret participating in the mass wedding, he finds himself where the majority of the new husbands do, with few economic prospects to support himself and his new wife. According to Gustavo Gonzalez, the UNDP senior country director in Yemen, more than 50 percent of Yemenis between the ages of 18 and 24 are unemployed.

Al-Qubati works in construction when there are jobs, but often times he is out of luck, he said.

But, that is a reality that grooms like Saleh Mohammed, a 22-year-old from Sana'a has come to accept. Although he is unemployed, he did not want to miss out on the opportunity to have his wedding costs covered.

"I would not have been able to marry without this opportunity," Mohammed said.

Mohammed said he and his wife may have some difficult times ahead of them, but they have faith they will manage.

"Though I do not have a job, [I am looking]" he said. "Until that happens, God will help us."

## The unconventional beverage

Yemenis gulp up camels urine for health and beauty benefits, experts remain skeptical



The camel has been an integral part of life on the Arabian Peninsula for centuries.

Story and photo by  
Amal Al-Yarisi

Small shops selling plant-based oils are found throughout the micro-neighborhoods of Sana'a's Old City. Bab Al-Hara has earned its fame as one of these shops, with a wide range of oil offerings from castor to almond. Much to the chagrin of animal rights' activists, the shop is well-known for its production of sesame oil using a camel to power a mill. But, the people who crowd around the shop on a typical morning are not after the fruits of the camel's labor, but rather its urine, bottled at the source in recycled containers. It's a hot seller, says shop owner Saleem Al-Qarmani, and people

come from all over to get it.

Bottled urine from the desert animal can be found throughout the Old City, with at least five shops selling the item for an average of YR300 (\$1.40) per 750 ml. bottle. Rumored, but not scientifically proven, to offer health benefits for a number of ailments, Yemenis as well as those across Gulf have been consuming the animal urine for centuries.

"I drink a cup of camel urine every morning," said 67-year-old Um Aziz, an Old City resident.

Many attribute the act of consuming animal urine for medicinal purposes to an interpretation of one of the Prophet Mohammed's hadiths (narrations), in which he is believed to have directed followers to drink the liquid. Other histori-

ans believe the practice predates Islam, when desert nomads, who were known for their reliance on camel's milk, likely also drank its urine.

Very little globally recognized research has emerged on the study of the benefits of camels' urine. However, there are several online reports of researchers who advocate for the use of the animal by-product. According to an online report, The King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technology in Saudi Arabia recently awarded Dr. Ahlam Al-Awadhi for her research using camel's urine to treat skin diseases and scars, which has not been published.

However, other health experts argue that advertisements or advice from health professionals

that link the urine to treatments for serious diseases is misleading and dangerous. Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Sanhani, a kidney specialist at the government-run Al-Jamhuri Hospital in Sana'a, says humans should not be drinking the substance because of the toxins it can contain. He told the Yemen Times that repeated consumption of the liquid could lead to kidney stones.

There are those who do not consume the urine but rave of its external use. Commonly, it is used as a beauty product for hair.

Taqia Hassan, a housewife in the Old City, said both her sons' fiancées' hair is now healthier after using camel's urine on it in preparation for their weddings. She explained the application process.

"The hair is rubbed [with the urine] and then covered with a plastic bag for three hours. After this, it is washed."

Hassn said the key is repetition.

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Tender Reference No.	Description
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1. Complete tender documents can be collected by interested eligible suppliers by applying to [yementenders@irdglobal.org](mailto:yementenders@irdglobal.org) from 12th to 18th November 2013 during the normal working hours from 08:30 am – 04:30 am.
2. Completed offers in one original shall be sealed and marked as stated in tender documents, to be hand-delivered to Istanbul Hotel conference room (Haddah st. in front of Al Kuraimi exchange branch next to Al-Jandool supermarket) on the 26th November, 2013 between 08:00 am and 10:00 am.

- Inquiries can be sent to the same Email mentioned above.







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