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خدمة إتصل على حسابي ... لجميع مستخدمي الدفع المسبق

- استخدام الخدمة : اطلب 9* يليه رقم الموبايل المطلوب ثم إتصال.
- الخدمة متاحة لجميع خطوط الدفع المسبق ضمن شبكة سبافون ولا تحتاج إلى تفعيل.
- إمكانية الإتصال حتى بدون رصيد بالنسبة للمتصل، لكن يشترط توفر رصيد كاف لدى الطرف الآخر حتى تتم المكالمة.
- استقبال المكالمات : عند ورود المكالمات سيظهر رقم المتصل على شاشة الموبايل وعند الرد سيستمع المتلقي إلى رسالة صوتية تطلب منه قبول المكالمات على حسابه بالضغط على الرقم 1 أو رفضها بالضغط على الرقم 2 وفي حال كانت المكالمات من رقم موجود في قائمة السماح، سيظهر رقم المتصل على شاشة الموبايل وعند الرد سيتم استقبال المكالمات مباشرة دون إنتظار موافقة الطرف الآخر.
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THE SHOW MUST GO ON: The allocated budget for this year's theatre festival to mark World Theatre Day is nearly half of last year's budget. The finance minister says the government budget is too tight to set money aside for the festival. Ministry of Culture officials say they have had to borrow money to pay actors' wages and that the performance will go on. **Read more on page 3.**
Photo by Ali Abulohoom



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Popular Committees threaten to stop cooperating with army in Abyan

■ Ali Ibrahim Al-Moshki

SANA'A, April 8—The Popular Committees in Abyan governorate demanded that the government take charge of the security locations and checkpoints that the former has been in control of since 2011. The move comes amid criticism by committee members at the government's perceived inaction in Abyan.

The Popular Committees are local militias which were established in 2011 to support the military in its fight against Al-Qaeda. Committee members have manned checkpoints spread across the districts of Abyan.

Released on Tuesday, the statement of the Popular Committees reads, "the Popular Committees in Abyan governorate are not responsible for the stability and security of the governorate unless the government fulfills the demands which the leadership of the committees raised."

"We declare that we are no longer responsible for maintaining stability and security in the governorate. This statement has been issued after being signed by all leaders of the Popular Committees in Abyan," the statement said.

Ali Aeeda, the spokesperson for the Popular Committees, said that the committee leaders met on Friday to discuss the matter.

According to Aeeda, committee representatives met on Tuesday with the security authorities in the governorate but the latter did not take their demands seriously.

In February, the Popular Committees demanded that government and military officials conscript their 6,100 members and supply them with adequate weapons to confront Al-Qaeda militants. Their demands remain unfulfilled.

Saleh Al-Asbahi, an independent researcher and former brigadier, said the Popular Committees' withdrawal could lead to Al-Qaeda's takeover of large parts of Abyan.

He warned that Al-Qaeda could regain control of governorate.

According to Al-Asbahi, the committees know the layout of the governorate, which gives them great advantage in their fight against Al-Qaeda militants.

Mohammed Dunba, the security manager of Abyan, told the Yemen Times that "the Popular Committees play a major role in maintaining security and stability in the governorate in cooperation with the army. It is necessary that their demands are met."

Abdulrazaq Al-Jaml, a journalist specializing in Al-Qaeda affairs who has published numerous Al-Qaeda press releases and videos, said that Al-Qaeda will likely step up operations in Abyan if the Popular Committees stop cooperating with the army.

The Yemen Times contacted the Defense Ministry—it declined to comment.

Al-Qaeda militants took over Abyan governorate in May of 2011, but were expelled in mid-2012 by the military and Popular Committees.

Attack on security checkpoint leaves four dead in Mukalla

■ Nasser Al-Sakkaf

HARAMOUT, April 8—Three soldiers and one civilian were killed on Monday at a security checkpoint at the western entrance to Mukalla city in Hadramout governorate.

Colonel Sheikh Al-Hami, the security manager of Mukalla, said unidentified gunmen attacked the security checkpoint using light weaponry. They then went on to attack the Broom security department in the Broom district of Mukalla, where they opened fire and wounded two soldiers.

"The security authorities received intelligence that an explosives-laden vehicle would attack a government compound in Mukalla district, the capital of Hadramout governorate. Security forces were on high alert," Al-Hami said.

The Interior Ministry website reported that several gunmen were killed during the attack.

The ministry denied local reports that seven soldiers who were manning the checkpoints had been kidnapped.

Mohammed Hizam, the deputy head of public relations at the Interior Ministry, said that armed groups usually flee to remote areas which are largely outside the control of the state.

Also on Monday, the director of the Mukalla Central Prison, Colonel Hussein Ba'alwi, was injured at the Al-Dais checkpoint in Mukalla. Soldiers opened fire on his vehicle when he did not stop at the checkpoint.

Mohammed Al-Sharfi, a journalist in Mukalla, said the prison director is hospitalized in Bin Sina Hospital in Mukalla.

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Kidnapped judge released but judges club continues nationwide strike

Release of judge was not the only demand, they say

■ Bassam Al-Khameri

SANA'A, April 9—Despite a nationwide strike, the Yemeni Judges Club agreed on Wednesday to do limited amounts of work on urgent cases from home. Yemen's judges have been on strike since March 26 after the kidnapping of a Hajja judge.

The judges will perform the work from home and not report to the workplace, according to Judge Faisal Al-Shami, head of business and industry lawsuit registration at the Trade and Industry Prosecution department.

The Yemeni Judges Club announced in a statement on Sunday that it will continue its nationwide strike despite the release of the kidnapped judge. The club said it will continue its strike until the

Hajja security chief resigns. Judges accuse him of failing to protect them.

The released judge, Mohammed Al-Sorori, was abducted on March 26 and released last Thursday.

"The governor of Hajja established a committee composed of local officials and tribal sheikhs to release Al-Sorori," according to Fahad Dahshoosh, deputy governor of Hajja.

The club said the release of

the judge was only one of its demands.

Judge Al-Jarah Belidi, head of the Yemeni Judges Club, told the state-run September 26 News website that Judge Al-Sorori arrived in Sana'a on Friday with the general secretary of the Hajja Local Council and Hajja governorate's head prosecutor.

The statement emphasized the importance of charging those responsible.

On Sunday morning, according to the statement, a prosecutor in Sana'a was attacked and a plot of land in Hodeida belonging to the Yemeni Judges Club was taken over by military commanders.

"Judges are still on strike because the abduction of Al-Sorori is only one demand. We have other demands, including the implementation of President Hadi's order to raise our salaries," said Al-Shami. "We don't want to strike but it's

the only way to secure our rights. No one cares about the judiciary," he added.

Al-Sorori was abducted after issuing a guilty verdict against 23 suspects in the assassination of a military officer in 2011.

The strike by the nation's judges has affected thousands of court cases. The club was established three years ago to collectively defend and bargain for the rights of judges in Yemen.

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Government intervenes in child-abduction case

■ **Madiha Al-Junaid**

SANA'A, April 8—A two-person committee was formed by President Abdu Rabu Mansour Hadi on Monday to resolve a case of child abduction in Hadramout province. The establishment of the committee came after the Al-Batati tribe blocked passage in and out of Shabwa for oil tankers.

Hadi allotted a 5-day-period for the committee to resolve the abduction case. The roads in and out of Shabwa were unblocked on Monday, following the establishment of the committee.

The committee consists of Abdulrahman Ba Abbas, a mediator on Hadramout for the presidency, and Awath Ibn Al-Wazeer Al-Awlaqi, a tribal figure from Shabwa. The committee has requested the release of 12-year-old Salim Al-Batati, who was abducted on March 23, and the resolution of the disputes between the Al-Batati and Al-Musabbin tribes.

The abductors, from the Al-Musabbin tribe in the Baihan area of Shabwa, have said they are prepared to release the child, but are not willing to admit fault. They say the abduction was necessary to resolve a debt issue.

The child's father, Saleh Al-Batati, is insisting on tribal arbitration in the case and is requesting 3-4 Toyota vehicles, according to Saeed Al-Batati, a Gulf News correspondent and member of the Al-Batati tribe.

"The father says this is punish-

ment for the kidnappers and a deterrent against further abductions. He is therefore insisting on tribal arbitration," Saeed Al-Batati said.

On April 3, Al-Musabbin tribesmen held a meeting and collectively denied responsibility for the abduction of the child. The tribe blamed the kidnapping on one individual tribe member and called it a personal act, according to Akram No'man, a lawyer with the Seyaj Organization for Childhood Protection who is following the abduction case closely. The tribe said the kidnapping should not be held against the entire tribe.

According to Mlook Al-Hanathani, an investigative and monitoring officer at the Child Violations Department of Seyaj, the kidnappers asked the child to take them to his home so that they could speak to his father.

The case revolves around debts dating back over 20 years. A member of the Al-Batati tribe was in the trade industry in Saudi Arabia along with a member of the Al-Musabbin tribe, she said.

"The child's father said he doesn't owe any money to the kidnappers—it is another member of the Al-Batati tribe that is in debt," Al-Hanathani said.

According to Saeed Al-Batati, the Al-Batati tribe member who was involved in the trade industry in Saudi Arabia admitted that he was in debt to a member of the Al-Musabbin tribe, but said that he had served a seven-year sentence in Saudi Arabia



Photo courtesy of Saeed Al-Batati

for debt.

The indebted tribe member resides in Mukalla and says he will pay the money back when he has it, Saeed Al-Batati said.

Saeed Al-Batati said the tribe initially planned to abduct the man in debt, but they did not find him. They then took the tribal sheikh's son instead to pressure the indebted man into paying his debts.

On April 2, the Seyaj Organization sent a letter to the Interior Ministry requesting that they intervene and refer the case to the Shabwa security department.

"[We call for] serious steps to be taken by the government and security forces on this incident and other incidents that have recently

taken place," read a statement from the Seyaj Organization.

"[We extend this appeal] to Yemeni tribes and sheikhs, [and remind them that] the kidnapping of women and children is shameful and out-of-line and to [solve issues at their root in order to prevent similar conflicts]," the statement added.

Ahmed Al-Qersh, head of the Seyaj Organization, told the Yemen Times that there have been over 100 instances of child abduction in Yemen in 2013.

He warned against apathy towards such crimes and added that the delayed response of the government could contribute to more abductions.

Min. of Defense: Four gunmen from attack on Aden military headquarters identified

■ **Ali Ibrahim Al-Moshki**

SANA'A, April 9—Authorities on Tuesday said they had identified the four gunmen who died in an attack on the headquarters of the Fourth Military Region in Aden on April 2.

Mohammed Musaed, the spokesperson of the Aden security department, identified the four deceased gunmen as named Rami Saleh Saeed Al-Khadhir, Fahmi Ali Awadh Mansour, Nasser Ali Al-Faqeh and Hussein Nasser Al-Dyani.

"The attack bore the stamp of Al-Qaeda. We expect that Al-Qaeda will declare responsibility for the attack in the coming days. Al-Qaeda always targets the security and military headquarters. The battles with Al-Qaeda continue," said Musaed.

In video footages published in the past months, Al-Qaeda threatened to break into the military headquarters. In the footage, Al-Qaeda claimed responsibility for previous attacks carried out against security and military headquarters.

Abdulrazaq Al-Jamli, a journalist specialized in Al-Qaeda affairs who publishes press releases and videos on behalf of Al-Qaeda told the Yemen Times that it was "clearly Al-Qaeda" that attacked the headquarters of the Fourth Military Region. He said expecting a claim of responsibility to publish in the coming days.

"Al-Dyani is a big loss to Al-Qaeda, but this will not discourage them. Al-Qaeda sent him to launch the attack, it was obviously a suicide mission."

During the attack on the Fourth Military Headquarters on April 2, seven military forces and seven gunmen were killed, according to the Ministry of Defense. Five civilians and 11 military forces were injured in the attack. Prime Minister Mohammed Salem Basindwa visited the headquarters on Tuesday.

There have been repeated attacks against military and security sites in the past year, including an attack on the Second Military Command in September 2013 and an attack on the Ministry of Defense that left 56 dead on December 5.

13 individuals caught, accused of abducting foreigners and Yemeni businessmen

■ **Nasser Al-Sakkaf**

SANA'A, April 7—Thirteen suspects accused of being involved in the kidnapping of foreigners and Yemenis have been arrested in the last month, according to a statement on the website of the Interior Ministry.

The majority of the individuals are from Marib governorate, according to the ministry.

Many of the arrests occurred following the March 25 kidnapping of an Italian national employed by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). The man was released by security forces in Marib

hours after being kidnapped in the capital, Sana'a.

"Security officials investigated those involved as well as previous crimes the individuals may have been involved in," according to the ministry.

The 13 are accused of kidnapping both foreigners and Yemenis.

"Some of those accused of kidnappings turned themselves in," said Ali Al-Ghalisi, the press secretary of Marib governorate.

Al-Ghalisi said that negotiating with kidnappers ultimately leads to more kidnappings.

"It has encouraged some tribes to take up kidnappings as a profes-

sion," he said.

A German national who was kidnapped on Jan. 31 was, according to Al-Ghalisi, taken to the Abeeda valley of Marib. The government, he says, knows his location but cannot free him because it does not have much control in the governorate.

In addition to money, those keeping the German national hostage are demanding the release of relatives from prison, Al-Ghalisi said.

"Armed groups often station themselves in remote areas that security forces cannot reach. The government resorts to tribal mediations to release those who have

been abducted."

Kidnappings have been a reality in Yemen for decades, but following the 2011 youth uprising and the stepping down of former President Ali Abdulla Saleh, the security vacuum has meant an increase in abductions.

The frequency of abductions is not the only factor that has changed in the past years. Increasingly, Al-Qaeda affiliated groups are using kidnapped foreigners and wealthy Yemenis as a cash-cow to raise funds for their operations—a departure from the customary practice of using foreigners as a bargaining chip with the government.

Al-Wazeer escapes assassination attempt near Sana'a University

Two guards killed, one seriously injured



■ **Sarah Al-Dobai**

SANA'A, March 7—The head of the Shura Council of Al-Haq Party, Ismail Ibrahim Al-Wazeer, evaded an assassination attempt on Tuesday. Two of Al-Wazeer's guards were killed in the attack, however, and another was seriously wounded.

The assassination attempt took place on Al-Adel Street in the capital, Sana'a. It is believed that Al-Wazeer was on his way to Sana'a University where he taught jurisprudence at the Department of Law.

"We have information that will help in identifying the perpetrators and individuals behind the assassination attempt, but we cannot reveal anything at the moment because investigations are still underway," according to Colonel Mohammed Hizam, the deputy head of the Public Rela-

tions Department at the Interior Ministry.

Hizam said that those who carry out the assassination attempts plan well prior to each incident.

The assassination attempt came months after the assassination of Dr. Ahmed Sharaf Al-Deen and Dr. Abdulkareem Jadban, representatives of Ansar Allah (Houthis) in the National Dialogue Conference (NDC), in January and November respectively. Al-Wazeer was also associated with the Houthis.

"I think that the current assassinations are similar to the ones that took place in 1994 to prevent building a stable state," said Abdulkareem Al-Khaiwani, a political activist and NDC member affiliated with the Houthis.

More than 100 assassinations against security and military commanders have been carried out since the beginning of 2013, according to the Interior Ministry.

Electricity pilot project yields unpromising results

■ **Mohammed Al-Khayat**

The Public Electricity Corporation is giving prepaid electricity meters another go nearly four years after first starting the project.

In June 2010, the corporation installed more than 1,000 prepaid electricity meters in the Bait Baws area of Sana'a as a pilot project for a potential nationwide system. The prepaid system was implemented as an alternative to the old meter system whereby customers would be billed after use.

The plan's stated intention is to optimize energy consumption and reduce the amount of unpaid bills.

Zuhair Al-Zubairi, the director of the new prepaid electricity meter system, said, "we began the pilot project in 2010 but it was a partial failure. We will avoid the past mistakes in the upcoming phase."

Al-Zubairi said that the meters were installed inside homes instead of being fastened to electricity poles in order to prevent people from tampering with them.

He said that the corporation will change the meters to make it harder for people to manipulate them, adding that prepaid cards will be provided to consumers via various stores and shopping centers in the area.

The prepaid cards were available at various shops in the Bait Baws area when the project began, but they are currently sold only at a branch of the Public Electricity Corporation in Al-Khamseen Street in the Bait Baws area.

The cards come in amounts starting from YR100 (about \$50). The meters are installed free of charge following an information campaign in the targeted area, according to Al-Zubairi.

The prepaid electricity meters were installed in more than 1,000 houses. New meters will be installed in about 1,200 houses in the Hadda area on April 14, according to Al-Zubairi.

"We will install prepaid meters in Hadda and will avoid the mistakes we made in the Bait Baws area," said Al-Zubairi.

Saeed Raweh, a resident of Bait Baws who uses a prepaid electricity meter, said, "people using the prepaid electricity meters should have privileges to encourage people to use such a system."

The corporation's branch in Al-Khamseen street closes at 8:00 p.m. and those who return home after this time cannot purchase prepaid cards and have to stay in darkness, according to Raweh.

"The corporation should distrib-



ute prepaid cards to groceries and shopping centers to enable people to get them easily at any time," said Raweh.

Harith Al-Omari, the deputy head of the Public Electricity Corporation, said, "the prepaid electricity system has solved several problems. Some mistakes occurred but this is normal because we are still in the pilot project phase."

"The corporation is planning to install a prepaid electricity system nationwide but first we have to test the situation to make sure that all shortcomings are resolved," he added.

Lack of funding threatens theater festival But the show must go on

Story and photos by
Ali Abulohoom

On March 27 Yemeni actors will celebrate World Theater Day, performing plays at the Cultural Center of the Ministry of Culture. The date marks the beginning of a theater festival which may continue for up to two months depending on how many plays they are.

The occasion provides actors with an opportunity to perform directly in front of audiences; their acting unmediated by the camera. However, a lack of funding is a stumbling block that has contributed to delays and possible cancellations.

Ahmed Al-Mamari, a director, said that the stage is the sole means of directly connecting the actor to the audience, and Yemeni actors are kept on tenterhooks waiting for the chance to perform. The stage gives the actor a chance to see the reactions of the audience, he added.

"Frankly speaking, the actors realize the value of acting when they perform in theater. The laughs and applause of the audience lift the spirits of actors, making them excel in their performance," said Al-Mamari.

The Cultural Center at the ministry is the prime venue for plays. Although it is lacking in many respects, Al-Mamari says, there are no better equipped stages in Sana'a.

Since 2011, the plays have not started on the usual date, March 27. According to Ahmed Esa, the deputy manager of expenses at the finance ministry, the delays are due to financial constraints.

The budget for this year's theater festival was estimated at YR12 million (about \$55,728). That modest amount is supposed to cover everything from wages to lighting and stage equipment, says Al-Mamari.

Although last year a budget of YR20 million was allocated, this year the finance minister rejected the funding allocations that the

Ministry of Culture requires to run the plays, according to Al-Mamari. The minister said that the government budget is too tight to set aside money for the festival.

The actors already started rehearsals at the beginning of January, hoping that they would begin performances in March on World Theater Day.

Mohammed Al-Adhraei, the manager of the theater at the Ministry of Culture, confirmed that a budget devoted to the festival has not been granted, which is why performances have been delayed. He said that although several plays were due to show on March 27, only one was performed three days later.

"We were late in looking for money. We borrowed YR200,000 from the Heritage Fund to cover the wages of the actors and the Culture Ministry dancing team that performed at the beginning of the plays festival," said Al-Adhraei.

He said it is important to celebrate World Theater Day in order to give support to actors and promote theater.

"The actors were disappointed when they heard that the funding would be stopped and the plays would not be performed. So, I contacted the culture minister and his deputy to get their support in ensuring that the plays will not be canceled this year," Al-Adhraei said.

Deputy Culture Minister Huda Ablan said that she was told by the finance minister that the annual government budget is insufficient to cover the performances. According to Ablan, the finance minister said that other pri-



Actors Khaled Al-Bahri and Sulaiman Dawood perform "Marzooq Plays a Terrorist Role".

orities, such as army salaries and security, trump the need for funding the theater festival.

meeting with the prime minister in order to release the budget allocated for the plays," she said.

Muselh Al-Hada, 44, enjoys going with his family to the Cultural Center every year.

"I wish these plays would continue throughout the year, not only for a month. The plays educate and entertain people at the same time. So far, only one play has been displayed. This is not good news for the audiences who are keen to follow these artistic works," said Al-Hada.

Actor Abduaziz Al-Badani is participating in play rehearsals. Like other actors, he said he has been spending his own money while waiting for the finance ministry to release funding.

"Our conditions are very bad. We

wait throughout the year for the plays. Performing on stage brings us close to the audience and earns us some money, but it would be catastrophic if the allocations aren't paid," he said.

Yahia Yusof, an actor participating in the festival, said he borrowed YR50,000, or about \$230, to cover his expenses. He said that he put his work as a taxi driver on hold when he began acting.

"Though we heard that the budget will not be delivered, we continue our rehearsals. We will not step back. The theater manager promised to follow up on the issue of the allocations," said Yusof.

According to Al-Adhraei, ten teams consisting of a playwright, a director and five to ten actors each will put on a total of 12 plays. Two plays will be shown per week and each team will receive YR400,000 to YR600,000, he said.



List of performances

| S | Play | Playwright | Director |
|----|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1 | Marzooq Plays a Terrorist Role | Omar Abdulla Saleh | Omar Abdulla Saleh |
| 2 | The Child | Fawzi Al-Myladi | Hael Al-Silwi |
| 3 | The Hyena of the Field | Protold Brikhit | Narjs Obad |
| 4 | Lovers Die Every Day | Mohammed Al-Sharfi | Ensaf Alwi |
| 5 | The Bus | Yahia Suhail | Yahia Suhail |
| 6 | The King is King | Sa'ad Allah Wanos | Mohammed Al-Rakhm |
| 7 | Irhab Bom Dot Com | Amen Abu Haider | Saleh Al-Saleh |
| 8 | Final Service Award | Muneer Talal | Muneer Talal |
| 9 | Vague Destiny | Adm Saif | Adm Saif |
| 10 | Amal's Tale | Adel Al-Amiri | Nabhan Al-Shami |
| 11 | Bakash Walkash | Lona Yafei | Lona Yafei |
| 12 | Sanafer | Abdualem Al-Haj | Abdulalem Al-Haj |

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What Yemen's youth got out of the National Dialogue Conference

Rafat Al-Akhali
atlanticcouncil.org
April 07, 2014

After ten months of extensive negotiations and discussions, Yemen's National Dialogue Conference (NDC) concluded on the January 21, 2014. It is critical to analyze the NDC outcomes and assess whether it addresses the calls for change that Yemeni youth initiated in 2011.

The final NDC report compiled the outcomes of the following nine working groups of the conference: Independence of Special Entities, Comprehensive and Sustainable Development, Military and Security, Sa'ada Issue, Rights and Freedoms, Good Governance, State Building, Southern Issue, and Transitional Justice working groups. However, there are a number of cross-cutting issues/sectors (such as outcomes related to youth) that require further analysis to identify them across the different working group reports. The following is based on the contents of a study commissioned by the Yemeni Youth Observatory, and supported by the UNDP in Yemen, to analyze the outcomes of the NDC related to youth.

The main outcomes of the NDC related to youth can be summarized in three areas: political empowerment, economic empowerment, and education. The following sections highlight the key NDC decisions in each of these areas.

Political Empowerment

One outcome involves creating a new independent authority named the "Supreme Council for Youth" with a mandate to steer and supervise public policy and monitor its implementation to ensure protection of youth from social and health risks and violence, and institute clear policies and mechanisms for youth participation and inclusion in public policy making.

The state also agreed to guarantee a youth quota of 20 percent in various branches of government, including legislative, executive, and judicial powers. Boards of political parties and organizations and bodies involved in all political, economic, social, and cultural state affairs are also expected to adhere to this quota.

This standard also applies to the Constitution Drafting Committee, perhaps the most important body to incorporate the concerns of Yemeni youth in the upcoming national charter.

Lastly, national consultative

Due to the experience of the past few decades, Yemeni youth (and citizens in general) do not have much trust in the constitution or any laws, let alone the NDC outcomes document.

councils that work to improve social development (the situation of families, youth and children) and protect their rights will also benefit from the mandatory youth quota.

Economic Empowerment

The state will guarantee "care for women and youth, and developing them spiritually, morally, culturally, scientifically, physically, psychologically, socially, and economically, and [enable] their effective political participation." To mitigate unemployment, the state promises to institute a "Skills Development Fund," achieving its goals in a decentralized manner through training qualified youth. Small agricultural, fishing, and cooperative projects aim to provide quick opportunities for youth unemployment. Yemen also plans to "take the necessary measures to achieve a wider youth participation in social, economic, cultural and political development of the country."

In the hopes of providing more of a social safety net, NDC outcomes include guarantees for providing social security for all youth in cases of sickness, disability, unemployment or loss of income provider, particularly for the families of youth martyrs according to the law.

The State also committed to microfinance youth projects with no interest loans that could have a knock-on effect for the country's economy, expanding entrepreneurship and providing more job opportunities. To help ensure equality in the general provision of loans, the Outcomes also require that the law stipulate the facilitation of loans for business women and youth. A supplemental measure includes modifying the current tax and fiscal laws to provide temporary tax breaks for projects that target economic empowerment of women and youth.

As part of the concerns with foreign companies tapping Yemen's energy reserves, the NDC also decided to explicit give priority to Yemeni citizens in private and public sector jobs, in accordance with the law.

Education

In an effort to promote gender equality and improve education for young Yemenis across the country, the NDC reiterated its commitment to the right to free, high-quality education, making it mandatory at the primary level for all Yemenis.

The Outcomes also commit the state to providing the necessary incentives and appropriate environment to ensure girls education, and an independent supreme authority for Education, Training, and Scientific Research will be responsible for designing and approving national education, training, and scientific research policies.

Conclusions

The NDC outcomes are binding statements of principle. Some of the NDC outcomes related to youth are concrete and, if adopted properly in the upcoming constitution and implemented on the ground, could lead to a substantive shift in the reality of Yemeni youth and their future. Such outcomes include creating institutional frame-

works for youth-related policies (Supreme Council for Youth), and guaranteeing youth quotas.

Other outcomes are ambitious and will face difficulty in being implemented, such as no-interest loans and free higher education. Finally, some outcomes are vague and intangible, such as guarantees for women and youth care, and developing them spiritually, morally.

Despite these significant youth-related outcomes from the NDC, the majority of Yemeni youth continue to lack trust and confidence in the NDC outcomes. This is mainly due to two reasons:

There continues to be a gap in communicating the NDC outcomes to the public, despite some efforts by the NDC Secretariat. The outcomes need to be distilled down

to the level where different groups (such as youth) can relate to it.

Due to the experience of the past few decades, Yemeni youth (and citizens in general) do not have much trust in the constitution or any laws, let alone the NDC outcomes document.

Yemeni youth need to see some of these outcomes implemented on the ground before they can be expected to trust in them. There is a need for focused advocacy, mobilization, and lobbying efforts to ensure that the upcoming constitution drafting committee reflects all the NDC youth-related outcomes in the new constitution, and to ensure that these outcomes are implemented properly. One key step in implementing these outcomes is to adopt a common definition

of "youth" in Yemen, as the different entities that currently work on youth issues in Yemen have multiple age definitions.

The NDC itself can be seen as a case study for further youth political inclusion in the coming period. It is important to study, analyze, and learn from the experience of youth inclusion in the NDC.

**This article is based on a study by the author Rafat Al-Akhali titled "National Dialogue Conference Outcomes related to Youth." The study was commissioned by the Yemeni Youth Observatory under the support and supervision of the United Nations Development Programme in Yemen.*

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«المرأة نصف المجتمع ولها الحق على الأقل في ثلث المناصب القيادية»





منتدى اليمن ٢١
Yemen 21 Forum

ينص الدستور الإتحادي على ضرورة تفعيل جميع الحكومات ومؤسسات الدولة في دولة اليمن الإتحادية وثق مبدأ المساواة وعبر سن تشريعات وإجراءات تتضمن إتخاذ خطوات فعلية لتحقيق تمثيل للنساء لا تقل نسبته عن ثلاثين في المئة في الهياكل القيادية والهيئات المنتخبة والخدمة المدنية.

من مخرجات مؤتمر الحوار الوطني

The main outcomes of the NDC related to youth can be summarized in three areas: political empowerment, economic empowerment, and education.



YT vision statement
"To make
Yemen a good
world citizen."

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



OUR OPINION

Why not me?

I have just returned from the Big Apple where I took part in the riveting "Women in the World" summit.

I came across so many amazing women, some of whom are already well-known, such as Hilary Clinton, Christine Legarde, Queen Rania of Jordan and others. But there were also the lesser-known but equally important women from all around the world, whose stories would send chills down your spine, bring tears to your eyes and fill your heart with faith.

I conveyed the story of Yemeni women as I was interviewed by the one and only Jon Stewart of The Daily Show fame. He was quite respectful and said that he reads Yemen Times religiously!

The feedback I got was very positive. They were all impressed by the progress Yemeni women have made in politics through the transition and especially with regards to the National Dialogue Conference and the 30 percent quota.

I was humbled by the stories of women from all over the world. How the women who fought honor killings did not know what fear was, while another lived with it day and night and still did not waver from her goal.

Women as leaders from all over the world had two things in common: courage and initiative. They did not wait for a hero to come and rescue them and they did not turn the other cheek when they encountered injustice.

As the politician Laura Alonso from Argentina rhetorically asked: "why not me?" She was angry at oppression, corruption and bad politics and then realized that if she wanted it to change she had to do something about it. "It came to me in the shower," she said. "I thought to myself, why not me?" and indeed, she competed in elections and won a seat in the congress representing Buenos Aires. Now she has her eyes on higher goals.

I am fascinated by this experience and decided to ask myself the same question: "why not me?" I wish everyone would ask themselves this question when they are faced with something they find morally wrong and wish to see changed.

Why wait for someone else to do the job? Why not use whatever resources we have? With our own skills and networks we can achieve it if we want to. I have an unshakable belief in the capabilities and determination of Yemeni women. Yemen is in a mess, it needs to be fixed. Why not me? Why not you?

Nadia Al-Sakkaf

When the CIA was an outpost of Arabism

Hugh Wilford
dailystar.com.lb
First published April 8

From Cold War-era coups to "enhanced interrogation" in the "war on terror," the CIA has courted the suspicion and hatred of the Muslim world. But it was not always so. For several years after its creation in 1947, the agency was an outpost of support for Arab nationalism in the U.S. government.

Even more surprising, the head of the CIA's "Arabists" was Kermit "Kim" Roosevelt, better known as the man who organized the 1953 coup in Iran that toppled the nationalist Prime Minister Mohammad Mosaddeq. Where did this Arabist impulse come from, and why was it eventually overwhelmed by other forces in U.S. foreign policy?

Like many Middle East hands in the State Department, the CIA Arabists believed that the region and its oil reserves were the key to U.S. victory in the Cold War. But they also had personal reasons for their interest in the Arab world beyond strategic or economic considerations. Kermit Roosevelt grew up on stories of the British Empire and the "Great Game," the Anglo-Russian rivalry for control of Central Asia. His nickname "Kim" came from the famous novel about espionage in colonial India by Rudyard Kipling, a friend of his grandfather, President Theodore Roosevelt; his father, Kermit Sr., served in the Middle East during World War I alongside such British Arabists as T. E. Lawrence, "Lawrence of Arabia." From the British, Kim Roosevelt and his cousin Archie, another senior officer in the early CIA, inherited an appetite for personal adventure in the Orient and a romantic attraction to Arab civilization.

Even more important as a source of CIA Arabism was the American missionary tradition in the Arab world that, like the

British presence there, dated back to the 19th century. When the U.S. government first sought to establish an intelligence network in the region during World War II, it turned to two descendants of prominent missionary families associated with the American University of Beirut, William Eddy and Harold Hoskins. Future AUB President Stephen Penrose ran the Cairo headquarters of the Office of Strategic Services, the CIA's wartime precursor. Kim Roosevelt's first Middle Eastern posting was as an undercover OSS officer in Cairo, where he absorbed Penrose's respect for Arab nationalism and belief in the importance of American-Arab friendship.

With British and French colonial power in the Middle East waning after World War II, American Arabists set about trying to create a policy toward the region that reflected the missionary tradition of "disinterested benevolence." After joining the CIA in 1949, Roosevelt devised several operations designed to bolster the position of progressive Arab nationalists. The most important of these took place in Egypt, where in 1952 army officers overthrew the British client monarchy of King Farouk. Roosevelt forged a personal friendship with the country's rising nationalist leader, Gamal Abdel-Nasser, and dispatched a CIA team led by his colorful lieutenant, the jazz-playing southerner Miles Copeland, to shore up the revolutionary government in Cairo.

In addition to helping create the modern Egyptian intelligence apparatus, Copeland (incidentally, the father of Stewart Copeland, the drummer of the band Police) trained the Egyptian leadership in propaganda techniques borrowed from Madison Avenue.

Meanwhile, at home in the U.S., Roosevelt channeled CIA funding to an apparently independent group of pro-Arab private citizens, the American Friends of the Middle East. Launched in

1951 under the leadership of the celebrity journalist Dorothy Thompson, AFME worked to foster American support for Arab nationalists such as Abdel-Nasser and counter the growing power of the so-called "Israel Lobby."

Also linked to the CIA was the American Council for Judaism, an organization of anti-Zionist Jews led by Roosevelt's close friend, Rabbi Elmer Berger. Israeli leaders noted the existence of AFME and ACJ and launched an effort to combat their influence, joining a behind-the-scenes struggle to control opinion in the U.S. about the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The heyday of the Arabists came in the years 1953 to 1955. Abdel-Nasser consolidated his hold on power in Egypt and launched a bid for regional leadership. In the U.S., the new president, Dwight D. Eisenhower, adopted a Middle Eastern policy that was noticeably less friendly to Israel than that of his predecessor, Harry Truman. Things started to unravel, however, when Roosevelt failed to secure a secret U.S. arms deal with Egypt, causing Abdel-Nasser to seek Soviet support. Eisenhower's fervently anti-communist Secretary of State John Foster Dulles withdrew American backing from the Egyptian government, throwing it instead behind conservative Arab regimes left over from the days of European colonialism.

Ironically, the CIA now became an instrument for undermining rather than strengthening nationalist governments in countries such as Syria. In America, the pro-Israel lobby achieved the upper hand over the American Friends of the Middle East and the American Council for Judaism. By 1958, both Kim Roosevelt and Miles Copeland had left the CIA for consulting jobs in the oil industry, while Archie Roosevelt was reassigned to Europe.

What lessons, if any, can be drawn from this episode in U.S.-Middle East relations? The simple fact that CIA Arabism

existed serves as proof that, contrary to theories about a "clash of civilizations," there is nothing inevitable about conflict between Americans and Arabs. Admiration for Arab culture, even a mystical faith in American-Arab friendship, was a powerful impulse within a U.S. government agency now widely seen as one of the Arab world's greatest foes.

Still, it is striking how quickly the U.S. changed course from supporting to attacking Arab nationalists. The CIA Arabists themselves were partly to blame for this development, as they clearly enjoyed indulging the appetite for spy games that they had inherited from an earlier generation of British imperial agents in the region. It is this tendency that explains Kim Roosevelt's enthusiastic involvement in the coup against Mosaddeq, a plot originally conceived by the British. In the end, CIA Arabism proved a slender reed on which to rest future hopes of American-Arab cooperation.

If the lessons of the early Cold War era for the present day are ambiguous, what is clear is that this was a foundational moment in modern relations between the U.S. and the Middle East. The origins of all the recent major news stories about American involvement in the region — from Egypt through Israel and Syria to Iran — lie in the 1940s and 1950s, a time when U.S. Arabists briefly dreamed of a happier form of engagement with the Arab world than that of the European colonial powers past, yet ended up only playing an American version of the Great Game.

Hugh Wilford is a professor of history at California State University, Long Beach, and the author of "America's Great Game: The CIA's Secret Arabists and the Shaping of the Modern Middle East" (Basic Books, 2014). He wrote this commentary for THE DAILY STAR.

The Repercussions of the GCC Tension in Yemen

Khaled Fattah
camegieendowment.org
First published April 8

The falling out between Riyadh and Doha leaves Yemen divided over which patron to follow.

The current Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) rift between Saudi Arabia and Qatar adds a new challenge to Yemen's fraught political transition. As tensions escalate between Riyadh and Doha, Yemen's central government is caught between Saudi Arabia and Qatar. Qatar appeals to a number of actors within Yemen's political arena because of its deeper pockets and less historical baggage in Yemen, which positions it well to mediate various local conflicts. However, Sana'a will find it difficult to move away from its long-standing strategic relationship with Saudi Arabia. Saudi Arabia's geographical proximity, wealth, and political weight render its influence in Yemen significant—and inescapable—and it is likely to remain so for the foreseeable future.

Although patron-client relations have always shaped Yemen's political arena, the post-Arab Spring context of uncertainty has ignited a fierce competition between the country's plethora of elite factions, not only over control of the state but also over external sources of legitimacy and support. Both Qatar and Saudi Arabia have been able to buy the loyalty of local actors with ease, aided by Yemen's endemic state weakness, scarcity of natural resources, and its regional, sectarian, and tribal fragmentation. Saudi Arabia has a long history of intervention and political investment in Yemen, which grants it more leverage over domestic ac-

tors, but also greater room for creating enemies. For instance, the Saudi support in granting blanket immunity from prosecution to former president Ali Abdullah Saleh has angered Yemen's revolutionary forces. Conversely, Qatar's track record in Yemen has been less problematic. It acted, for example, as a mediator in the Houthi conflict and the southern movement issue and therefore has less baggage in Yemen.

For Yemen's interim President Abdu Rabu Mansour Hadi, the timing of this intra-Gulf tension could not have been worse, coming as it does right at the beginning of the implementation of the outcomes of the stormy, ten-month National Dialogue. The Saudi-Qatari divergence over the Brotherhood poses a dilemma for Hadi, who is struggling to consolidate his legitimacy and deal with the country's mounting security and economic grievances. In the post-dialogue confusion, Hadi is caught between the Houthi movement and his own political party, the General People's Congress (GPC), on one side, and the Islah party on the other. He needs all the support he can get, particularly from Islah, which gained significant influence after mobilizing and sustaining the uprisings that forced former President Saleh to step down. Well-entrenched throughout the country, Islah has succeeded in recruiting thousands of its loyalists inside various government bodies, including those of interior, defense and local governance structure. The party, which includes a Muslim Brotherhood wing (in addition to its tribal elements headed by the al-Ahmar family and a Salafi branch), is pressing Hadi to maintain the role of Qatar in supporting the transition process.

Other factions are pulling Yemen toward Saudi Arabia. On March, 22, 2014,

a large tribal gathering tied to the GPC—Yemen's most ideologically diversified party, which remains under the leadership of former President Saleh—met in Sana'a to call for cutting diplomatic ties with Qatar. The gathering accused Doha of creating unrest and supporting Yemen's Muslim Brotherhood. The accusation came two weeks after the Saudi government formally designated the Brotherhood as a terrorist organization, an act that was widely welcomed by the GPC and the Houthi movement. However, Yemen's most powerful military figure, General Ali Mohsen al-Ahmar, who also serves as Hadi's military advisor since April 2013 and enjoys a large network of support within the Islamist camp, accused Iran of fueling the tensions between Riyadh and Doha. In doing so, he is attempting to appease the two countries; defending Saudi Arabia without upsetting Qatar will help him appear reconciliatory and resist the political fragmentation of the military.

Yet unlike in Tunisia and Egypt, where the main political battle is between nationalist and left-leaning groups on the one side and religious-right groups on the other, Yemen's battle lines are blurred and constantly shifting. Even the military, the one institution pivotal to the present and future of Yemen's security, remains dangerously divided and vulnerable to growing attrition. Yemen's military is a reflection of the country's multiple and overlapping power centers. Loyalty inside the military is more to the tribe, clan, region, and individual commanders than to state institutions.

The consequences of the Saudi-Qatari rift on the dynamics of politics and security in Yemen is of paramount importance given its proximity to the two players. Although Yemen provides an opportunity for Doha to put into practice its desire to

project regional weight and international prestige, for Riyadh, Yemen is vital. Saudi Arabia's involvement in Yemen remains not about prestige or regional influence; rather, it is a national security matter. Yemen is perceived in the Saudi intelligence community as a peripheral extension that should be closely monitored and controlled. Riyadh will not tolerate a successful Brotherhood-led transition in Yemen, as that would cement Doha's perceived success in supporting Islamist-led political change in the non-monarchical Arab states and pose an ideological challenge to Saudi Arabia's Wahhabism-based Islamic legitimacy.

Yemen's relations and policies toward external players carry implications not only for the country's political transition but also for stability and security in the Arabian Peninsula. The consequences of Saudi and Qatari diverging agendas in Yemen could be dire. The issue is not about Qatar carving for itself a powerful niche in Yemen or Saudi Arabia maintaining its influence there, rather it's about avoiding the collapse of Yemen—which would affect the entire region. A major challenge for the GCC, therefore, is finding a way to prevent further descent of the southwestern corner of Arabia into anarchy; this would require Riyadh and Doha to be on the same page. If Doha can reconcile with Riyadh, at least regarding Yemen, it will help move forward with the implementation of the National Dialogue outcomes, which are currently the only way to keep the country's delicate political balance.

Khaled Fattah is a nonresident scholar at the Carnegie Middle East Center and a guest lecturer at the Center for Middle Eastern Studies at Lund University in Sweden.

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2) Job Title: Civil Engineer

Description:

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- 5-10 years work experience in related position in the oil & gas industry.
- Ability to read and interpret engineering and manufacturers drawings, P&IDs and blue prints is essential.
- Must have good knowledge of safe work practices including hot/cold work permits.
- Good reading and writing of English.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

To apply for one of the above jobs, please visit 'Careers' page in our official Website: www.sepocye.com

NOTE:

- Applications must be submitted **online** no later than **April 17th, 2014**. Faxed or handed applications **will not** be considered.
- **ONLY** shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

Shami sweets in Sana'a: A SWEET TOOTH'S GUIDE

Photo essay by ALI ABULOHOOM

Sweetmaker Khalil Al-Sharabi, 25, works in a Sana'a sweetshop which is famous for its Shami sweets (Shami refers to the Levant). "Shami sweetshops have become profuse in Sana'a and Yemeni people are more likely to choose Shami sweets

from bakeries for special occasions like weddings and birthdays rather than those ready-made and bought from supermarkets. This is because Shami sweets are more delicious and less expensive," said Al-Sharabi. For over six years, Al-Sharabi has been working as a sweetmaker, having picked up his skills from a Syrian man. Various regions, including Turkey, Iran and Iraq, have had an influence in making Shami sweets what they are today.



Turomba is a Yemeni sweet which is similar to the Iraqi Asabe'a Zainab. Its main ingredients are flour, sugar and cooking oil.



Baqlawa is a famous Turkish treat. Al-Sharabi says that Baqlawa is the best choice for gifts because it is delicate and aesthetically pleasing.



Basbwsa is a Yemeni sweet with Turkish influences. It is made from coconut, flour, lemon, baking powder, eggs and sugar.



Cigar-shaped Baqlawa.



Kunafa is another Iraqi sweet made from starch, sugar, cooking oil, flour, peanuts and sour cream.



Intricate Baqlawa squares.



Al-Sharabi wakes up early in the morning at 6 a.m. along with his assistants to prepare sweet dishes.



Osh Al-Bolbol and Osh Al-Ghrab contain nuts, cooking oil, sugar and flour. They are variously shaped and have a similar taste. Osh means "nest," which they bear a resemblance to.



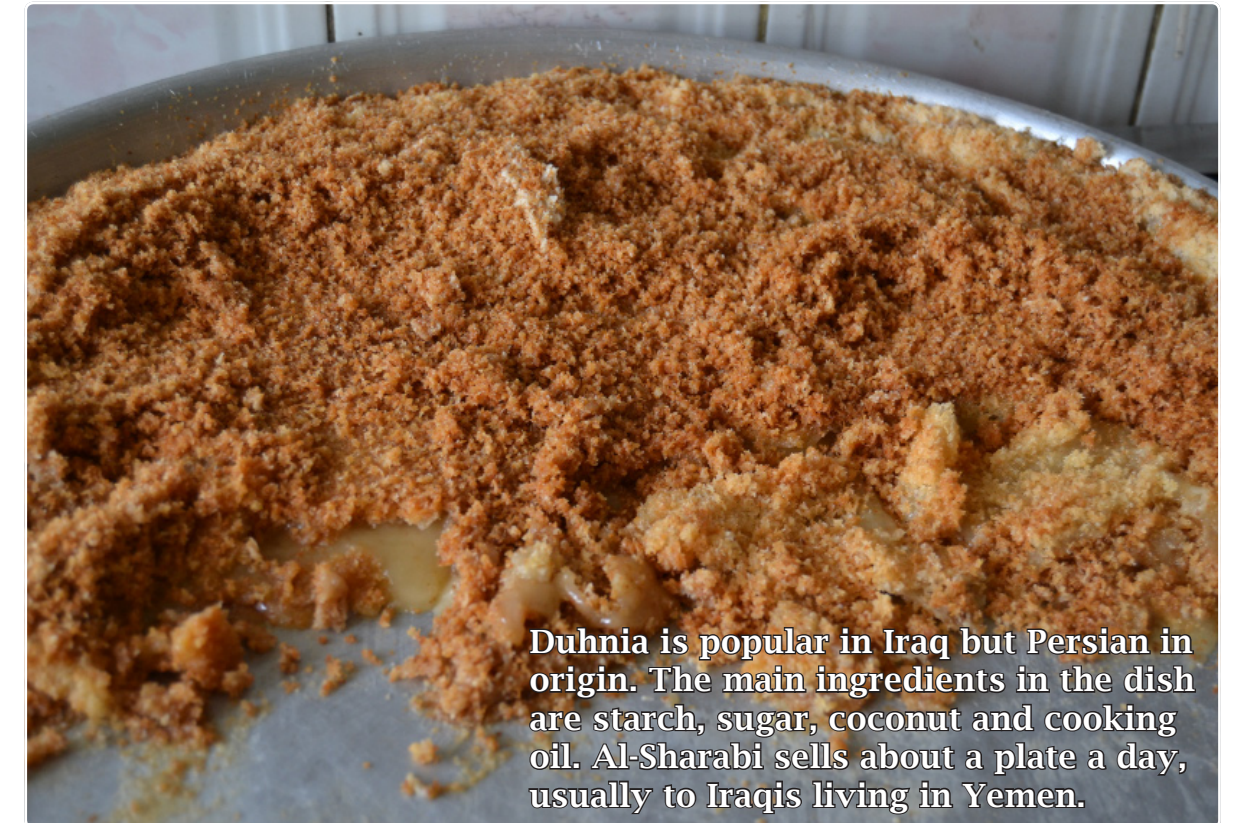
Mabrwma is a Syrian sweet crammed full of nuts.



Zonood Al-Set is a sweet of Iraqi origin. Its main ingredients are flour, milk, butter, starch, sour cream, lemon, cooking oil and sugar. Al-Sharabi says it is among the most popular delicacies he sells. "We receive orders for Zonood Al-Set from homes, embassies and restaurants. We sell about 20 plates every day, each one containing almost 150 portions," says Al-Sharabi.



Baqlawa comes in many different shapes.



Duhnna is popular in Iraq but Persian in origin. The main ingredients in the dish are starch, sugar, coconut and cooking oil. Al-Sharabi sells about a plate a day, usually to Iraqis living in Yemen.



Iraqi Harisa is basically a nuttier version of Basbwsa.



أجمل التهاني والتبريكات نرفها إلى
الطالبة/
لبلى عبدالله عباس الطويد
لنيلها الترتيب الأول بامتياز على الدفعة الثانية
كلية الآداب لغة إنجليزي

ألف ألف مبروك
وعقبال الدكتوراه
المهنتون

محمد فيصل الجواليحي
المدير الإداري لحديقة فن سيتي
وأخوك، أحمد عبدالله المؤيد
وأخواتها، عبدالرحمن عفيف الجيمي - طلال عفيف الجيمي
والأطفال، ليال ومؤيد ومنال وإياد
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- يفضل من لديه خبرة مناسبة في مجال البيع والتسويق.
- أن تكون لديه قدرات تنظيمية جيدة.
- يفضل من لديه معرفة باللغة الإنجليزية واستخدام الحاسب الآلي.
- رخصة قيادة سارية المفعول.
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- منظم، يعمل بروح الفريق الواحد ويتمتع بمهارات التعامل مع الآخرين والتأثير فيهم.
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VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

THE DELEGATION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION TO YEMEN IS SEEKING TO RECRUIT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

(1) AN INTERNATIONAL AID PROJECT OFFICER

Tasks will include - Under the supervision of the Head of Cooperation:

POLICY ANALYSIS

Sector analysis, strategy formulation and programming:

- Contribute to the development of strategies and programming of sectors, projects, actions, trust funds;
- Support policy dialogues with relevant ministries, agencies, institutes, cooperation partners and relevant stakeholders;
- Ensure effective operational coordination with EU Headquarters, EU MS, other EU Services and be responsible for on-the-spot coordination when required;
- Participate in cooperation partner group meetings and act as the EU Delegation's focal point who is providing overall coordination between donors or Headquarters on specific topics;
- Observe, monitor and report regularly and in timely fashion to the EU Delegation management and Headquarters, as well as in response to specific requests.

PROJECT/PROCESS MANAGEMENT

Preparation and follow up of Identification – Formulation – Financing – Contracting – Implementation – Evaluation for bilateral, regional and thematic projects, including eventually calls for proposals and tenders:

- Drafting and negotiation of Financing Agreements or other types of agreements;
- Project / actions / trust fund identification and formulation at the request of the responsible DGs in the European Commission and the EEAS;
- Preparation and follow-up of tenders, calls for proposal, contribution agreements;
- Organise, make presentations, respond to questions during information sessions or

following written requests for clarifications;

- Contracting with the potential partner;
- Daily management of the contracts or agreements;
- Results-focused monitoring the implementation of the contracts or agreements;
- Ensure up-to-date data input on projects;
- Participate in project meetings;
- Approval of interim and final narrative reports and invoices, and perform the necessary administrative processes;
- Ensure proper communication and visibility;
- Evaluation of projects and proposals.

GENERAL TASKS:

- To act as a back-stopper for colleagues during longer absences;
- Delegation's regular reporting to Headquarters;
- Act as note taker when required;
- Ensure EU visibility as regards cooperation;
- Assist with the preparation of High Level visits to Yemen;
- Liaise with relevant officers in other Sections of the Delegation and with task and country officers at HQ;
- Contribute to horizontal tasks of the Delegation;
- Preparation of material for the Head of Delegation, Head of Cooperation on the projects;
- Demonstrate the flexibility necessary to contribute to any other priorities as they arise.
- Coordination and networking aspects.

EXTERNAL COMMUNICATION

- Communication relating to programme and projects
- Production and dissemination of the results of projects at workshops, seminars, conferences and other public events, or through social media and website;
 - Extracting and disseminating best practices and facilitate exchanges of experience;
 - Contribute to the production of publications and other visibility materials;
 - Preparation of joint visibility efforts; prepared,

implemented, contracted or coordinated by the EU Delegation;

Job requirements:

A University Degree followed by diploma is essential preferably in Economics, Development Cooperation, International Relations, Public policy, Management or a related field. Additional diplomas/certificates in relevant topics for the function will be an important asset. Excellent English and Arabic language.

Professional experience:

The candidate must have a proven professional experience of at least 4 years in development, international cooperation or programme management in an international environment pertinent to the duties to be carried out.

(2) A SECRETARY FOR THE COOPERATION SECTION

Tasks will include: - Responsible, under the overall supervision of the Head of Cooperation, for a variety of administrative, logistical and secretarial tasks relating to the functioning of the Cooperation Section:

- Assist with the preparation of material for the Head of Delegation, Head of Cooperation;
- Manage the logistics, planning and claims of missions, leave and meetings / workshops / conference;
- Assure transportation booking and availability;
- Perform tasks involving administrative tools and archiving (e.g. databases, archiving and filing systems, etc.) for internal or European Commission / EEAS wide management and external reporting;
- Involvement in staff supporting issues;
- Administrative contacts with European Commission Headquarters, European External Action Service (EEAS) and EU-Yemen

cooperation projects;

- Assist with the ensuring EU visibility;
- Coordination of and logistical support to visits, meetings and events;
- Offer support for regular website updates in cooperation with the Press Section and external service providers;
- Act as note taker when required;
- Act as back-up for assistants as and when required;
- Translation/ interpretation tasks as and when required;
- Contribute to the horizontal tasks of the Operations Team and the Delegation as required;
- Assist with coordination and networking aspects;
- Demonstrate the flexibility necessary to contribute to any other priorities or tasks that may arise.

Job requirements:

University diploma in a relevant field is highly preferred, Excellent English and Arabic language skills. Basic knowledge of French is an asset.

Professional experience:

The candidate must have a proven professional experience of at least 2 years in administration or similar. Any additional years will be an asset.

Interested candidates are requested to send a letter of interest and an updated C.V, both in English, indicating the position (*Project Officer OPS* or *Secretary OPS*) applied for by email to:

Delegation-Yemen-HoA@eeas.europa.eu

No later than 30 April 2014

ONLY SHORT-LISTED CANDIDATES WILL BE INFORMED

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رحمته وأن يسكنها فسيح جناته ويلهم أهلها

وذويها الصبر والسلوان



نادية السقاف

وجميع الأهل والأصدقاء

المعزون



YEMEN TIMES
Radio

FROM THE AIRWAVES

Article 19 is a weekly awareness program on Radio Yemen Times that tackles some of Yemen's toughest issues: those related to the right to freedom of opinion and expression as defined in Article 19 of the International Declaration of Human Rights.

The program airs on Radio Yemen Times, 91.9 FM, on Wednesdays at 8 p.m. and is rebroadcast on Saturdays at 11 a.m.

Freedom of expression and economic prosperity

Article 19 radio show this week discussed the influence of freedom of expression on economic development and community participation in economic issues.

Abdulelah Taqi, a journalist who has written extensively on economics, spoke about this issue.

How can freedom of expression have a positive influence on development?

Freedom of expression is a right of all people and the press. However, some bodies in Yemen unfortunately utilize this freedom to negatively influence the economic development of Yemen. Development requires community participation.

How can community participation play a vital role in development?

Community participation is very important. For instance, we have to involve community members in rural areas to know their needs and if the project will ease their suffering. We also need to involve members of the community in economic projects so that they can see and monitor the economic process.

Do residents have freedom of expression to the extent that they can express their opinions about any subject?

People unfortunately don't pay attention to such things, although they are the most affected. They care more about politics but I think the media is responsible for raising awareness about the importance of freedom of expression.

What is the importance of article 19 in promoting development in the country?

Raising awareness of the importance lies with economic and social development institutions. Institutions that fail to perform this task will be broadly criticized. Therefore, institutions must make such information accessible in order to receive feedback to improve and promote the implementation process.

On the other hand, article 19 instills the concept of transparency in society and reduces economic mistakes and strengthens the fragile national economy.

Can freedom of expression in the workplace improve the plight of workers?

Several people think that labor unions simply want money—they do not know that they improve worker's performance and inform management of what is happening.

What are the things that prevent employees from expressing their opinions at work? How can this problem be resolved?

The main reason in this case is employees' fear of the manager's reaction. Leaders of institutions should encourage such criticism because it improves work and production, which yields a positive impact on the institution. Moreover, people should also be aware of their role in this aspect and pay attention and aim to improve the work and facilitate contact with their management as much as they pay attention to demand their rights.

Is fear a factor in the current crisis in the country?

Abdulelah Taqi:
... article 19 instills the concept of transparency in society and reduces economic mistakes and strengthens the fragile national economy.

I don't think that this the situation, currently—people openly express their opinions now, though those opinions are often a result of being misinformed by particular interests. I think the media is largely responsible.

Listener's views:

Rafeeq Al-Zoraiqi, via phone: Why is it that newspapers that express opinions freely are usually closed and their staff is exposed to abduction? How does this affect the development of the country?

We focus on two points: first is that development is not directed by any one power but by a poor flow of information from institutions.

The second reason is the existence of newspapers as a medium to transfer information and to report the truth, and to facilitate discussion between decision-makers and citizens. These newspapers have agendas, mostly political agendas, so they allocate their front pages to serve their political purposes and use the inside and middle pages for economy and the social issues.

How can children survive in such an economic crisis?

Yemen is witnessing a humanitarian crisis but nobody knows about it because the press unfortunately tries to cover it up.

What is our current economic situation?

A humanitarian response was approved by about 105 local and international organizations in Yemen for 2014. About 60 percent of Yemenis are in need of humanitarian assistance. Yemen ranked after Afghanistan in terms of malnutrition and 70 percent of the conflicts in Yemen take place over water. About 13 million residents don't have access to water and sanitation.

Do you think that the Article 19 radio show contributes to raising awareness about the community's need to demand its rights, including social and economic rights in the country?

For sure, the Article 19 radio show is an excellent show because it spreads awareness about the importance of freedom of expression among people. It helps to educate people to improve the economic, social and professional spheres.

تأثير حرية التعبير على التنمية الاقتصادية والمشاركة المجتمعية

ناقش برنامج المادة 19 هذا الأسبوع تأثير حرية التعبير على التنمية الاقتصادية والمشاركة المجتمعية والتعبير عن الحقوق في الجانب الاقتصادي ومدى مساحة الحرية لدى المواطن في هذا المجال. استضاف البرنامج **عبدالله تقي**، صحفي متخصص في الجانب الاقتصادي.

ما هي الأشياء التي تمنع الموظف من التعبير عن رأيه أمام مديرة أو رئيسه؟ وكيف يمكن حل هذه المشكلة؟

العامل الرئيسي في هذه الحالة هو الخوف من ردة فعل الإدارة على الموظف... فيجب على قيادات المؤسسات ان تشجع مثل هذا النقد لأنه يعمل على تطوير العمل وزيادة الإنتاجية وهذا الشيء له اثر إيجابي على الإدارة وعلى سمعة المؤسسة. وعلى الناس ان يعوا مسؤوليتهم في هذا المجال والا تكون مطالبهم حقوقية بحته بقدر ما تكون مطورة للعمل وتسهيله لأعمالهم.

هل عامل الخوف مؤثر بجانب الازمات التي تحصل في البلد؟

لا اعتقد ان هذه الحالة موجودة الان في مجتمعنا لأن الناس يقولون رأيهم بكل حرية ولكن هناك تضليل من بعض الجهات وقد تكون الجهات الصحفية مسؤولة بشكل رئيسي في هذا الموضوع.

مداخلة هاتفية/ رفيق الزريقي: لماذا يتم إغلاق الصحف التي تعبر عن الآراء بحرية او يتم اختطاف الصحفيين العاملين فيها وما تأثير هذا على تنمية البلد؟

نركز على محورين الأول ان المعلومات التنموية والاجتماعية والاقتصادية ليس هناك ما يوجهها من كيت او قوة ولكن يوجهها شيطان وهما عدم تدفق المعلومات بشكل سلس من المؤسسات خوفا من بعض الأسباب او من شحة المؤسسات فيها فلا يوجد لديها أي اليه للتطوير او منهجية علمية للتخطيط او لمراقبة مشاريعها.

الجانب الثاني هو وجود الصحافة كوسيط لنقل المعلومات والحقيقة كما هي بين صانع القرار وبين المواطن المستفيد من هذه الخدمة. هذه الصحافة لديها اجندة في الغالب تكون سياسية فتكرس صفحاتها الأولى لما يخدم اغراضها السياسية إما بالاجندة السياسية فتكون في منتصف او داخل الصحيفة فقط للاقتصاد والصفحات الاجتماعية.

كيف يمكن ان يعيش أطفالنا في مثل هذه الازمات الاقتصادية؟

اليمن يعيش ازمة إنسانية ولكنها زمة إنسانية عالمية صامتة وصحافتنا للأسف تعمل على تغييرها على المستوى المحلي.

إن نحن من التعبير عن حقنا من الجانب الاقتصادي؟

هناك خطة الاستجابة الإنسانية للعام 2014 في اليمن والتي اقرتها حوالي 105 منظمات محلية ودولية أظهرت صدمة كبير حيث تقول ان 60% من اليمنيين يحتاجون الى مساعدات إنسانية واليمن يعتبر بعد أفغانستان في سوء التغذية الحاد والعاصمة صنعاء تعتبر العاصمة السابعة في العالم التي تعاني من فقر المياه وسينضب عنها قريبا و70% من الصراعات في اليمن يكون سببها المياه.

هل تعتقد ان برنامج المادة 19 يساهم بشكل او بأخر في رفع الوعي المجتمعي للمطالب بالحقوق ومن ضمنها الحقوق الاجتماعية والاقتصادية في البلد؟

بلا شك البرنامج هذه متميز لأنه يعكس للناس مدى أهمية حرية التعبير لبناء رأس المال الاجتماعي وثقافة الناس بان المعلومة لابد ان تكون مهمة ومتدفقة بشكل حر لنستطيع ان نبني عليها انجاز حقيقي وليس هلامي وبالتالي هذا البرنامج يعمل على تنمية رأس المال الاجتماعي وتنقيحهم وتعليمهم من اجل النهوض بالحياة في المجال الاقتصادي والاجتماعي والمهني والكثير من المجالات.

كيف يمكن ان تؤثر حرية التعبير على التنمية بشكل إيجابي؟

حرية التعبير حق متاح لكل الافراد وللصحافة في اليمن ولكن للأسف بعض الجهات تستغل حرية التعبير للتأثير سلبا على التنمية الاقتصادية. والتنمية تحتاج إلى المشاركة المجتمعية.

كيف يمكن ان يكون للمشاركة المجتمعية دورا مهما في تحريك عجلة التنمية؟

المشاركة المجتمعية مهمة جداً فمثلاً نحتاج إلى اشراك السكان في المناطق الريفية لمعرفة احتياجاتهم وما إذا كان المشروع الذي سيتم سيخفف من معاناة الناس. إذا فلابد من اشراك المجتمع في عملية المشروع من البداية كما من المطلوب أيضاً اتمام المجتمع في المشاريع الاقتصادية لكي يكونوا كركيب على العملية الاقتصادية.

هل فعلاً هناك مساحة حرية للمواطن يستطيع من خلالها التعبير عن رأيه تجاه أي مشروع؟

للأسف الناس لديهم قصور تجاه هذه الأشياء رغم انهم المتضررون الأكثر في هذا الاتجاه ولكنهم يبرعون أكثر في المجال السياسي فانا احمل المسؤولية السلطات الإعلامية لتثقيف المجتمع وتوعيته في مثل هذه الأمور.

عبدالله تقي:
اليمن يعيش ازمة إنسانية ولكنها زمة إنسانية عالمية صامتة وصحافتنا للأسف تعمل على تغييرها على المستوى المحلي.

ما أهمية نص او قانون المادة 19 في تنمية عجلة التنمية في البلد؟

تكم الأهمية في وجود أجهزة داخل المؤسسات التنموية والاقتصادية والاجتماعية التي تعنى بتوفير مثل هذه المعلومات. وفي الأخير أي مؤسسة تفشل في هذا الأداء ستتعرض لأنقاد واسع وبالتالي يجب اتاحة مثل هذه المعلومات حتى تستطيع المؤسسة ان تتلقى نوع من الصدى الرجعي من اجل تحسين وتطوير عملية التنفيذ ويعتبر نوع من المراقبة المجتمعية والصحفية ويعمل على تحسين المشاريع المستقبلية.

ومن ناحية أخرى فان هذه المادة تعمل على ترسيخ ثقافة الشفافية في المجتمع وبالتالي التقليل من الأخطاء الاقتصادية الموجودة وضعف الاقتصاد الوطني. وتوفر مثل هذه الأشياء الكثير من الأموال والجهود وتغير المواقف من القضايا السلبية.

هل ضمان حرية التعبير للموظف في نطاق عمله يمكن ان يحرك المياه الراكدة؟

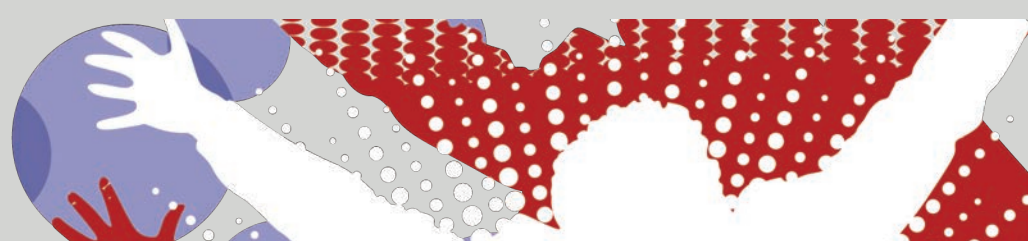
الكثير من الناس لديهم اعتقاد واسع ان وجود نقابات عمالية وتعبير العمال عن حقوقهم فقط لأجل اغراض حقوقية وجلب أموال للعمال فقط ولا يعلمون ان وجود النقابات يعمل على تطوير الإنجاز والعمل وتحفيز المؤسسة لمعرفة ما يجري في المؤسسة.



giz Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH



YEMEN TIMES Radio



NGO-NGO learning: what works?

IRIN
First published 8 April

A whole industry has emerged to foster humanitarian learning and, in the main, actors are increasingly collaborative and open when it comes to learning lessons from emergencies. But challenges persist, including a prevailing aversion to risk as the industry corporatizes, and a disconnect between individual and institutional, formal and non-formal, learning.

Humanitarian agencies and donors have increased their formal reporting requirements, and attempts to learn often turn into heavy databases, but this formal learning can overlook the rich seams of informal learning that have always driven much humanitarian innovation, said Luz Gómez, humanitarian planning, monitoring, evaluation, accountability and learning (MEAL) officer at NGO Intermon. "Lots of the real learning that takes place isn't captured in annual reports or formal documents. It is exchanged in discussions held in the parking lot before and after cluster coordination meetings - or in the evening over tea or a beer."

The question is how to share the



REBUILDING AFTER TYPHOON HAIYAN: just a fraction of all those reports on best practice, standards and guidelines are translated into local languages

learning from those conversations without killing the openness or trust; and spreading those messages from parking lot to parking lot, said Saul Guerrero, learning and evaluation head of the 19-NGO-strong Start Network, which is trying to

revolutionize collective NGO funding and response.

While individuals learn emergency-to-emergency, as do teams, the challenge lies in higher-up institutional learning, said Gomez. "It is between the team and institutional

level [of learning] that you get the most difficulty."

To sink in across NGOs, learning must be engaging and efficient. Use video; push for webinars; encourage two-minute, not 20-minute presentations, ban power-points, were some of the suggestions made. "We don't need more data. We need more time," said Dayna Brown Listening Program Director at US-based learning non-profit, CDA.

Benedict Dempsey, learning specialist at Save the Children, says 70 percent of learning takes place on the job, 30 percent in formal training sessions. "To date there has been an over-emphasis on external, formal training, but now people recognize that on-the-job coaching and training is the way forward."

The Start Network staff realized, for instance, that programme heads were often the first to spot mistakes, but did not have the time to investigate them or adjust programmes as a result. So the Start Network now asks agencies to highlight problems and appoints a third party to investigate them and find solutions.

But while discrete attempts are being made, a decreasing appetite for risk among both aid agencies and donors according to interviewees, continues to hamper agencies' ability to admit failure. "They shouldn't be so scared," said Guerrero. "They need to see the sky won't open up and swallow them - or their money - if they admit to failure. Failure is integral to our learning; failure, learn, next step, failure, learn, next step - we need to get better at that."

Humanitarian learning must become less insular and draw lessons from outside the industry, said John Mitchell, head of the Active Learning Network for Accountability in Practice (ALNAP). He cites the Humanitarian Futures Programme as a group that has done this well: it collaborates with scientists, the military and private sector to elicit new approaches.

And learning is still too northern-centric: "It's still difficult for northern-based agencies to learn from southern ones," said Mitchell. "This neglect of national staff and local actors is a common theme in our work."

Finally, complex learning - what Mitchell terms "triple-loop learning" which involves questioning the rationale of an aid approach or an organization's ethos, like the shift from food aid to cash vouchers, which is currently under way - takes years, sometimes decades, and we must be patient.

(Single-loop learning involves sharing information about what agencies do; and double-loop: re-designing the way they do things based

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on that learning).
IRIN spoke to practitioners and learning experts to highlight some innovative initiatives:

Learning from mistakes

Some agencies or individuals are daring to be more open about mistakes. Action Against Hunger (ACF) publishes an annual learning review where it discusses mistakes and lessons. Swedish aid agency SIDA even used humour in a report on the abuse of the log frameworks.

Such initiatives are refreshing, said Francois Grunewald, head of French humanitarian think tank Groupe URD: "It's not a problem to share a mistake, it's a problem not to share it," he pointed out.

Confidential talk shops can also be hugely beneficial: UK-based NGO network the Disasters Emergency Committee often does this following a collective appeal and response. "We need a safe environment to share what is not working," said Dayna Brown of CDA. This works best if facilitated by an outside organization with no stake in the findings, said one observer.

Humanitarians can take a cue from outside the sector, said Gomez, citing website Admittingfailure.com, which was started by a US citizen who wanted to start a community to create a more transparent, collaborative approach to development. Examples of failures include corruption in a youth soccer initiative, and money drying up in a scholarship programme that caused students to drop out of their schools.

Donors do not give agencies enough space, or put enough pressure on them to change, said interviewees. "Donors want value for money, but we want intelligence for money," said Grunewald. So in some cases NGOs are taking charge. The Start Network puts aside 1 percent of the donor funding each agency receives for flexible learning support; and will link future funding disbursements to what an NGO did as a result of learning about a mistake. "We wanted to ask: how can your performance and your ability to be transparent get captured and be reflected in future funding?" said Guerrero. After all, the key to learning is making a stronger link between the generation of materials [reports, best practice] and how they are used, said Brown.

Communities of practice

NGOs are increasingly gathering learning networks, in some cases "hubs", around a theme - say Cash in emergencies (CaLP), Communicating with disaster-affected communities (CDAC) or the Digital Humanitarian Network. ALNAP also sets up communities of practice around different themes (urban disaster response, communicating with communities) which are starting to have a significant impact on the sector say observers.

Increasingly regional networks such as the Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network are laying emphasis on inter-NGO learning as a primary goal. Online learning opportunities bring opportunities to their members that were out of reach a decade ago. Such networks may be the norm in the future, said

Guerrero, "so we need to get much better at capturing lessons learned." Start's primary challenge in his view is: "what can you really achieve when you put 19 agencies to work together in an emergency? How can we really be greater than the sum of our parts?"

Local partners overlooked?

The aid sector is getting more complex, and given that, there will be "more missed connections and disconnections", said ALNAP's Mitchell. "The learning challenge will only get bigger and more complex."

Missed connections apply to national and local partners: they are too often overlooked in training programmes, and of the thousands of pages of best practice, evaluations, standards and tools, just a fraction are translated into local languages, despite 90 percent of humanitarians being local staff. "It doesn't add up," said Gomez. Groupe URD translates all of the materials on its Haiti learning hub into Creole and focuses its Haiti training towards national government and NGO staff, but "more needs to be done," admitted Grunewald.

Iterative evaluations

Groupe URD was one of the first organizations to launch real-time evaluations - in Central America in 1994. Since then, the sector has come a long way: evaluations are increasingly shared (ALNAP has at least 2,000 evaluations in its database, estimates Mitchell); they are often led by independent parties such as the Emergency Capacity Building Project, and lessons from them are often synthesized into meta-evaluations or quick lessons-learned crib sheets. ALNAP's document, synthesizing 30 years of lessons learned from earthquake response, was downloaded 2,500 times in four hours following the 2010 Haiti earthquake.

Evaluations are also going further. In its learning "observatories" in Chad, Afghanistan and Haiti, Groupe URD revisits projects every few months to evaluate whether or not changes have been made to previous evaluation findings; runs seminars to discuss the results; researches initiatives to look into solutions if they are unclear, and training to address gaps.

The Humanitarian and Leadership Academy (not yet running as it still awaits funding) plans to bridge the gap between the swathe of humanitarian materials available online and the lack of learning, development, capacity-building and expertise in the sector, by sifting through it all and separating the good from the bad. "There is a lot of material available but it is hard to judge what is relevant, what is good quality," said Benedict Dempsey, head of Knowledge and Evidence at the Academy, which hopes to have 10 centers across the globe, will also translate materials into local languages - on demand if needed. "If enough practitioners are asking for building regulation guidance in Bahasa Indonesian, we'll translate them," said Dempsey.

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