



DISPLACED IN THE OPEN

A HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT DOCUMENTING THE HUMANITARIAN SITUATION IN THE DISPLACEMENT CAMPS IN
MARIB GOVERNORATE



SAM
Rights & Liberties

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About SAM

SAM is an independent, non-profit human rights organization headquartered in Geneva, which began its activities in January 2016 and obtained a work permit in December 2017. It seeks to defend human rights in the Middle East and Yemen in particular and communicate information about violations to decision-making institutions and effective and influential international organizations. SAM has been subjected to many campaigns of defamation and incitement. In addition, its platforms has been subjected to hacking by the parties to the conflict in Yemen because of its exposure of the crimes they committed. SAM has issued dozens of reports in both Arabic and English, as well as human rights statements documenting war and human rights violations in Yemen.

Introduction

The Yemeni individual does not know when to carry what is left of his simple belongings to continue paving the paths of displacement again. He moves from one place to another in search of safety and shelter, carrying the simple things given to him by the displacement camps, which barely suffice the hunger that afflicts him, his children and his family.

The suffering of the displacement of the Yemeni citizen is an actual embodiment of the human tragedy left by the six-year war in Yemen as the International Organization for Migration announced that no less than 172,000 people were displaced from their homes in 2020 due to the conflict.

As fighting continues, the wave of

displacement also continues in the areas of southern Marib Governorate (northeast of Yemen), and number of people fleeing the latest escalation during the past three months has reached more than 100,000 displaced people according to government officials in the governorate, which hosts the largest concentration of displaced people in the country. These displaced people were forced to flee the targeting after their previous villages and camps turned into a battlefield, so they fled into the depths of the desert, east of the city of Marib towards the Safer oil fields in camps that lack the simplest things that help them to live.

The International Organization for Migration has previously announced that Marib governorate (northeast of

Yemen) is the region which witnessed the highest rate of displacement, pointing out that its estimates indicate that the city of Marib district alone (the administrative center of the governorate) received more than 73,000 new displaced people last year.

There are many displacement camps in a number of Yemeni governorates, but the city of Marib hosts the largest number of them with more than 2.5 million people after it has become the ideal destination for many stranded displaced civilians, according to reports by local and international organizations.

Despite receiving this large number of internally displaced persons in camps designated for them by local and international relief organizations, there have been many complaints about the poor equipment of the camps, including the lack of potable water, the scarcity of toilets, and the torn tents which do not protect hundreds of families from the repercussions of winter or the flames of the summer sun.

According to most estimates, more than 70% of the displaced in the governorate live in difficult conditions as they are living in "sheds" and worn-out tents that do not provide them with the simplest protection from the effects of nature.

Thousands of individuals face many difficulties in the painful journey of escape and displacement from their former homes and camps until they reach the places where they have sought shelter, and these places exceed 10 camps scattered at close distances in the Al-Wadi District (Wadi Ubaidah), including "Nage'a, Bani Mu'ili, Al-Jathwa, Sima, Ghosn, Al-Ramsa, Al-Husun, Al-Arqin, Wahshan Al-Sharqi Camp and Al-Mukraf". No aid or assistance has reached these camps from humanitarian organizations or relief workers. What these camps received, according to testimonies, is aid from benefactors and the host community.

In its current report, "Displaced in the Open," SAM seeks to highlight the continuous and prolonged suffering of the internally displaced Yemenis in the camps and areas to which they fled after the loss of their homes and the insecurity in their areas of origin. It also seeks to indicate to the deterioration of the humanitarian, health and security situation affecting Yemenis during their journey of displacement between the camps and the difficulties they face, in addition to the violations they are exposed to, especially women and children.



Report Methodology

Displaced in the Open is a report documenting the humanitarian situation in some forced displacement camps in Yemen from the beginning of March 2018 to the end of December 2020.

SAM visited several camps in Marib, the largest Yemeni governorate to receive the displaced, and the interim capital, Aden, to which many families from Hodeidah, Sana'a, and Taiz- located in central Yemen- and Al-Mahrah- located in the far east bordering the Sultanate of Oman- have fled through a team of

researchers and collaborators trained in writing human rights stories and in using internationally applied monitoring and documentation mechanisms.

The organization's researchers and collaborators work in very dangerous conditions in Yemen, where many campaigns have been launched against the organization by military and political parties that receive support and funding from the United Arab Emirates, and others from the Houthi group, as well as government military forces. SAM organization was brought to trial by the Public Prosecution Office under the authority of the Houthis in Sana'a on charges of supporting the Baha'is in Yemen. Furthermore, Emirati and Gulf channels and newspapers launched a media smear campaign against the organization and its management, which made the organization's researchers and collaborators vulnerable to persecution and harassment by all parties to the conflict in Yemen. However, its team was able to access dozens of facts, victims and witnesses while documenting human rights violations related to sniper attacks and deliberate killings.

The organization's team inside Yemen and its management in Geneva, Switzerland, were keen on meeting with those affected by forced displacement in the camps directly, visiting the camps, learning about their conditions and the suffering of the displaced therein, and photographing the victims. The organization also used the available means of communication and reached out to the concerned authorities, such as the Executive Unit for the Displaced in Marib, to learn about the scale of the humanitarian disaster and the number of victims.

The organization believes that the findings of this report do not cover the scale of the humanitarian disaster in Yemen, which was described, according to UN reports, as one of the largest humanitarian disasters in the modern era. However, the report seeks to provide vivid images from inside the camps and to convey the suffering of the victims as it is and recounts live examples of the stories of those displaced in many Yemeni governorates.

Significance of the Report

The report is important as it documents the humanitarian situation of the forcibly displaced in many camps designated to receive them in many governorates. It presents a picture of the harsh living conditions in these camps and the challenges facing the displaced, especially in light of the lack of funding and the continuation of battles on the outskirts of some of these camps. In fact, some of these camps were targeted more than once in Marib Governorate. Moreover, the report lists the most important challenges facing the forcibly displaced people in these camps, especially women and children.

The report contains many testimonies and stories of the victims of displacement, who are still suffering from the pain of migration inside the country, especially in light of the internal and external shortcomings towards them. This report is a contribution to amplifying the voice of the victims of forced displacement and exposing part of their ordeal.

Legal Background

International humanitarian law provides protection for the internally displaced as civilians who must be protected by law. This is based on the rules of protection established for the benefit of the civilian population and the principle of distinction between them and combatants, which requires the prohibition of attacking civilians who are not participating in hostilities in any way. Thus, the conflicting parties must preserve their lives and protect them, in accordance with the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949, the two Additional Protocols to the Geneva Conventions of 1977, and the rules of customary humanitarian law, which constitute an essential source of this law that oblige the conflicting parties to take all necessary measures in order to avoid situations that might lead to the displacement of civilians. In addition to the protection provided by the provisions of international humanitarian law to internally displaced persons, the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement provide protection for this group. The protection of internally displaced persons, under international human rights conventions, is based on guaranteeing the right to freedom of movement and to choose one's residence. This was confirmed by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. The concept of protection from arbitrary displacement

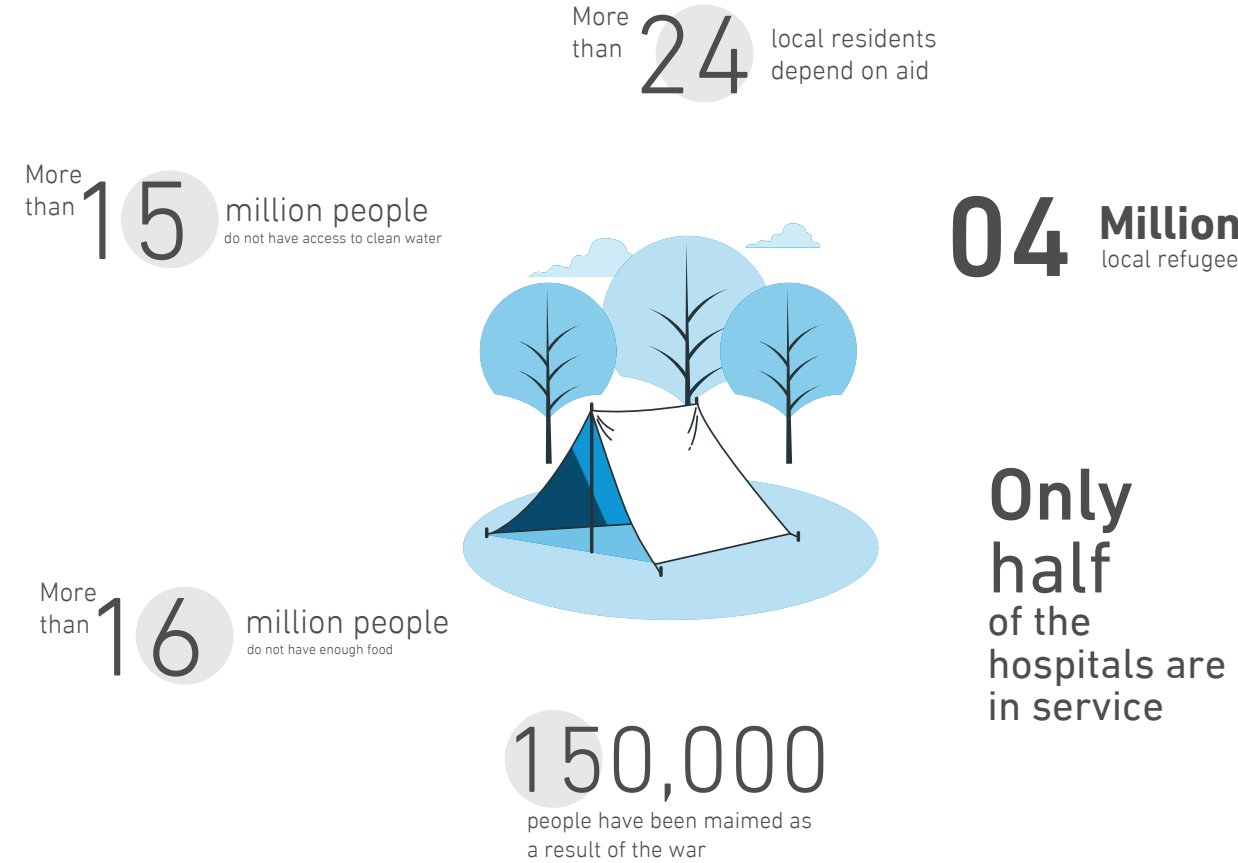
also depends on respecting the right to housing in accordance with the provisions of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

International conventions also emphasize the need to protect the right to life for the displaced, as they affirmed that every person has an inherent right to life that must be protected by law, and that no one may be arbitrarily deprived of his life. Internally displaced persons must be particularly protected from genocide, killings, summary or arbitrary executions, enforced disappearances, including abduction or detention without acknowledgment, threat of death or what leads to it. Threats or incitement to commit any of the aforementioned acts are prohibited and in all circumstances attacks or other acts of violence against internally displaced persons who are not or no longer taking part in hostilities are prohibited. Internally displaced persons, in particular, must be protected from what threatens their lives, in accordance with the provisions of Article (10 / F2) of the principles. That includes direct or indiscriminate attacks or other acts of violence, including the establishing zones where attacks on civilians are allowed, using starvation as a method of combat, using them as human shields to protect military targets from attack or to protect, assist or hinder military operations, launching attacks on their camps or settlements and planting anti-personnel mines.

The Humanitarian Crisis in Numbers



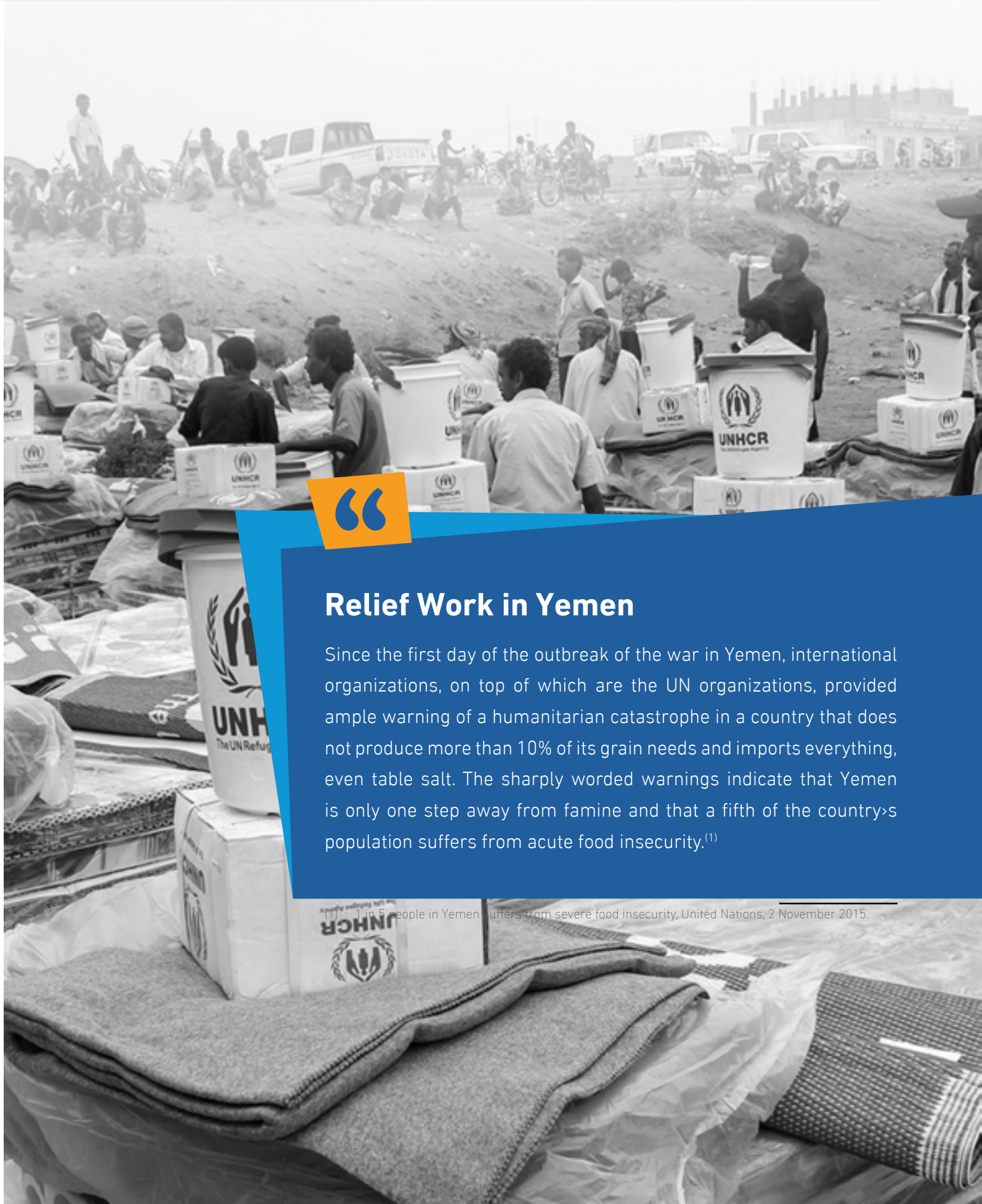
The International Red Cross: "Yemen needs help on a scale that non-governmental organizations can no longer cope with." More than 24 million local residents depend on aid. The numbers are massive, but they are also so disproportionately high that you can't imagine anything between them. Christa Rottensteiner Chief of Mission of the UN's International Organization for Migration (IOM): "Yes, this is the big problem in Yemen. It is the seventh year of the war, and it may be boring for many people. But it is getting worse."



More than 15 million people do not have access to clean water and more than 16 million do not have enough food. Only half of the hospitals are still functioning, and more than 150,000 people have been maimed as a result of the war.

There are four million internally displaced persons while the geographical location makes it almost impossible to escape abroad. The Houthis are in an area extending from west to south, and a road extending more than 1,000 kilometres passes through the desert to Oman in the east, and Saudi Arabia closed the borders in the north.

Source: A multisectoral study on the displaced in Yemen, issued by the Executive Unit for the Management of Displaced Camps, December 2021.



Relief Work in Yemen

Since the first day of the outbreak of the war in Yemen, international organizations, on top of which are the UN organizations, provided ample warning of a humanitarian catastrophe in a country that does not produce more than 10% of its grain needs and imports everything, even table salt. The sharply worded warnings indicate that Yemen is only one step away from famine and that a fifth of the country's population suffers from acute food insecurity.⁽¹⁾

⁽¹⁾ 1 in 5 people in Yemen suffers from severe food insecurity, United Nations, 2 November 2015.



Yemen is one of the countries most affected by the critical humanitarian situation. The country has not stabilized since 2010, and at that time the World Food Program indicated that 7.2 million Yemenis (a third of the population) suffer from food insecurity. This includes 2.65 million people (11.8%) who are in a very difficult situation, in addition to the chronic problems of poverty, malnutrition, lack of clean drinking water and poor sanitation. According to UNICEF, the total deaths of children under the age of five in 2010 in Yemen were nearly 69,000 children, at a rate of one child every seven minutes.⁽¹⁾

In Yemen, everything tends to increase dramatically. The population has been growing at a high rate, with an increase of about 700,000 people annually⁽²⁾, and with it the needs are rising, and the humanitarian situation is exacerbating. Likewise, the amounts allocated for relief are increasing as aid agencies received in 2007 an amount of \$170 million dollars⁽³⁾ to meet emergency needs while the amounts collected in 2018 amounted to \$4 billion.⁽⁴⁾

(1) Facts about Yemen, UNICEF.

(2) Yemen: Rapid population threatens growth, The New Humanitarian, 27 December 2007.

(3) UN Emergency Fund Allocates \$25 Million to Support Critical Relief Operations in Yemen, United Nations, June 25, 2015.

(4) Jack Goodman, Yemen war: Billions in aid, but where's it going?

Where does that money go?

This question is on the mind of any follower and interested in the Yemeni issue, especially since the cumulative funds have become large and exceeded 20 billion dollars, not to mention the direct aid implemented by regional bodies such as the King Salman Center or the Emirati or Kuwaiti Crescent. These are large sums if we know that the value of Yemen's imports of wheat and rice as the two most important food commodities in 2014 are respectively one billion dollars and 394 million dollars at a price of 215 riyals per dollar. Indeed, all imported food bills in Yemen amount to four billion dollars⁽¹⁾.

If you measure these funds that came as relief in the past years, along with what remains of the government budget, it is assumed that it is able to stabilize the situation at its level prior to this war in the worst case, if not to fix it.

Other problems arose, such as the spread of epidemics like cholera or the collapse of the health system, as well as a larger influx of the locally displaced. However, these theses are not enough to understand what is going on or how and where the money went.

No one can understand or follow up the relief aspect in Yemen for two reasons. The first is the inconsistency and variation of numbers sometimes to the extent of chaos⁽²⁾ with the adoption of arbitrary numbers that do not change as a matter of scrutiny and are transmitted frequently through a primary source without scrutiny or review. As is the case with war victims, the number of displaced persons, or the death rate of children, with one difference, which is presenting the total deaths but by counting death every minute. The second is the drowning of the human condition in a bad situation that does not improve despite the money, data and propaganda work.

(1) Annual Report 2014, Central Bank of Yemen.

(2) Mustafa Maji Al-Jibzi, Yemen Monitor, 29 October 2018.

Mismanagement and Deviation of Aid

Four years after a relief intervention that goes into a black hole, which only works to enhance the capabilities of the belligerents, the United Nations announced that relief aid was being diverted and went to the undeserving.

The Food Program accused local partner organizations in Sana'a⁽¹⁾ of working to divert the path of aid. Some in-kind aid was found to be sold in the markets or on the battle fronts or delivered to the Houthi supervisors and their followers, which deprived the beneficiaries registered in the aid records from receiving the aid. Accusations of tampering with food baskets were also exchanged in other governorates in the south and east.

This work constitutes only one aspect of the loss of aid. There is a structural imbalance in the relief process, which starts with not buying goods from the local market. Such a step can provide hard currency in the country in order to balance the value of the riyal and keep the purchasing power at its previous level so that the amount delivered as aid (about 25 thousand Yemeni riyals) covers the basic needs of the family. Moreover, this step can revitalize the local market and create job opportunities. This structural imbalance ends up with the distribution of aid funds, which may reach half the implementation costs in some of the allocated cases.

However, the work of implementing aid programs clearly passes through an endless chain of links between international and local organizations which gnaws a large share of the amounts in the form of operating expenses such as wages, equipment, protection, insurance, transportation and logistics services to the point that makes the process seems as a hierarchical sub-operation.

Additionally, some aid programs are vague and not clear in the sole charts used as data published by the organizations on their websites, for the percentage of unallocated amounts reaches a third of what has been allocated to Yemen within the emergency response program.⁽²⁾

(1) WFP calls on Houthis to take immediate action after uncovering food aid fraud in Yemen, United Nations, December 31, 2018.

(2) <https://fts.unocha.org/countries/248/summary/2018>

Lack of Transparency and Intensified Promotion

It is noteworthy that the humanitarian organizations in Yemen do not disclose their financial data and their implementation programs for determining the fate of the allocated funds and understanding the urgency of the humanitarian crisis beyond just the justification for the war.

In addition, the absence of a field survey and updated statistics makes the circulated figures questionable and a source of confusion. For example, organizations concerned with humanitarian work in Yemen kept calculating and evaluating their programs on the basis that the country's population is only 25 million people, and so on until 2018, when it suddenly jumped to talk about 30 million people, without regard to the population increase projections of a population census that has been outdated for more than 14 years.

Moreover, the assessment of food insecurity is based systematically on limited number of community segments and via the fixed telephone to check if the family has the food ration for the next day. Such a mechanism is irrational in a country that does not have more than a million fixed telephone lines, most of which are in the main cities and a third of them are in the capital, Sana'a, only. Whereas the severe needs are in the countryside where communication and transportation are difficult and services are absent.

Aids on Paper

A lot of confusion was raised about humanitarian aid in Yemen by Yemeni activists, which crystallized in what was called “Yemen NGO Black Hole”. This campaign lasted for months, during which they called on relief organizations in Yemen to be transparent and publish their financial reports. On August 29, 2022, Al Jazeera Net's investigation was published, entitled, Aid on Paper... Relief Organizations in Yemen Waste Millions of Dollars. The investigation concluded that most of the international aid funds for Yemen in operating expenses do not achieve their goal of improving the conditions of Yemenis, and organizations exploit exchange rate conflicts to achieve private gains. We present the most important findings of the investigation, which was prepared by both journalists, Aseel Sarih and Issa Al-Rajhi.

Over a period of 7 months, the authors of the investigation tracked a group of projects implemented by international organizations in Yemen, and analysed documents and contracts of 14 projects implemented by American, British and other United Nations organizations. The documents showed that the operating budgets of some projects were greater than the percentage allocated to them by the Yemeni Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation. Also, other projects witnessed manipulation in currency exchange rates or contract details; consequently, which deprived those who deserve aid from receiving it.

Hassan Mubarak (displaced from Hajjah governorate) received cash assistance once from the “Humanitarian Response in Hajjah Governorate” project. This project had a budget of \$1.079 million and was implemented by the Norwegian Council.

The project documents reveal that those in charge of it did not commit to disburse the amounts specified in the contract. Only 30% of the budget (\$353,000) was spent on activities that achieve the project's goal, which is the disbursement of cash assistance to those affected by the war, whereas the largest share of the allocations, i.e. 70%, was spent under the item of operating expenses for the project and its offices in Hajjah, Aden and Sana'a.

In another project related to community service for the displaced and the host community - implemented by the American ADRA Organization in several governorates, including Hajjah governorate during 2019 and 2020 – the operating expenses for the project were \$440,000, or about 58% of the project budget of

\$757,000, and the remaining amount (\$317,000) was spent on implementing project-related activities.

We contacted the organization, but we did not receive - until the moment the investigation was published - any response from its office in Yemen to clarify the reason for spending those amounts on operating expenses, contrary to the instructions of the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation in Yemen regarding the amount and distribution of aid. While the Ministry stipulates that the operational budget should not exceed 30% of the total budget for any project, organizations implementing relief projects in Yemen do not adhere to this requirement. Despite these violations, the Ministries of Planning in Sana'a and Aden approved the implementation of these violating projects.

Not only have these organizations squandered aid that was supposed to reach the needy on operating budgets, but also some local organizations tended to take advantage of the conflicting dollar exchange rates. The exchange rate - according to the Central Bank's bulletin in Sana'a - reached 250 riyals while its price more than two years ago reached 600 riyals in the parallel market during the period 2019-2020, without changing in the accounts and budgets of organizations.

Hussein Al-Fadhli (a pseudonym) - who worked as a needs officer in a local organization - confirms that during his work between 2019 and 2020 organizations adopt the official exchange rate, which provides significant differences during the implementation of activities.

Al-Fadhli says, “In a small project (which is the installation of water tanks in Hajjah governorate) that the organization implemented with the support of the United Nations Humanitarian Fund, the price of the tanks amounted to 55,000 Yemeni riyals i.e., about \$92 at the parallel market price. As for the Central Bank's price, it amounted to \$220, meaning that there is a \$128 price difference in each tank.”

In a document issued by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in 2020, the dollar had 3 different prices: the official price was 250 riyals, the parallel market price was 600 riyals, and the last price was 666 riyals.

Missing Quarter

There are almost no studies on the impact of relief work by non-relief organizations or bodies. There is only one study that was conducted on three programs implemented by the Social Center for Militating Illegal Earning⁽¹⁾. The study concluded serious findings, the most important of which are: The decline in the transparency of the operating organizations, especially in providing information on the financial side, the weak monitoring, inventory and registration of beneficiaries, and inconsistency in the delivery of aid.

The aid did not reach the poorest families affected by the war, and the absence of a practical assessment of the type of need prompts the beneficiaries to sell the aid. In one of the cases of this field study, it is clear that the budget allocated in dollars exceeds 400 thousand dollars while the implemented projects that are delivered as cash amounts in Yemeni riyals without disclosing the exchange rate amounted to approximately 300 thousand dollars. In other words, there is a difference of 25% between the allocated budget and the executive amount. If this amount is an operational budget, then it can be a field criterion for understanding the disbursement of funds allocated to relief work in Yemen.

Also, many organizations continue to implement program of educational and awareness courses and vague workshops, or at best implement programs that contain a lot of lightness and superficiality compared to the declared tragedy. For example, the implementation of programs for child-friendly spaces while these children do not have classrooms to save them from illiteracy and ignorance, as is the case on the West Coast.

As for the major disaster, it is the destruction of relief materials in warehouses before they are delivered to people or importing damaged food commodities such as wheat⁽²⁾ not to mention bombing relief warehouses, bombing trucks transporting them, and preventing access to them, which were incidents that went unpunished.⁽³⁾

(1) Humanitarian Aid in Yemen 2018, Monitoring and Evaluation, the Social Center for Militating Illegal Earning

(2) Faroq Al-Kamali, Yemen destroys 117 tons of spoiled wheat donated by the Red Cross, The New Arab, April 1, 2017.

(3) The United Nations ask the Houthis to facilitate access to wheat stores in Hodeidah, Russia Today, February 8, 2019.

Humanitarian Aid and the War Economy

The warring parties obstruct the delivery of humanitarian aid in Yemen as part of a larger plan to gain power and control in the conflict while making money from looting and selling humanitarian aid on the black market and offering preferential treatment to the communities that support them. The war economy was launched by the militias loyal to all the warring parties which dealt with the country's capabilities and stockpiled the humanitarian aid that it harnessed to fuel its wars and enrich its loyalists. For instance, the Houthi group used oil revenues, extortion and fees imposed on citizens and merchants, even at the level of kidnappers and their families. Their control begins at the sea ports, which makes it easier for them to levy duties and taxes on shipments, as well as enabling them to seize humanitarian aid coming into the country. This has resulted in transforming Yemen into a black hole for humanitarian aid where supplies do not go to those who need them. On the contrary, they reach the lobby of warlords who play the most important role in prolonging the war and its continuation through its financing. In the current climate, it appears that no amount of humanitarian aid will offset the societal collapse and rising food prices.

Challenges of Delivery of Humanitarian Aid

Non-neutrality of local NGOs: International NGOs contract local NGOs on a regular basis to help deliver their food aid, giving local NGOs the right to choose recipients and distribution methods, which shifts aid in conflict areas to align with the ideological loyalties of "local NGOs". In an article titled "Civil Society During War: The Case of Yemen," Musa Elayah discusses how local Yemeni NGOs do not act as a neutral party, quite the opposite. Unfortunately, many of these organizations are created by different partisan actors for their own political interest and various parties use some of these organizations to establish themselves as a "legitimate" party and collect foreign aid through legal channels. (Civil society during war: the case of Yemen Elayah and Verkoren 2020).

Food aid programs fell into a trap of corruption as the World Food Program declared that 1,200,000 kg of food never reached its destination (Kiley et al. 2019). It was also discovered that the food supposed to help the needy was being sold by various groups in the secondary market. Standardized canned food was sold with INGO logos on it (Kiley et al. 2019). This has even been documented by a widely circulated video

showing the misuse of food supplies in Sirwah, a Houthi-controlled area in northern Yemen. As a result, the UN suspended part of its food aid program for Yemen as donors pressured to cut off food aid funds from UN programs for Yemen (BBC 2019; Barrington 2020). Because continuing to support food aid without guarantees to reach the targeted beneficiaries will lead to a prolongation of the war. Donors have lost confidence in the process of distributing humanitarian aid and withheld funds due to project shortcomings and embezzlement.

There are some fundamental social and economic shortcomings associated with food aid. The distribution of food commodities humiliates people because it ignores their own priorities such as housing and health and does not change the status of the beneficiary as it is "only used as a standard set of responses in emergency situations" (Levine and Chastre 2004). Also, food aid that is subject to local prices, whether free or subsidized, negatively affects the local food and agricultural market. This consequently leads to an increase in the number of people in need of humanitarian assistance as farmers and others who work in the same production cycle lose their sources of income due to the huge supply of imported food commodities.

Issues of organizational distribution by various different NGOs and complaints raised by sample recipients: The list of initial recipients drawn up by organizations is usually accurate and includes the names of those most in need of assistance as members of donor organizations regularly oversee the procedure. However, due to actual government pressure and logistical obstacles such as change/delays in delivery dates, transportation costs, or health conditions of the individual, recipients are impeded from attending the distribution and food aid is avoided, according to interviewees, so aid is diverted due to political pressure or security threats targeting NGO staff members. The warring parties push aid workers to turn baskets of food over to appointed members loyal to the de facto parties, who use them for economic or political gain. The interviews showed that organizations operating mostly under Houthi control complained of political pressure affecting relief operations.

Sometimes they add people from their close circle, such as family members or friends, who will resell it for personal gain. Food supplies were distributed on certain dates, and as soon as a recipient does not show up, they will remove their name from the list and put someone they know instead, even if they didn't meet the criteria for individuals who were eligible to receive food baskets. Another problem is that once the distribution cycle is over and extra food bags become available, they try

to dispose of them by any means "sometimes even by giving them to random people on the street". This happens to make sure they get another full patch from the donor organization and to avoid the expiring of some products in case they are not distributed. Another note added by another member is that there will be a truck next to the distribution depot that will buy supplies from recipients once they get their quota. He added that they do this in front of the crew members and that the only commodity kept by the beneficiary is cooking oil. Moreover, local shopkeepers complained that they could not sell their products anymore because food aid commodities were feeding the market, prompting them to use their shops to resell food aid products because they are below average market prices despite their low quality.

Recipients have consistently complained about transportation costs as they cannot use local transportation to take their products home. Car rental rates were high and some recipients had about 50% off the resale price of aid supplies. This matter humiliates people because sometimes they can't sell food, and even if they do sell it's less than it's worth. Beneficiaries stated that they are moving towards reselling their food aid products as soon as possible to meet other basic needs such as paying medical bills and rent. Preliminary research showed that in some disadvantaged cases, the small amounts provided were not enough to provide the basic living conditions required and did not hypothetically enhance their dignity. Thus, cash assistance at the moment is not working as intended. Therefore, more research is needed to find the right amounts that would significantly improve people's livelihoods in a respectful way.

Allocating funds to cash assistance as opposed to food aid also has an economic advantage due to lower logistical costs. Saving operational costs through physical cash exchange or digital transfers should by default increase the impact of cash-based projects to reach more people than food aid projects. Cash-based aid has a high rate of impact on society, which prompts the private sector to participate in providing adequate supplies of necessities, increasing the local production cycle, creating job opportunities and investments, and indirectly benefiting a larger segment of people. Although all participants agreed on the superiority and effectiveness of cash assistance over food aid projects, cash assistance projects are still small in size compared to the larger food aid projects in Yemen.

Relief Situation in Yemen.. Huge Aid and Massive Corruption

Yemen is witnessing a humanitarian crisis that is the worst in the world, according to the description of UN officials. "The current rate of hunger in the country is unprecedented, with 17.4 million Yemenis suffering from food insecurity. It is expected that the number of people suffering from food insecurity will rise to about 19 million by the end of the current year 2022. A recent survey showed that almost a third of households suffer from gaps in their diets, consuming almost no foods such as legumes, vegetables, fruits, dairy products and meat. Malnutrition rates among women and children in Yemen are among the highest in the world, with 1.3 million pregnant or breastfeeding women, and .2 million children under the age of five need treatment for acute malnutrition, according to the World Food Programme.

A Deficient Strategy

Problems with humanitarian aid to Yemen include a weak strategy focused on short-term solutions, counterproductive attitudes of neutrality and impartiality, a reluctance to speak out against the warring parties' abuse of aid and humanitarian workers, and a lack of adequate inclusion of Yemeni professionals. Strategies of humanitarian organizations operating in the country tend to focus on implementing their own agenda, which is primarily aimed at satisfying donors and meeting their expectations. But for many Yemenis, these strategies are irrelevant, do not address the root cause of the problem, and

fail to provide long-term solutions to persistent issues, The Arab Center Washington, DC, 10/20/2022. This is what Yemeni activists expressed by saying: The actions taken by UN agencies are welcome but do not amount to the type of investigation required to track the millions of dollars in supplies and money from aid programs that have been lost or diverted to the coffers of local officials on both sides, according to an investigation by the Associated Press, 5/8/ 2019.

Restricting Access to Humanitarian Aid

The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in Yemen said, in a recent report, that the period between (July-September) 2022 witnessed 307 incidents of restricting the movement of humanitarian aid reported in Yemen, an increase of 5.9% compared to the second quarter of the same year. The report added that 94% of these incidents were recorded in areas under the control of the Houthi group while 6% were in areas controlled by the recognized Yemeni government. The report pointed out that the third quarter of 2022 also witnessed a significant increase in accidents that affected the safety and security of aid workers compared to the second quarter, as "Humanitarian partners reported 673 aid access incidents in 103 districts of 19 Yemeni governorates, affecting 5.8 million people."

A report issued by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (on August 10) stated that it had monitored 532 incidents of restricting access to humanitarian aid, reported by humanitarian partners during the period (April, May, June) of this year. The Houthi group was responsible for about 89% of those incidents. The report also indicated that in Houthi-controlled areas, "operations and activities that require female employees to travel have become very difficult for all humanitarian agencies, as local authorities require the presence of a Mahram 'first-degree relative' to accompany a Yemeni aid worker when traveling on field missions, which led to the cancellation of field work." The UN report stated that the Houthi authorities also imposed other major restrictions on movement inside and outside Yemen, affecting the movement of all Yemeni aid workers. It stressed that these bureaucratic restrictions affected 5.5 million people in dire need of humanitarian assistance in Yemen.

Humanitarian workers told the Sana'a Center that as soon as humanitarian aid arrives in the northern regions, the Houthi authorities impose instructions on UN organizations and international non-governmental organizations, even on the level of how to store

and transport this aid, where and when, and to whom it should be distributed. In addition, they exploit this influence for personal interests as the Houthi forces exploit their control over the arrival of aid to whomever they want and cut it off from whom they want, to recruit fighters from starving communities and to reward those who support them or punish those who oppose them. (Sana'a Center, March 18, 2020.)

Impounding and Looting Relief Convoys

In early January 2019, the Yemeni Minister of Local Administration, Abdul-Raqeeb Fatah, revealed that the Houthi militia linked to Iran looted at least 65% of the humanitarian and food aid destined for Yemenis through the port of Hodeidah, in favour of "the so-called war effort, with scant regard for the lives of civilians and their difficult humanitarian conditions." He added that, during more than three and a half years, the Houthis looted and impounded 697 relief trucks. Additionally, they seized 88 relief and commercial ships in the ports of Hodeidah and Salif, according to Sky News.

On the other hand, Muhammad al-Maqrami, head of the Center for Studies and Humanitarian Media, detailed this in the tenth issue of Al-Minbar al-Yemeni magazine (February 2018), saying that since September 2017, the Houthi militias have confiscated 363 relief trucks and looted 6,315 food baskets. He added that last September, the group confiscated 3 relief trucks designated for Al-Bayda governorate, 7 relief convoys designated for Raymah governorate, and 5 relief convoys designated for Taiz governorate, and confiscated polio vaccines. Last October, the group also seized 100 relief locomotives for Dhamar Governorate, 200 relief locomotives in Hodeidah Governorate, and 5 relief trucks for Amran Governorate. They also looted 6,000 bags of wheat from the warehouses of merchants loyal to the militias and registered 943 fake names in the Bani al-Harith district in Sana'a and looted aid in their name. Last November, the militias traded cholera medicines in Hodeidah, Ibb and Hajjah, and seized 13 trucks loaded with medicines and medical supplies to combat this epidemic at Hodeidah customs. The group also looted 11 convoys of aid intended for the displaced in Hajjah governorate, looted the central pharmacy in the Sara'a district of Hajjah, imposed financial fines on merchants in Ibb, and impounded a convoy loaded with medicines to treat children in Hodeidah.

Means of Impeding the Access of Aid

Current examples of interference and obstruction by the Houthi and other authorities included lengthy delays for approval of aid projects, blocking aid assessments to identify peoples' needs, attempts to control aid monitoring and recipient lists to divert aid to those loyal to the authorities, and violence against aid staff and their property.

Human Rights Watch documented Houthi forces preventing aid agencies from reaching civilians in need in areas under their control in 2015, and there have been reports of Houthi obstruction of aid to the besieged city of Taiz since at least 2016. The Houthis prevented aid agencies from reaching millions of civilians, including agencies trying to respond to the country's cholera crisis in 2017, according to the United Nations. The Houthis' obstruction of aid increased dramatically in 2019 and 2020.

Harassment of organizations due to bureaucratic procedures and instructions regulating the work of relief organizations. For example, they demanded the sharing of protected information and imposed restrictions on the movement of staff and supplies, coordination meetings, needs assessments, and bidding and procurement processes according to the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. These measures have led to cases of arrest, threats, refusal to allow movement, disruption of aid and services deliveries, and seizure of humanitarian headquarters. Aid agencies that addressed the Houthis confirmed that the regulations they are issuing "obstruct and delay humanitarian assistance to vulnerable people." without any justifications.

Several aid workers told Human Rights Watch that the Houthis regularly insist that UN agencies and other aid groups subcontract to organizations or companies linked to the authorities and monitor aid, rather than doing so through a fair bidding process. Such practices have been reported previously. Another added that the ministries which receive money from the United Nations refuse to share lists of beneficiaries or the dates and locations of aid distribution, so that the United Nations or other aid agencies cannot monitor who receives aid, according to the "Deadly Consequences" report of Human Rights Watch, issued on 9/14/2020.

Stealing Food from the Mouths of the Hungry

In late December 2018, a survey of registered beneficiaries conducted by the World Food Program (WFP) revealed that many residents of the capital, Sana'a, had not received their entitlement food rations, and in other areas, starving people were denied their rations entirely. "This conduct amounts to the stealing of food from the mouths of hungry people," said David Beasley, Executive Director of the World Food Programme. He added: "At a time when children are dying in Yemen because they haven't enough food to eat, that is an outrage. This criminal behavior must stop immediately." In response to the statement of the World Food Program, Muhammad Ali al-Houthi held the "World Food Organization" fully responsible for the tampering that it had committed by purchasing quantities of spoiled food," stressing "The accused government agency has the right to sue the organization before the Yemeni judiciary in accordance with the applicable law."

Providing Humanitarian Aid for the Benefit of the Combatants

The United Nations suspects diverting supplies away from starving children to fighters or supporters of the Iran-backed forces that control much of the country though the Houthis and their officials deny this, according to a CNN investigation, 5/20/2019, which was based on documents showing the size of the problem that was hidden in the past. The network met dozens of women at the headquarters of Amanat Al Asimah, the local authority responsible for aid distribution in Sana'a, which the World Food Program said was the epicentre of aid manipulation. Each one of these women complained of not receiving aid.

The CNN investigation found out that the case affects far more than those in the capital. There is a chasm of mistrust between the Houthis and the WFP because the Houthis would like more Yemeni staff to be involved. On the other hand, the UN group and other foreign NGOs say they have been punished for wanting to monitor their operations and the complaints about this have led to further restrictions imposed by the Houthi government and delays or denials of visas, according to the investigation.

Aid as a Means of Building Wealth

According to the "Deadly Consequences" report of Human Rights Watch, issued on 9/14/2020, between 2015 and 2019, international donors gave the UN-led aid response in Yemen US\$8.35 billion, including \$3.6 billion in 2019 that reached almost 14 million people each month with some form of aid, up from 7.5 million people in 2018. However, aid agencies say that in 2019 and 2020 they spent vast amounts of their time and energy struggling to get approvals country-wide to provide assistance in accordance with humanitarian principles and without the authorities' interference.

However, reports indicate that most of the funds announced by the United Nations did not reach the beneficiaries. According to an investigative report, issued by ARIJ on 4/9/2022, the authors of the investigation tracked, over a period of seven months, a group of projects implemented by international organizations in Yemen, and analysed documents and contracts for 14 projects implemented by American, British and other United Nations organizations. The documents showed that the operating budgets of some projects were greater than the percentage allocated to them by the Yemeni Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation. There are other projects in which currency exchange rates or contract details were manipulated, which made those who deserve aid miss it.

More than ten UN aid workers deployed to deal with the wartime humanitarian crisis have been accused of joining forces with combatants on all sides to enrich themselves with the billions of dollars in form of donated aid flowing into the country, according to individuals familiar with internal UN investigations and classified documents reviewed by The Associated Press, on 5/8/2019.

Consequences of Underfunding

Funding shortfalls have already affected the provision of life-saving humanitarian aid and services to millions of Yemenis as it has not been possible to scale up the response to the rapidly deteriorating situation, including the impact of liquidity. All sectors are facing the impact of financing gaps. By the end of July of this year, a few sectors were funded by about a quarter of the required funding while many of them were suffering from a remarkable lack of funding, according to the United Nations (8/16/2022).

What is the solution?

The current response in Yemen is clearly not working, and aid workers and recipients of humanitarian aid are frustrated. The response in Yemen is far from the standards of a humanitarian response and has a bad reputation. Sana'a Center (3/23/2022).

It is absolutely essential that international organizations work to eradicate corruption, reassess their strategies and practices, and involve more local partners and experts. Only by making these changes and focusing on long-term solutions will these organizations be able to contribute to permanently resolving the humanitarian situation in Yemen. The Arab Center Washington DC 10/20/2022.

Executive Unite for IDPs Camps Management

SAM organization directed a number of questions to the Executive Unit for IDPs Camps Management, the body responsible for managing and supervising the 500 IDPs camps country-wide, about its relationship with relief and donor organizations, the role played by the administration, and the obstacles and challenges facing their work.

The Executive unite responded by saying, "Our role is to lead the humanitarian work directed to the displaced. Our work begins with providing lands for setting up camps, receiving and registering the displaced, then determining the needs, and submitting those needs to organizations and humanitarian action blocs in order to meet them. After that, we manage the camps and gatherings of the displaced, ensure that the needs are met, protect the displaced from any violation, and ensure that humanitarian laws are applied. The unit maintains a comprehensive database on the displaced and their places, which serves as a guide for the organizations. We also facilitate the access of organizations to the displaced and vice versa. Furthermore, we work to involve the displaced in planning for their future and to develop durable solutions to displacement."

Regarding their relationship with the donors, their response was, "We don't have direct relationships with the donors. As for organizations such as World Food Program and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, our relationship with them is one of cooperation and coordination although it is not as much as was hoped for."

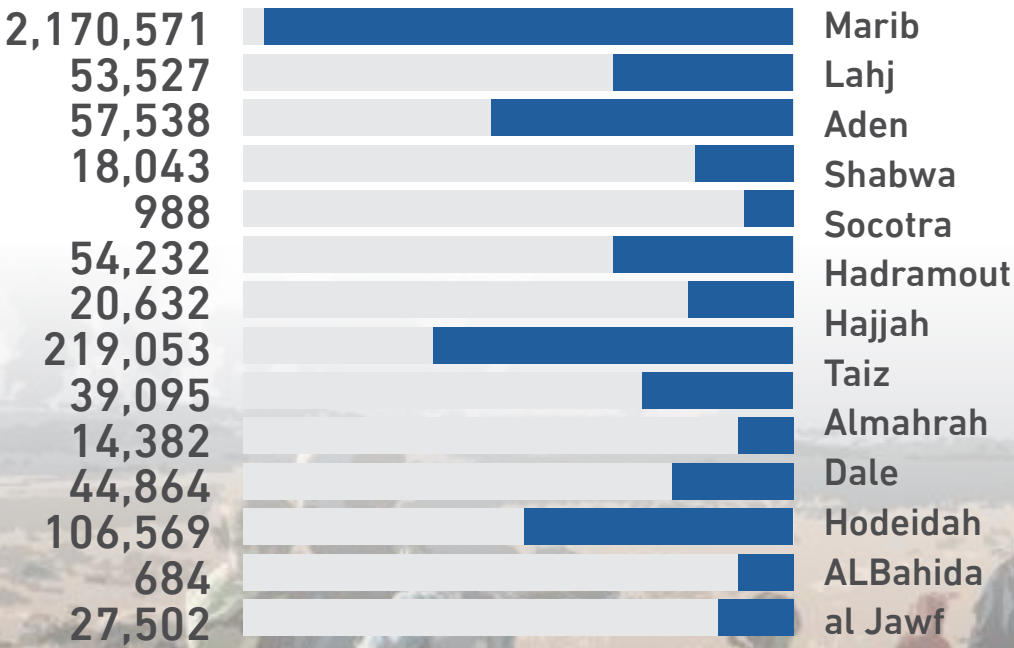
As for the most important needs that must be provided in the current and upcoming stage, the response was, "The real need for the coming period is to move from the emergency plan to finding permanent and tangible solutions. If the organizations continue to work in light of the emergency situation, the humanitarian crisis will continue and worsen. Also, the government side must be involved in the humanitarian planning process, identifying needs, assessing interventions, and working by the government service provider in order to ensure the continuity of services. Without that, Yemen will remain a black hole devouring all support, and the support provided will be a factor for exacerbating the humanitarian crisis."



demographic indicators



Number of displaced Individuals by governorate



The source is a research study of the Executive Unit for the Management of Displaced Persons Camps

Marib.. Continued Suffering

According to the (United Nations) website, between October 1 and October 23, more than 1,130 families (more than 6,700 people) were displaced in Marib governorate, as was mentioned in reports from the International Organization for Migration. More than half of these IDPs fled to Marib city while about 24 % of them went to safe areas in Al-Juba district and another 22 % fled to Marib Al-Wadi. Some have been displaced to Serwah and Jabal Murad districts. In September, nearly 10,000 people were displaced in Marib Governorate – the highest rate of displacement recorded in the governorate in a single month this year. Overall, more than 55,000 people were displaced in Marib between January and September this year.⁽¹⁾

On October 20, the previous report confirms that work has resumed at Ali Abdul-Moghni Hospital, which was partially damaged by an attack on October 12. The damage was so great that it required repairs and new medical equipment. The hospital also suffers from a severe shortage of staff, especially after the attack. Essential medical equipment and supplies and personal protective equipment were provided to the hospital on 25 October. There is also an urgent need for medical supplies in Al Abdiyah district, which has a population of more than 1,000 pregnant women in need for maternal health services. On October 20, rapid response teams managed to reach Al-Abdiya district and began registration of recipients in Qaniya area. 2,000 RRM kits have been delivered as a first batch. Distributions are still ongoing in Al Abdiyah district, and more RRM teams are expected to be dispatched soon. The second batch of 2,000 RRM kits has moved from Sana'a to a warehouse located in Qaniyah, near Al-Abdiya, and this kit will meet the needs of those stranded in the district. RRM teams have distributed in-kind hygiene kits, ready-to-eat food rations and transition/dignity kits for women. These packages will meet the essential needs of displaced families for 5 to 7 days.

According to the statistics of the Executive Unit for the Displaced, the number of displaced persons until July 2020 reached 170,565 families, including 292,389 females, and 501,239 children of school age.

(1) <https://reports.unocha.org/ar/country/yemen/>

Houthi Missiles

The displaced are exposed to all kinds of violations, from obstructing humanitarian access to them, to being targeted militarily, which has doubled their misery and suffering. By returning to the news archives, and relying on open sources, VICE Arabia worked to monitor all military operations that targeted the displaced since the outbreak of the war in Yemen until March 23, 2021 and documented more than 157 military attacks carried out by the warring parties in Yemen on the camps and gatherings of the IDPs, leaving more than 600 dead and 700 wounded among the IDPs, most of them women and children. The monitoring results show that 6 operations were carried out by the Saudi-led coalition air forces while 21 targeting operations were carried out by government forces and the Houthi group was responsible for 131 targeting operations.

The targeting of the shelter camps caused the displacement of thousands of them. In this context, Khaled Al-Shujani, Director of the Camps Department in the Executive Unit for the IDPs Camps in Marib, indicated in an interview with Belqis.net that twenty-seven camps for the displaced were closed in the governorate as a result of the targeting of the Houthi militia. He added that the artillery and missile strike launched by the militias on a number of IDPs camps from the beginning of the year 2020 to March 29, 2021, led to the displacement of more than two thousand and six hundred families.

“Houthi forces have committed serious abuses and shown a shocking disregard for the well-being and safety of civilians throughout the conflict,” said Afrah Nasser, Yemen researcher at Human Rights Watch. “The Houthis’ indiscriminate artillery and rocket attacks toward populated areas in Marib have put displaced persons and local communities at severe risk.”

In an attempt to cover up the crimes of targeting the IDPs camps, the media affiliated with the Houthi militia claimed that the government forces are storing weapons, installing cannons and machine guns in the refugee camps, and taking them as human shields, which was said by the Houthi spokesman, Muhammad Abdul Salam, in his tweet on March 31, 2021 as he stated that, “Those he called the mercenaries of aggression in Marib, along with al-Qaeda and ISIS elements, are entrenched in the camps for the displaced and put them in the foreground to protect the military camps in the back,” holding them and the coalition fully responsible for this behaviour, according to his words.

“

Displacement Camps

As if the pain and siege they experienced by the Houthis was not enough. As if seeing their homes turn into rubble and being forced to flee was not enough. Then they had to live a new tragedy!

Al-Nuqaia'a Camp

- The camp is located in an extended desert, in the Al-Wadi District, east of Marib Governorate, and in a place in the middle of the Safer area and the Bin Maili station. It consists of several sites and each site has a group of tents. The camp lacks services, whether in terms of shelter, water and environmental sanitation, health and education, and aid is scarce, according to a number of displaced people. Most of the IDPs in this camp are from the southern districts of Marib Governorate and from previous camps that were in these districts, especially Al-Abdiya, Hareeb and Al-Juba while some of them are from camps in Bani Dhabyan and Serwah. The IDPs suffer from the lack of education for their children, and the health centers are more than 20 kilometres away from them.

Al-Suwayda Camp

- Al-Suwayda camp, located within the city district, which houses more than 2,000 families, but its location, which is close to a number of military camps, made it vulnerable to continuous shelling. Despite the presence of humanitarian organizations and the presence of a field hospital and an ambulance, they do not cover the needs, and the food and shelter aid are not sufficient. There is only an elementary school, while secondary students are forced to travel distances of more than 5 kilometres to study in the Rawda area and in the city.
- Al-Ribat camp is located in Lahj Governorate. At the end of 2018, there were (470) families, and the number of displaced persons increased until the end of March 2019 to 650 families, which caused severe crowding in the camp. Some of these families live in the open without shelter or tents that protect them from the midday heat and the evening cold.
- As if the pain and siege they experienced by the Houthis was not enough. As if seeing their homes turn into rubble and being forced to flee was not enough. Then they had to live a new tragedy!

- All the residents of the camp have become completely dependent on the food aid they receive only every two or three months, and they may end up unable to find anything to eat. Moreover, most, if not all, children suffer from malnutrition. While we see children in all countries of the world in schools, we see children in Al-Hodeidah governorate working in cleaning cars and begging in the streets to help their families provide food.
- Camp girls are subjected sexual harassment due to the poor conditions of bathrooms in the camps and the lack of sanitary and secluded toilets. The camp residents suffer from sandy winds and high temperatures during the day, and there are no health services there. Food aid is very scarce, and the humanitarian situation is very bad as they lack the least necessities of life.
- Al-Sha'ab Camp (1) is located in Al-Buraika District - Al-Sha'ab City - Al-Qiyadyin Neighbourhood, west of the capital, Aden. It is a wall of a government school under construction, which includes displaced people from the three governorates of Taiz, Al-Hodeidah and Al-Dhalea. The camp is built of tents and (shacks) of wood, tin and tarpaulins, and the number of displaced families in it is about (151) families and about (900) individuals.
- The camp administration consists of the camp leader, the camp director, and a deputy director. Camp (1) is divided into two wings: one wing is for the displaced people of Hajar Al-Dhalea, and the other part is for the displaced people of Al-Hodeidah. Sometimes, regional conflicts break out between them, leading to fistfights and the establishment of gangs whereas the security of the camp constantly intervenes to resolve the conflict in it.
- Directly, the residents of camp (1) depend on begging and portering in wholesale markets, collecting plastic and metal waste and selling them in the markets, in addition to construction work. This made them face hunger directly as a result of the precautionary measures related to the Corona epidemic.

Health status:

- The IDPs in the camp suffer from a deteriorating health situation, as diseases and epidemics spread among them, such as cancer, diabetes, high blood pressure, asthma, gallstones, gynaecological diseases, and mental illnesses. Additionally, there are abused children and women who need care and rehabilitation sessions, not to mention the epidemic diseases. Chikungunya, dengue, and watery diarrhea rank first in terms of residents' illnesses, in addition to the complete absence of a free ambulance cart for months, which used to provide them with some treatments.
- According to camp managers, the camp lacks many needs, such as tent maintenance, changing gates, and repairing the water and sewage system.
- Generally speaking, the camp is filthy as some children were seen defecating at the back of the camp wall. Also, infants and young children do not wear diapers. Women were also seen at noon, and after cooking lunch, throwing cooking waste in front of the tents because there are no water outlets in the cooking tents.
- According to the director of the center - who also works as a health educator in the camp - diseases spread due to the crowded numbers, in addition to the poor health culture they have regarding personal

hygiene and other things and the poor infrastructure of the camp with regard to health. She added that they had become carriers of diseases more than others because some of them begged, and they stood in front of the roads and went to the homes of the well-to-do for the purpose of begging. As a result, the people provide them with money and food, which makes them carriers of the epidemic while they do not feel it.

Ammar bin Yasser Camp

- It is located in the Musabeen area of the Sheikh Othman district in Aden. It is a camp that includes (250) families who were displaced from Al-Hodeidah governorate from the districts of Al-Mina, Al-Hof, and Al-Hali. The camp is a wall of a government school under construction, in addition to being officially accredited by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and has supportive partners. After visiting it, we found the general view of the camp to be somewhat acceptable, which consisted of organized tents wrapped in tarpaulins belonging to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. The majority of the camp's residents rely on begging and construction work, and a few of them work with motorbikes. However, a number of them were looted and their motorcycles were confiscated by the Security Belt in Aden.
- The camp residents receive a financial aid every three months from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Each family member receives 4,500 Yemeni riyals. Moreover, solar panels were distributed to them. They also have a small mosque, equipped with loudspeakers, where prayers are held, including Friday prayers.
- More than 100 displaced male and female students receive their education at Al-Nour School in Al-Musabeen. Yet, due to the racism the children were subjected to in schools, where they were making them sweep the floor because they were displaced, these children were forced to leave the schools, according to the parents.

Health status:

- The head of the "Ammar bin Yasser" camp, Abdul Aleem Ghaleb Abdullah, said the situation was very bad, especially after the ambulance, which was supplying the camp with medicines, disappeared three months ago. "We have people who need prosthetic legs, and one of the organizations has taken care of that. There are children with skin rashes whereas the elderly suffers from chronic diseases such as haemorrhoids and poor eyesight. Unfortunately, they all hear promises from organizations, but they find nothing, and no hospital accepts them for treatment," he said.

Bir Ahmed Camp

- The camp is located near the entrance to the Bir Ahmed area, the main line - M / Al-Buraiqa - Aden, and there are (55) families in the yard and approximately (250) children, according to the statistics of the executive unit in the district. The camp is a yard owned by a merchant in the governorate, and it is not accredited by the United Nations. It consists of wooden boxes that are roofed with tarpaulin while some houses are more like small huts roofed with tarpaulin, which is not appropriate even for an animal to live in. Most of the camp's residents depend on begging and some muscular work, and some of them own motorbikes they work on to feed their children.
- The camp residents live in difficult humanitarian conditions, and it is one of the poorest camps and gatherings in terms of living, for the IDPs there do not find anything to eat in light of the precautionary measures imposed by the authority in Aden. By going to the field, we monitored some families lighting fires with paper and plastic in order to make tea or cook food. We monitored some families drying the different types of bread such as (roti) they receive from the neighbouring military camps of the Security Belt and the benefactors. Then those families dry it in the sun in order to eat it again in case food is not available to them.

- All the families spoke to us bitterly about their humanitarian situation and needs, which are food, medicine, and housing. They do not have kitchen supplies such as gas cylinders or stoves. Also, the (6000) water tankers provided to them by UNICEF and INTERSOS are not enough. Due to the lack of water, the children began to use stones after "defecation", which led to the destruction of the bathrooms because of the stones used. The rains often drown them and destroy some of their private property.
- Most of these families do not have personal identification cards, and this is what hinders the NGOs from providing assistance to these families, for most organizations require the identity card so that the family can receive aid.

This kind of suffering did not exclude the elderly.

Hamda Ali Taeiman, a woman in her seventies who was displaced and is still setting up her new tent, says, "We are left in this sand." This sentence summarizes the situation of the displaced people from the districts of Al-Juba, Harib, Jabal Murad, Sirwah "Dhinh" and Bani Dhabyan, which are areas and districts located to the south and southwest of the governorate. Moreover, some of the IDPs are from other governorates, and for them, this displacement is a compound one.

In the journey of escape, displacement, and search for a new camp, Hamda's task, due to her old age, was difficult. She says, "There are no men, and I became responsible for the women and children who fled with me." She is also ill and suffers from back pain, but she arranges her new tent, which she set up on the day of their arrival at the "Naqe'a" camp.

She continues, "I cannot stand." She moved from a previous camp, al-Rawda camp in the Dhana area, and this is her third displacement as she is originally from the Serwah district. She was forced to displace years ago when the battles between the two parties to the conflict (the Yemeni government and the Houthi militia) began.

She explains that her tent is devoid of any supplies or shelter, and this is the case for most of the newly displaced people to this desert that has no basic elements for life. She added, "We were displaced, but the Houthis continue to chase us," while expressing the times of displacement that Hamda went through. She also remembers that the Houthis demolished her family's homes, which were targeted, and that her back pain was caused by aerial bombardment.



Absence of Organizations

What increases the tragedy of these camps, where more than 17,000 families live, is that they are very far from health and education services. Additionally, most of these camps are located meters away from the main road linking Marib and Hadramout governorates.

These camps have not yet drawn the attention of international humanitarian organizations, according to the testimonies of the displaced themselves, and that is also what one of the local officials said in the Naqe'a camp. Notably, the displaced, coming from previous camps, began to organize themselves and choose officials from among them to follow up on what they need, whether from the host community or local authorities, or even organizations which favour the displaced following these methods of organizing.

He emphasized that "no aid was provided to them from organizations. All they got was given by the host community, especially tribal chiefs and merchants, through representatives who provided them with a few shelter tools and water storage tanks, but it is not enough."

"The host community welcomed the displaced from several camps and different districts," he said. He also pointed out that the host community felt their plight, and thus provided the IDPs with water project.

He goes back to talking about the organizations and says, "They have not been approached by any organization that specializes in providing shelter, water or sanitation even though these organizations have been appealed and names of IDPs have been raised to them within the emergency displacement. They also explained that the IDPs were fleeing from the places of engagement."

The "SAM" field team stated that when they roamed the Al-Naqe'a camp, which is the largest in the eastern desert of Marib, they found that most of the newly displaced were orphans and widows. It is a picture that shows what Yemen has reached as a result of the war, especially Marib, where the battles have not subsided for two years.

That is why camp officials say they faced a problem when the breadwinner or person in charge of the family was an orphan child who had not reached the legal age at which he could get identity papers. The women are also illiterate -they too- do not have any identity papers which constitutes a problem, in addition to the endless problems of displacement in the absence of international organizations.

In another testimony collected by SAM's team, "Abdullah Ali Al-Athel", one of the displaced from Al-Juba district, talked about hospitality of the host community, which provided them with a free place to live in since all the lands here are owned by entire tribes or families or part of the property of large social figures, who welcomed the use of the lands as camps for the displaced.

He said, "The homes and houses of the people from Marib were filled with displaced families, but it was impossible to have the families crowding on top of each other, which prompted me to join those who preceded me to the "Al-Naqe'a" camp." He stressed that permission was obtained from the original community to take the place as a camp.

Abdullah pointed out that water was one of the most critical problems faced by the displaced. "We fetch water, especially drinking water, on cars from wells that are located far from the camp," he said.

In her turn, "Samira Muhammad Ghaleb," a displaced person from the city of Al-Juba, said when she was asked about the role of refugee organizations that while she was preparing her new tent, a representative of one of the organizations came and handed her a plastic container only. She added, "My family and I fled without any of the things that could help us to stay overnight, prepare food, or even use toilets." Samira talked about her condition before the displacement. She said that her house was taken over. Then it was bombed; consequently, she fled with her children and husband with only what they could carry."

SAM highlighted the tragic conditions of the displaced, especially those who displaced in November and the months preceding and who mostly come from the densely populated district of Al-Juba. The camp is also resided by IDPs from other districts and governorates. Al-Juba and its neighbouring villages turned into an open battlefield and were targeted with heavy weapons by the Houthi militia.

The intensification of the bombing reportedly forced most of the displaced to flee without taking anything with them. One of the IDPs who were forced to flee is Abdullah Awad Hadi, who says, "The outskirts of the city of Al-Juba, where I originally come from, turned into a target for bombing, so I was forced to flee at first to the other side, in the Al-Amoud area, where my son and nephew's house is." Abdullah was able to displace with his furniture, such as air conditioners, refrigerators, washing machines, and furniture, but the bombing followed them to the Al-Amoud area after staying there for days. A shell fell on the house of his nephew who hosted him, and everything burned, so he had to flee this time without anything.

"We were displaced two weeks ago, and no human rights or humanitarian organizations came to us," he says. He indicated that he was responsible for a large family, and that he had five male children and six females, in addition to his wife. Also, his eldest son got married.

Abdullah built a simple house from "palm leaves" and pitched an old tent given to him by one of his acquaintances next to it. His young children also suffered from several diseases resulting from the flying dust. The place is cold at night while the sun is burning during the day.

He added, "As you can see our situation, I have six daughters and their mother, and I have five sons and the wife of my second son. As you can see, our situation consisted of a room made of palm trees and tattered tents. Most of my children are now in the hospital in Marib for treatment due to cold diseases."

Children who Left their Education

Children have become uneducated because their duties are now to help their families arrange tents or search for water. The child, "Ahmed Saleh Naji," says that he and his family "survived, and that he did not think now of going back to school again as they had no shelter or bed," as he put it.

He says, "I used to live with my family in Al-Rawda camp in Dhinh, but the bombing that hit the area was severe, so we fled at night and arrived in the place where we are now. We got a group of wood as someone helped us."

He sits in front of what they could carry of clothes and small blankets, and says that they had slept their first night in the open and in the middle of the sand. He also talked about his and his family's need for water, electricity, and toilets.

Qaniya Saeed Ahmed Saeed, one of the displaced women from Bani Dhabyan to Al-Mekraf camp, said in her testimony, "Today my children are without

education, and I left all our furniture and belongings behind." She added that her situation was bad.

In turn, the director of the Executive Unit for IDPs Camps Management in Marib Governorate, "Saif Muthanna," told "SAM" team about one of the new sites in the Al-Wadi District, which received the new IDPs, stressing, "This site or the location of the camp includes more than 18,000 displaced people." He indicated that here were many families who had been displaced more than three to five times, and they lacked the most basic necessities of life.

He said, "The wave of displacement is still continuing, and the shelters of some displaced have not yet been 'installed'. Furthermore, they need urgent interventions, especially in terms of shelter, water, environmental sanitation, food, protection, and all the basic areas that the displaced need." "The people who were displaced from the southern districts, which were militarily overrun by the Houthis, are more than 65,000," he added.

"Muthanna" said in his speech that the displacement tracking teams of the executive unit were in the sites for receiving the displaced and staff of the unit worked in coordination by communicating the needs to the humanitarian partners, international and local, in order to intervene in a way that alleviates the suffering, especially in the sites of the newly displaced. He points out that what distinguished the newly displaced was that they had repeatedly experienced the bitterness of displacement, so they needed a speedy response and intervention in the aforementioned areas.

The head of the Executive Unit for IDPs Camps Management in Marib Governorate confirmed that "The human tragedy is exacerbating." He called on humanitarian action partners, especially the United Nations, to pay attention to the scale of displacement and the scale of the human tragedy in Marib governorate. When he was asked about the size of the intervention by the organizations, he replied, "It is small. In the beginning, intervention was made to provide relief to 1,500 families. Now the relief has reached ten thousand families." He emphasized that what is provided is very little intervention compared to what the displaced families need."



War-disabled

“Manea Ahmed Hussein Saleh Al-Qushaibi” is another displaced person, but the tragedy of his displacement lies more in the fact that he is disabled, which made it difficult for him to escape with his family from his previous camp, Jahm camp, in the west of the governorate.

Manea is quadriplegic due to shrapnel from a shell that hit him in the neck, so he cannot move, and he is also unable to feel his body in the middle.

He says, “We were displaced in Jahm camp.” He remembers that the shelling was severe, and the camp became a war zone. The shelling reached homes, and there were also drones. He indicated that the mission of these drones was reconnaissance, so the bombs came after them. That is why they rushed out from the camp. He pointed out that he was displaced while being carried on the shoulders of women for miles. Then he arrived at a place they had taken as a camp after extreme tiredness to sleep the first night in the open air where cold and dust greeted them as he put it.

Manea and his family do not have anything, and he needs a private toilet, although his small camp does not yet have regular toilets. He fears that the worst is yet to come. What saddens him most is that he only walks on a mobile cart and that he is a burden on others.

Repeated Displacement

“Ali Saeed Saadan,” the head of a displaced family, who has experience with repeated displacement, says that he was displaced for the first time from Bani “Dabiyan” to Jabal Murad, in an area called “Al-Walaaj”, until his last arrival in “Naqe’a” camp. He pointed out that there was nothing with him except the simple tent.

He says, “We did not take our needs, and we left our sheep and farms. We did not escape from the missiles except with our children and simple things.” He remembers the scene of the escape as being “terrifying and collective.” He stressed that his situation became more difficult in their new camp since none of the delegates or workers in the organizations came to visit them to know their needs, and he also tried to go to the headquarters of one of the organizations that refused to respond to him.

Winter is More Severe.. Dying of Cold

On the 15th of last November, the infant, “Aref Abdul-Wasie’ Muhammad”, died of severe cold, in the “Naqe’a” desert camp. His mother, whom “SAM” team met, says that her son had died when he was nine months old from severe cold. She complained that her tent did not have any means of heating or even quilts to protect them from the severe cold and the pain of displacement. The mother (Wafaa Salem Hassan Radi) confirmed that he had died about twenty days ago as a result of severe diarrhea, fever and vomiting. She stated that because of their bad financial situation, they could not treat him, and the hospital was far away while the camp did not have any health services.

She said that she took him to the “Kara” government hospital on foot for a distance of more than 30 kilometers, but the doctors could not do anything for her child because the disease had taken over his small body. After three nights of staying up late with him, Aref died in his mother's lap. The doctors told her, “The cold killed him.”

The mother fears for her three remaining children and thinks they may die of cold in her tent which is devoid of any means of protection, including blankets, and she called for her help. This was confirmed by the father, “Abdulwasie Muhammad,” that



the death of his son Aref was after suffering, and that his difficult economic conditions prevented him from being treated. Besides, his tent does not contain anything, which makes him sad, in the absence of aid, stressing that "our conditions are harsh."

Executive Unite for IDPs Camps Management in Marib confirmed, in press statements, the death of three children in the displacement camps during the months (December and November) due to the cold wave and the poor living conditions faced by the displaced people of Marib governorate, in the absence of relief and humanitarian organizations.

In its report, the unit said that the winter exacerbated the suffering of the displaced and caused the death of children whose small bodies could not bear the consequences of displacement and the deadly cold of winter, in which 12,602 injuries and health impacts were monitored, and the cold caused an increase in its spread during the months of November and the first half of this December in all displacement camps.

It emphasized that the phenomenon of death by cold in the displacement camps in Marib is due to a number of reasons, foremost of which is, "displacement and forced and sudden displacement of displaced families as these displaced families flee into the open or in primitive and poor-quality tents, in addition to the lack of clothing or heating materials."

The unite also confirmed that the new camps were the most vulnerable to such natural disasters, which increased the suffering of the displaced day after day.

According to the government report, the camps suffer from weak emergency interventions to face disasters and accidents, which exacerbates the suffering of the displaced," stressing that the role played by humanitarian action partners from local and international organizations in the governorate is very weak in this field.

The 182 displacement camps in the governorate are more vulnerable to cold waves and natural disasters such as torrential rains and hurricanes because they do not include waterproof tents, and the tents are of poor quality. Also, there is no heating means such as blankets and winter clothes.

The report stated that the displaced suffered from difficult financial conditions due to the deterioration of the economic conditions in the country, in conjunction with the spread of cold-caused diseases among them, especially among children and the elderly.

The report listed a number of needs, most notably the provision of the necessary shelter materials for the displaced and means of heating that may help mitigate the severe cold waves, the maintenance of displacement camps. Also, the adoption of ground cement isolation projects around the tents and huts to ensure the cold does not seep in and to guard against torrents, rain and dust, especially since Marib governorate is witnessing dust waves because it is a desert area.

Marib hosts more than 60% of the total number of IDPs in Yemen who fled the war. The number of displaced people exceeds 2 million, according to human rights reports, and they live in tragic humanitarian conditions in light of the scarcity of relief support.

In a report issued by the Executive Unit in July 2020, that is, before the new wave of displacement, the number of displaced people reached (1,044,248) one million four hundred and forty-two thousand and forty-eight displaced individuals, and (170,565) seventeen thousand five hundred and fifty-six families.

The IDPs of Hodeidah, a UN Warning

Today, Monday, the United Nations announced the displacement of 6,000 people to the cities of Al-Khawkhah and Al-Mocha, south of Al-Hodeidah Governorate from areas recently controlled by the Houthi militia after the withdrawal of UAE-backed forces while no cases of displacement were recorded towards the northern areas of the governorate.

The United Nations office indicated in the statement, "Following these developments, some 700 families (approximately 4,900 people) were displaced to Al Khukhah City, while 184 other families (about 1,300 people) were displaced further south to Al Makha District (south of Hodeidah). As of today, no displacement has been reported within the areas that came under control of the de facto (Houthis) authorities."

He added, "a new IDP site, comprising 300 tents, has been established to receive the newly displaced families in Al Khukhah District. The Executive Unit for IDPs is reportedly looking to establish another IDP site to provide shelter to the increasing number of IDPs in the district."

The United Nations had warned that Yemenis have reached unprecedented levels of hunger in light of the ongoing war for years.

The World Food Program of the United Nations, stated on its Twitter account that 20 million Yemenis needed urgent humanitarian assistance.



IDPs in Aden.. They Have no Help

Fatoum.. an elderly woman without health care

The camp to which "Fatoum Ali Fitini Othman" (70 years old) was displaced is located in Al-Buraiqa district, west of Aden governorate, specifically in Al-Qiyaddieen neighborhood in Al-Sha'ab city, and she lives in painful humanitarian conditions.

The suffering of "Fatoum Ali Fitini" comes from the fact that she is disabled, yet she is responsible for 11 children, her children and grandchildren.

"Fatoum" tells the team of "SAM" that she had been displaced from Hodeidah (without specifying the name of the exact place she comes from). However, she remembers her escape or displacement journey and says it hadn't been an easy one and indicated that the war had forced her to leave to this place which lacked the most basic necessities of life.

In the middle of the camp is the wall of a government school under construction. Displaced people from three governorates (Taiz, Al-Hodeidah, Al-Dhalea) are distributed in it, according to those in charge of it. They suffer from neglect and do not get enough to run their lives, which "Fatoum" explains.

Fatoum confirmed that her first concern in her new life was pitching her tent and then working. After she had the tent, although it was almost torn, she used it as a place to sell the small things that children tend to buy in order to support herself and her children.

She explained that she did not find any health care from humanitarian organizations. She pointed out that her suffering was exacerbated after she had found out that one of her "daughters" had leukemia, and that another girl had joint pain. "I am unable to provide medical treatment for them, given my harsh conditions," she says.

There are dozens of elderly people other than "Fatoum" in the camp, and some of them have chronic diseases. However, health care is absent, and aid is almost non-existent, in light of the spread of diseases and "Fatoum" ensured that she had recently not received any means of hygiene such as disinfectants and sterilization materials.

Beggary instead of Waiting in the Camp

He had to beg so that he could provide for his 11 children and wife.

"Muhammad Salem" is also a displaced person in the Al-Sha'ab camp, but he is from Taiz governorate, fleeing the war, and became a professional "beggar" in order to feed his children. He pointed out that he needed help and foodstuffs to be provided to him.

Every day he goes to the al-Buraiqah market, which is 13 kilometers away from the camp, and he asks for help from passers-by, shopkeepers, and market sellers.



He said that this exhausted him, and he did not go out to beg, except because the aid provided by the organizations was not enough. Consequently, he needed foodstuffs, and he hoped that the government agencies would provide him with these needs, as he put it, because he could not spend on his children.

He confirmed that what was provided to the camp in terms of aid was not sufficient for his children. During the conversation with him, he pointed to a small "bag" containing a kind of white flour and said that it was 4 kilograms, which he bought with the money he collected, to bring back to his home.

Aisha.. begging and leftover bread

Begging has been resorted to by many, especially the elderly, of both sexes, including "Aisha", who is in her seventies, and she was displaced from the city of Taiz, in the center of the country.

She said that after her displacement to Aden, she had kept moving between several camps to settle in Al-Sha'ab camp, where she now lives in "small huts" with 7 of her grandchildren.

She did not find any aid, so she went out to the street, begging the citizens, in order to provide a living for her and her family. She also collects pieces of bread to dry it. Then she reprepares it and feeds it to the children.

As for the places where she gets the bread, "Aisha" said that she received it from some nearby military camps and benefactors. She points out that eating dried bread goes through two stages: the first is drying the bread. The second is grinding it to be the only meal for the seven children in order to keep them from hunger throughout the day and night.

The team of "SAM" monitored the time when "Aisha" collects leftover bread and then works to dry it in large quantities.

She indicated that she used the "Shafut" meal, which is a traditional Yemeni meal prepared in several ways and consists of many ingredients, but Aisha uses leftover bread to prepare it.

In the midst of her speech, the displaced woman, "Aisha", complained from the Executive Unit of the IDP Camp Management, in Al-Buraiqa - Aden, that the unite did not respond to her in terms of providing food assistance to them except on different occasions.



Malnutrition Kills Children

Malnutrition is what afflicts most children in the Aden camps, including the two children of "Om Safia", who refused to give her real name and said that she had two children suffering from malnutrition.

She said that her husband worked in sewing "shoes", but it is a profession that was not sufficient to provide food for her children.

Om Safia, a displaced woman from Taiz, indicated that the last visit to the doctor for her infant son cost her 30,000 riyals, yet she was unable to buy the rest of the medicines.

She said that her son's health condition had not improved, and that medicines were not free and that she had to go to distant hospitals for fees while nearby hospitals did not provide anything.

The "SAM" team saw other cases of children suffering from malnutrition, in the absence of a large number of organizations concerned with childhood or other health-related organizations, including two twin children of a family, in the Al-Sha'ab city camp.

Om Saleh is the head of the family and the mother of the two twin children, whose symptoms of malnutrition are clear.

She said she had been displaced years ago from Taiz and ended up in this camp. Recently, she needs milk for her two sick children, and they also need other things.

She stressed that sometimes she was forced to sell the food aid she got in order to buy the needs of her two children, and she found no other way because milk was the most important thing in this situation.

The IDPs of Hodeidah are Distributed among the Governorates and Share "Hunger"

Al-Hodeidah governorate is one of the governorates that witnessed and is still witnessing waves of displacement due to the escalation of fighting in it, especially in the southern districts, including (Al-Durayhimi, Al-Jarrahi, Al-Abid, Hays, Jabal Ras). There are also IDPs, who fled from the oppression of the Houthi militia while others fled from air strikes, as evidenced by the testimonies obtained by the "SAM" team in many governorates, including the capital, Sana'a, Aden, Taiz, Al-Mahra, and Marib.

There is no accurate figure on the number of families displaced from Hodeidah, but SAM estimates that they exceed 30,000 families, most of whom are women and children. Most of these IDPs have taken refuge in camps or in government schoolyards, as in the outskirts of Taiz, or in the governorates of Aden, Marib and Hadramout, while others have taken refuge in rented homes in light of the high prices that increase the consequences of their displacement, after they lost their homes and sources of livelihood.

Abdo Mori was thrown out into the open by war in a schoolyard in Sana'a

This is the first testimony the displaced "Muhammad Abdo Mori", who now lives in the courtyard of the Abu Bakr Al-Siddiq school in the capital, Sana'a, has given to "SAM".

(Mori), a father of six children, four girls and two boys, said that he did not find any help after he had been



shattered by the war, which brought him to the place where he now lives in Abu Bakr Al-Siddiq School.

"My children and I lay in the yard," he added, "and we do not have any blankets or mattresses to sleep on." He pointed out that a number of organizations had registered his name in their lists, but he had not received anything.

He emphasized that food was what he got from restaurants. He said that what he got was just crumbs, and he had to bring them to his children. He stated that he got these leftovers from the nearby restaurants, while the drinking water was from the tanks in the street.

Mori comes from the Al-Hali district, in the city of Al-Hodeidah, but he used to live in the city of Haradh in Hajjah governorate, which is located in the Tihami plain, but it is closer to the Saudi border. Therefore, it was affected by the war, and most of its neighborhoods were destroyed. In addition, it witnessed the largest wave of mass displacement throughout the country.

He tells SAM team that he used to work in the city of Haradh on his motorcycle and was in the best condition. However, with the intensification of the bombing of the city, he displaced to the city of Hodeidah, where he lived in a mud house, consisting of two rooms. He continued to work on his motorcycle, which was his only source of work, until his second displacement journey.

He added that in his new life he continued to work during the day on his bike to return in the evening with his food and belongings, until the confrontations approached his house, which was located near the tension areas (he did not name these areas).

He said, "The confrontations were on one side and the aerial bombardment on the other," which forced him to flee again, but this time, he did not have the fare for the car that would take him and his family, so he sacrificed his motorcycle, which he sold for the costs of displacement to Sana'a.

He pointed out that he sold his motorcycle, his only source of livelihood, for a small amount that did not exceed 50,000 riyals, which enabled him to flee to Sana'a. He mentioned that this amount of money enabled him to flee to Sana'a, which he visited for the first time and he knew no one there.



No Relief despite 'Hunger'

Another displaced person in the school yard in Sana'a, "Abu Bakr al-Siddiq," spoke to the "SAM" team, confirming that he had fled to Sana'a to escape the clashes and in search of humanitarian relief.

"Abdullah Saghir," is a young man who was displaced from Al-Hawk district, Al-Hodeidah governorate, to Sana'a, and supports an entire family after his father died of kidney failure.

Abdullah's family consists of six members, his mother and 5 of his siblings, 3 females and two males. He said that his escape to Sana'a was in search of organizations that take care of the displaced, in order to provide them with food and shelter, but he and his family arrived in the courtyard of Abu Bakr Al-Siddiq school to sleep on the ground, and they found nothing but "kadam" -a type of bread- and fava beans.

He revealed that he was abused and humiliated by the Houthi group, who asked him to return with them to Hodeidah, in order to take part in the fighting, and not to flee. He pointed out that Houthi gunmen had tried more than once to recruit him and take him back to the frontlines under the pretext of defending his country.

Other Displacement Tragedies

Other displaced people from Al-Hodeidah governorate, who were affected by the tragedies of displacement in Sana'a, explained to "SAM" that they might resort to returning to their homes and areas which are affected by the conflict, after they were unable to adapt in their places of displacement for several reasons.

One of them is "Shou'i Muhammad Dahboub", the breadwinner of a family of 9 children, who left his fishing profession after the confrontations reached the coast. He says, "My work was cut off, and I had to flee to Sana'a."

He first arrived at a school building, but when he saw that it was overcrowded and then his children were infected with several diseases, he left and rented an apartment for 30,000 riyals. He confirmed that after a few days he had been kicked out of the rented apartment by the landlord because of the noise, as he put it.

"Fatim Hassan Dakom", who is also a mother of nine children, four boys and five girls, experienced the same tragedy. She also used to work in selling fish, in the official market in the city of Hodeidah. Because of the war and clashes, she was unable to continue her work, so she decided to flee to the north. She climbed the mountains with her family, thinking that she would find rest.

She confirmed that one of the reasons why she left her house was the attempts of the Houthi militants to recruit her children, and that services such as water and electricity were cut off.

She remained for the first month in Sana'a, without any necessities, even simple mattresses, which are used for sitting or sleeping. She said she and her young children had not received help from anyone, so she had resorted to begging.

She said that those in charge of the relief organizations did not include her in any aid. Rather, some of them asked her to speak on "television" about the Arab coalition led by Saudi Arabia. If she spoke of ill of the coalition and described it as "aggression", she would find all the help and attention from the Houthis in Sana'a. This was the condition of the Yemeni officials of the organizations so that she can get a food basket. She indicated that she used to live comfortably in her home with her family before the war.

It is not different in Aden

The two displaced families of "Jumaa Yahya Fatini Ibrahim" and her sister live in a small house consisting of two small rooms, a small kitchen and a bathroom in the city of Dar Saad in Aden.

The two families have over ten children, but there is no other solution for Jumaa, who considers herself responsible. She added that her eldest son was also married, which means that there are three families in the house.

She indicated that she used to live in the city of workers in Hodeidah, and fled to Aden because of the war that was raging. She said she was in a constant state of fear for her children all the time.

She confirmed she had faced many difficulties during the displacement, including the high transportation prices and the tiring road. She is now in this house in the Kawthar neighborhood of Dar Saad.

As for providing food, in the beginning, Jumaa resorted to selling her gold, and she kept feeding her children from it until some family members started working to provide the simplest types of food and drink.

Homelessness.. The Title of the IDPs from Hodeidah in the governments of Taiz, al-Mahra and Marib

Internally displaced people from Al-Hodeidah governorate, whom the team of "SAM" met in several governorates, including Taiz, Al-Mahrah, and Marib, share the concerns of displacement in the open or in simple homes.

One of them is "Fawzia Muhammad Ahmed," who said that the situation was bad, and she was homeless after she had sold everything she had owned in order to save the amount required for renting the car from Hodeidah to Taiz.

She added that it was not the fault of her and other homeless people, and that this homelessness affected the children more. She spoke while crying. She also confirmed she had not received any aid, and she says, "whoever has food lives and whoever does not have it will die of hunger."

"Saleh Abdo Salem Saleh," a citizen from the Hays district, who arrived in Al-Mahra governorate, east of the country, after escaping from the security situation, said, "It was difficult for us to get out, and we sold what we owned. Even the motorcycle was sold." He also indicated that he faced many difficulties while traveling, including being stopped at the security points of the warring parties.

As for the reason for choosing Al-Mahrah governorate, he attributed this to being a safe area, but he doesn't receive any humanitarian aid in the place where he displaced, which is located between Al-Ghaydha and Muhaifif area.

He said that he worked in construction work, "stone and mud" for the daily expenses, but the high prices increased his problem, calling for helping him and all the displaced living under these difficult circumstances.

It is noteworthy that the economic conditions worsened due to the collapse of the national currency, which continued to collapse. This led to an insane rise in food prices that reached more than 90% during 2021, which in turn caused the spread of hunger.

Escape from Bullets into Hunger

The circumstances of the displacement of the elderly "Salma Obel Ahmed Abdullah", who arrived in Marib Governorate, in the north-east of Yemen, are not much different from others with regard to humanitarian aid. Also, according to her testimony, she supports 9 individuals although she is over sixty years old.

Salma, who fled the fire of war in the district of Hays, south of Hodeidah, says that she fled to escape the bullets and missiles that were falling on their villages around the clock.

Salma and her family had to flee secretly after days of being besieged. Everyone was prevented from going to the markets, and there were searches and threats. Moreover, she confirms that they walked a great distance.

Salma and her family had to flee secretly, after days of being besieged. Everyone was prevented from going to the markets, and there were searches and threats. She confirmed that she and her family had walked a great distance.

She pointed out that her family had sold all the livestock they owned at low prices in order to save the amount of money to rent the car that took them to Marib Governorate. She said that they had been exploited by some people; therefore, they sold cows and sheep for half of their real value.

Salma now lives in a mud house, consisting of two rooms and a kitchen, with a rent of 40,000 riyals, but at the end of each month she is unable to pay it. In addition, providing food and drink has become difficult for her.

Regarding the aid, she found only 3 blankets and a kilo of dates. She also indicated that she could only manage to live with difficulty, which recently prompted her to leave the simple house and live in a house made of straw in a gathering for the marginalized people.

"Salma" was unable to get a place except after effort to set up her tent, and there are many prohibitions, including the fear of her children approaching a nearby farm as they might be shot.

Recommendations

International NGOs should be minimized because at the end of the day the local NGOs are the executors of the projects. Why pay the exorbitant cost of international NGOs and expats (salaries, security, insurance, accommodation, vehicles, flights...etc). Therefore, donors should provide funds to local NGOs without having INGOs as a mediator in the middle to consume a large share of funds in administration and salaries.

Transparency must be practiced by publishing financial and technical reports for all projects that are funded and implemented in Yemen and making all this data available online.

Participation of beneficiaries and the local community in planning through implementation to ensure that programs meet people's needs.

Allocating more funds for development to generate income and create jobs.

To stop using cash to deliver aid to beneficiaries. Funds should be transferred to the bank account of the beneficiaries to reactivate Yemeni banks and to avoid exchange rate fraud by INGOs.

Adopting accounting systems to maximize control and monitoring of aid operations.

considering to buy materials and grains from local markets in order to stimulate the economy and create more job opportunities.

Ensuring that all aid amounts are supplied to the Central Bank of Yemen to be spent through it and then spent on projects and activities in Yemeni riyals, which can enhance the status of the Yemeni riyal and improve the exchange rate.

Conclusion

At the end of its report, SAM stresses that continuing the conflict in Yemen, targeting civilians, especially women and children, displacing them from their homes, and attacking their areas of residence cause unprecedented humanitarian crises, especially the repeated displacement of millions of Yemenis without any real solution on the horizon that guarantees the protection of those individuals against the violations they are exposed to during their journey of displacement from their areas to safer areas.

The organization stresses that the arrival of those displaced to those safe areas does not mean the end of this crisis, but rather the beginning of another crisis related to providing shelter, food, drink and basic needs, in light of the evasion of the UN and international organizations concerned with the rights of refugees and displaced persons. Furthermore, the current conditions in those camps have proven beyond doubt that there is a real humanitarian crisis in those camps, especially when we are talking about the lack of tents suitable to house these people. In addition, there are no medical services, food, or specialized care for children, women, and disabled individuals, who are the largest segment of those displaced.

The organization concluded its report by emphasizing the importance of sparing civilians from the scourge of the violations and practices committed by the parties to the conflict, and the need to provide full protection for those civilians. "SAM" also stressed at the same time the need for international bodies, on top of which are the United Nations and their agencies, to provide basic supplies for the displaced, allocate protected places for them in order to take care of them, work to provide all medical, educational and food services, and put pressure on the parties to the conflict to stop their escalating violations against civilians and to bring those involved in committing these violations to a fair trial.



DISPLACED IN THE OPEN

A human rights report documenting the humanitarian situation
in the displacement camps in Marib governorate



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