

Climate, water and human security in the conflict areas of Yemen

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Food4Humanity
Yemen

F4H
Food4Humanity Foundation
مؤسسة الغذاء من أجل الإنسانية والتنمية

SIWI WORLD
WATER
WEEK



In ancient times
Yemen was known as
Arabia Felix, Latin for
"happy" or
"fortunate".

It acquired the name
because its high
mountains attracted
rain, making it more
fertile than most of
the Arabian peninsula.



- Agriculture is one of the country's main economic activities and contributes 20% of the GDP and employs almost half of the working population



*The most alien
looking place on
Earth and The
Pearl of the
Indian Ocean.*

Socotra Island



Mocha Coffee

Mocha on Yemen's Red Sea coast, was once the centre of the world's coffee trade. Coffee was especially popular with Sufis who drank it to stay alert during their rituals.





**Today, Yemen is neither
happy nor fortunate**

Five years of aerial bombing campaigns and ground fighting have left over 17 million people unable to adequately feed themselves and are closer to starvation





The situation in Yemen is a heart-breaking example of an entirely man-made disaster

Conflict and the deliberate blocking and weaponization of aid has brought the population to the brink of famine.

The figures are staggering



As we speak

One child will die of
starvation every ten
minutes.



Displacement, Water Scarcity and Disease



- All sectors of Yemen's infrastructure has been affected by air strikes and artillery shelling including sewage and water facilities
- Over 18 million do not have access to clean water, seven million of them are on the brink of famine, and two million children are severely malnourished
- Because of the lack of a clean water supply, more than 1 million Yemeni children are now at risk of developing cholera
- Medicine, a steady source of food, and access to a clean water supply are now rare luxuries in Yemen

3.3 million people remain displaced from their homes,
An estimated 80% of the population, 24 million people, are in need of assistance,



Thousands of civilians
have been killed since the
beginning of the war



Food Insecurity in Yemen Per Governorate

Destruction of Yemen's water and sanitation infrastructure has created one of the worst health epidemics the country has ever experienced.



**As sanitation
failed, cholera
rapidly spread.**



Impact on population



- Loss of livelihoods and income
- Women and girls eat the least and last. That is if they can find and food at all!
- Risk of diseases because of poor hygiene practices
- Girls' school participation further reduced, high dropout rates
- Children recruited to support military goals, others trafficked

Yemen's traditional economy has almost completely collapsed. Millions in Yemen can't afford food, water, medicines and other basic essentials. They are now reliant on the support of international organization's and charitable volunteers.



Before the war began in 2015, farmers exported 30,000 tonnes of the fruit. Those exports have fallen by around a third and farmers blame lack of fuel and water for irrigation and the impact of aerial bombing by a coalition of



An inability to grow crops not only contributes to the humanitarian crisis facing Yemen's growing population, but also affects its economic prospects .



Water- and land-related disputes

The Devil crop

A Man Made Water Crisis

(Qat) displaced over tens of thousands of hectares of vital crops -- fruits, vegetables, and coffee -- which has sent food prices soaring.

- Before the war it was recorded that 70 to 80 percent of conflicts in Yemen's rural regions are water and land-related.
- Water- and land-related disputes result in about 4,000 deaths each year (statistic's before the war)

The impact of the Water Crisis on Women

The task of water collection most frequently falls to **women and young girls**. Often, these women and girls spend hours a day traveling to collect water to meet their family's needs. As this task is so time consuming and dangerous, they are often unable to finish their education.



Many girls do not have time for their education because they are needed to collect water daily for their family's everyday needs. Having a close water supply allows these girls to save hours of time with which they can work on their education.



The **Water4Peace** is helping empower women and youth to bring their communities out of poverty and dispute by providing close, clean water supplies, awareness programs and income generating projects based on a community participation approach



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The Water4Peace
أمن أجل السلام

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Learn about The Water4Peace Project
Empowering Women in Their Communities

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Yemeni Girls Leadership School



Increasing Humanitarian Needs in Yemen



- Broad range of support required, rapid interventions most critical
- Food, nutrition, health, water and sanitation, shelter, education, protection critically important
- •Invest in Water Harvesting & Storage Structures
- •Inter-Basin Water Transfer
- •Education

Revive ..

An intervention by
Food4Humanity to
build green Houses
for Yemeni women
farmers



Conclusion



- As humanitarians and the international community, we should work together and aim to restore and maintain agricultural, livestock and fisheries systems by providing emergency livelihoods assistance to Yemenis in the form of agricultural, livestock and fisheries inputs or assets. This is crucial considering that these are the main source of livelihoods for approximately 54 per cent of the Yemeni population.

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Do your little bit of good where you are; its those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.

Desmond Tutu (Nobel Peace Prize 1984)

