



Youth Leadership Development Foundation

# Seeds of Sustainable Development

ANNUAL

REPORT **2023**



## Executive Manager Letter

In 2023, the Youth Leadership Development Foundation continues its relentless efforts to support young men and women in facing the economic and social challenges impacting our society. Through its diverse programs and projects, the foundation strives to empower its target groups, enhance their capacities, and open new horizons to improve their academic and professional lives. Our deep commitment to achieving these goals drives us to persistently work hard despite the difficult circumstances we face.

As part of its dedication to women's empowerment, the foundation reopened the Girls' Center, one of its most notable achievements this year. This center represents a cornerstone in the foundation's journey, as it was the starting point for supporting young women and enhancing their skills in various fields, including English, computer skills, and management. The center also aims to provide scholarships for female students from low-income families, granting them new educational and professional opportunities in a safe and supportive environment. We firmly believe that education is the key that unlocks the doors for girls to achieve their dreams and ambitions.

This year's efforts were not limited to supporting individuals but also extended to enhancing the capacities of women-led community organizations. In collaboration with its partners, the foundation worked on developing the capabilities of ten women-led civil society organizations, enabling them to play a more impactful leadership role in their communities. These efforts focused on improving cooperative work mechanisms and equipping participants with the knowledge and skills needed to design and implement development projects that contribute to economic and social stability.

One of the significant steps taken by the foundation this year was preparing a policy paper to support the targeted women-led organizations. Decision-makers and influential stakeholders, including local authorities, community leaders, and other civil society organizations, were engaged in this effort to improve the support directed at these organizations. These endeavors aim to expand civic participation and increase the provision of essential services to the community.

Amid declining support for Yemen, the Youth Leadership Development Foundation seeks to enhance its sustainability strategy. The foundation focuses on establishing additional projects that ensure continuity and sustainable income, enabling it to meet community needs more effectively. The foundation believes in the importance of initiatives that contribute to providing community services that address individuals' needs and strengthen their ability to face economic and social challenges.

In the coming years, the Youth Leadership Development Foundation aspires to expand its developmental programs and increase the number of young beneficiaries of its services. It also aims to strengthen its partnerships with local and international entities to achieve a broader and more sustainable impact. Encouraging youth initiatives in community participation remains a priority, as young people are a powerful tool for driving the desired change. By fostering sustainable work and effective partnerships, we believe we can achieve positive transformation in the lives of individuals and communities.



# YLDF BACKGROUND

## OUR VISION

Yemen in which skilled, well qualified and active young women and men play leadership roles in all domains of society and enable Yemenis to contribute to a better world

## Goal

The full potential of Yemeni youth are unlocked and they are able to meet their social and economic aspirations to play leadership role in society

## Strategy

Models of Partnership between YLDF and international agencies, private Sector, government, local authorities and local communities and CSOs are created.

## Output

1.1 Availability and access to food is Increased for highly vulnerable households in conflict-affected areas through provision of essential life-saving food assistance and distribution of emergency agricultural, and fisheries kits

1.2 Women, men, girls and boys' vulnerability to gender-based violence is reduced through creating an enabling environment and access to multi-sectoral response services

1.3 The resilience of vulnerable households to shocks is increased by improving access to livelihood opportunities and increasing household incomes

2.1 Youth capacities are increased based on market needs through providing up-to-date training curriculum and innovative methods in internship, apprenticeship, and mentorship

2.2 Youth are supported to build their own businesses through grants, business development interventions and facilitating access to capital

2.3 Youth female entrepreneurs are supported through providing educational opportunities and female-friendly spaces

2.4 Social responsibility in targeted youth is enhanced. (Cross-Cutting)

3.1 YLDF's and CSOs' capacities are enhanced in social accountability and evidence based policy making through designing and provision of comprehensive and innovative theoretical and practical training programs, implementing joint programs and establishing coalitions.

## Outcome

**Hopeful and resilient society members who are able to continue functioning and withstand the shocks of war**

Beneficiary Level



**Hopeful and resilient society members who are able to continue functioning**

Actor Level



**CSOs are able to influence youth policies at the local , national and regional levels**

## Goal

The full potential of Yemeni youth are unlocked and they are able to meet their social and economic aspirations to play leadership role in society

## PARTNERS



## Local Partners



## List of Abbreviation

YLDF	Youth leadership Development Foundation
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
DKH	Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe
FAO	Food And Agricultural organization
ELSFA	Emergency Life-Saving Food Assistance
HHs	Households
FSAC	Food Security and Agriculture Cluster
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
GBV	Gender Based Violence
EU	European Union
UN	United Nations
IDPs	Internally Displaced Person
YLP	Youth Leadership Program
YLP 8	Youth Leadership Program 8 Yemen
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
KAS	Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

## Results at Glance 2023

### Total Number of Direct Individuals Beneficiaries

3738

Male	2596
Female	1142

### Total Number of indirect Individuals Beneficiaries

HHs	1393
M&F	9651

## Beneficiaries Locations

### Sana'a

78

Male	39
Female	39

### Amran

2789

Male	1956
Female	833

### Dhamar

298

Male	254
Female	44

### Hadhramaut

165

Male	65
Female	100

### Aden

190

Male	101
Female	89

### Taiz

28

Male	12
Female	16

### Amant AlAsima

190

Male	170
Female	20

## Categorized by Beneficiary Type

### Youth

128

Male 63  
Female 65

### HHs

651

Male 510  
Female 141

### Small-Farmers

2378

Male 1643  
Female 735

### Community Actors

146

Male 117  
Female 29

### Community Members

211

Male 152  
Female 59

### IDPs

75

Male 0  
Female 75

### Association members

79

Male 70  
Female 9

### Skilled Labor

31

Male 31  
Female 0

### NGOs/CBOs/INGOs Members

39

Male 10  
Female 29

### Total

3738

Male 2596  
Female 1142

## Categorized by Activity

### Training

262

Male 115  
Female 147

### Cash for work

276

Male 276  
Female 0

### Emergency Aids

406

Male 265  
Female 141

### Agriculture Extension

2378

Male 1643  
Female 735

### Workshop

396

Male 290  
Female 106

### Internship

20

Male 7  
Female 13

### Total

3738

Male 2596  
Female 1142

## Themes

Education

Food Security

Livelihood

Empowerment

Social



## Services

Agricultural Extension

Trainings

Workshops

Cash Transfer

Cash for work

Project granting

proposal development

BASIC START-UP TOOL KITS

YLDF INTERNSHIPS

Empowerment

Solving community problems

## Training Courses

Sustainable development

Gender equity

Communication skills

Design thinking

Writing a business project schedule

Budget preparation

Resource mobilization

Writing project proposals

psychological support

Writing CV Workshop

Personal Banding Workshop

English Research

University guidance Workshop

Computer skill

English refreshment

English research methodology

Leadership and life skills

University guidance

Policy Paper Presentation Workshop

Volunteering and Internship

Vocational skill training

Community Committees inclusive

charter Development

Administrative and Financial

Governance and Community Conflict

Resolution

life stooks raising and caring

Increase agricultural production and

improve quality through modern

technologies.

Marketing of agricultural products

Agricultural pesticides

proposal writing

financial sustainability

Relief and Development

**HUMANITARIAN**



# 1 Emergency Food Security and Early Recovery

## Aim

Contribute to Improved food security, resilience and restoration of livelihood opportunities for vulnerable host and IDP households in two districts of Amran governorate.

## Partners

Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe (DKH) and Caritas Germany

## Project Duration

Aug.2023 – Jan. 2024

## Targeted Governorrates

Amran

"The project provided me with health security for myself and food for my family from unscrupulous hunger."

Tahani project beneficiary

## Beneficiaries

### Direct Beneficiaries

Households (HHs)	406
Individuals	3589
Men	793
Women	947
Boys	930
Girls	919



**Education**



# 1 Youth Leadership Program -YLP 21

## Aim

Enhanced skills and knowledge of high school graduates through lifelong learning opportunities and a variety of training experiences.

## Partners

YLP's Alumni

## Project Duration

Nov 2022 - Oct 2023

## Targeted Governorates

Sana'a

" The university guidance session helped me overcome the confusion I was in, as I was able to inquire about and confidently choose the major I wanted through field visits."

Ayat Al – Maqtari program graduate

## Beneficiaries

### Total Beneficiaries (Direct)

36

Male 20

Female 16



# 2 Youth Leadership Program -YLP 22

## Aim

Enhanced skills and knowledge of high school graduates through lifelong learning opportunities and a variety of training experiences.

## Partners

YLP's Alumni

## Project Duration

Sep 2022- Feb 2023

## Targeted Governorates

Sana'a

" I have greatly benefited from developing my English language skills and acquired valuable abilities in communication and interaction with others. Additionally, I have effectively organized my time and learned how to use the computer proficiently. I have successfully chosen my university major."

Reem Al-Absi program graduate

## Beneficiaries

Total Beneficiaries (Direct)

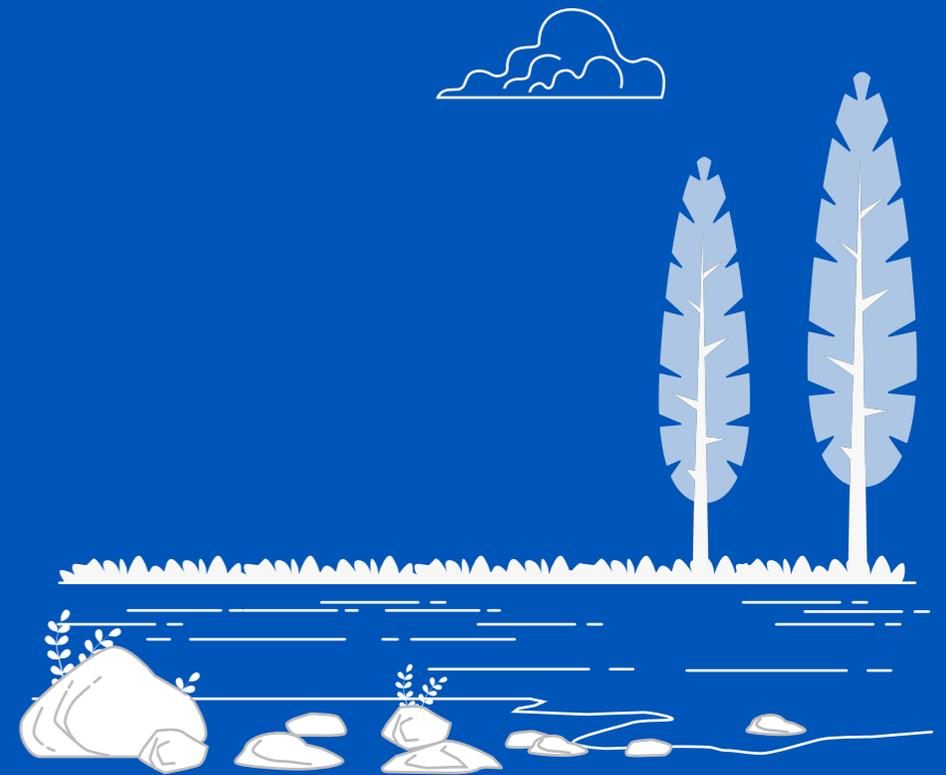
20

Male 12

Female 8



**Livelihood**



# 1 Emergency Food Security and Early Recovery

## Aim

Contribute to Improved food security, resilience and restoration of livelihood opportunities for vulnerable host and IDP households in two districts of Amran governorate.

## Partners

Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe (DKH) and Caritas Germany

## Project Duration

Sep 2023 – Dec 2023

## Targeted Governorates

Amran

“ The project has given me the opportunity to create a better future for myself and my family. After constantly feeling anxious about everything, I am now able to do a lot for us.”

Monsour program graduate

## Beneficiaries

### CFW Direct Beneficiaries

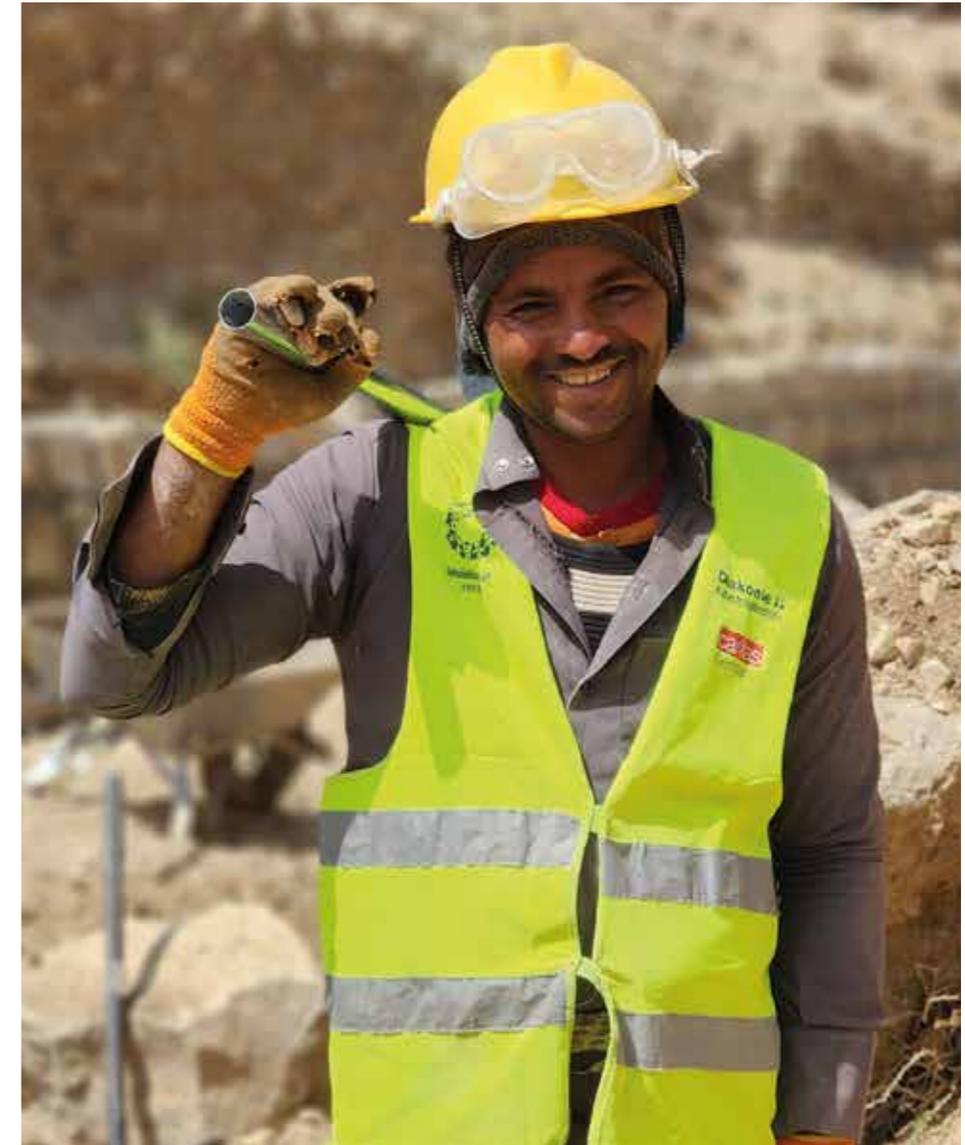
Households (HHs)	245
Individuals	2013
Men	463
Women	512
Boys	521
Girls	517
Skilled Labor	31

### CFW Indirect Beneficiaries

Male & Female	9651
Households (HHs)	1393

### CFW Results

Wadi Bank Protection	2
Tank Rehabilitated	4
Harvesting Tanks Constructed	2



### Agriculture Extension BNFs

Total Number of Direct BNFs

### Small-Farmers

**2107**

Male	1415
Female	692

# 2 FAO Resilience programmed in the irrigation and agricultural sector

## Aim

To Enhanced livelihood resilience and sustainable peace in Yemen through sustainable water management.

## Partners

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

## Project Duration

Sep 2023 – May 2024

## Targeted Governorates

Hadramout

“I learned from the training how to speak clearly, work transparency, conflicts management, and the community empowerment”

Mona Baghreeb program beneficiaries

## Beneficiaries

Total Number of Direct BNFs

Association Member

52

Male 44

Female 8

Community Actor

7

Male 7



Mona Baghreeb program beneficiaries

**Empowerment**



# 1 Sustainable Opportunities for Livelihoods, Vocations and Employment

## Aim

To strengthen the socio-economy of girls and women to recover more quickly and sustainably from the crisis in peacebuilding contexts displaced in the targeted areas.

## Partners

UN Women

## Project Duration

Nov 2022 - April 2023

## Targeted Governorates

Hadhramaut

“I learned a lot from the trainer who was always helpful and friendly. Moreover, I felt happy and proud whenever I succeeded in making a piece of clothing.”

Zahrah Program trainee

## Beneficiaries

Total Number of Direct BNFs

Total Beneficiaries (Direct) IDPs

75

Female

75



# 2 Women-Led Organization Leading Sustainable Development and Peace in Yemen

## Aim

A thriving Yemeni civil society acts efficiently and independently to play a leadership role as development actors for inclusiveness and sustainable growth in Yemen.

## Partners

Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

## Project Duration

March 2023 - July 2023

## Targeted Governorates

Aden, Sana'a, Taiz, Al-Hodiadah

## Beneficiaries

Total Number of Direct BNFs

NGOs/INGOs member

39

Male 10

Female 29



# 3 Food Security livelihood Project (FSLP)

## Aim

contribute to strengthening the economy through agricultural production and increasing the income of farmers with capital and small enterprises. This goal will contribute to “improving agricultural economic recovery and creating job opportunities for poor families

## Partners

Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

## Project Duration

Oct 2022 - March 2023

## Targeted Governorrates

Dhamar

## Beneficiaries

Total Number of Direct BNFs

Association Member

**27**

Male 26

Female 1

Small-Farmers

**271**

Male 228

Female 43



# 4 Volunteer and Internship program

## Aim

Young People and Young Women Graduate Acquiring the Basic Skills Required by the Labor Market through Practical Application in Youth Leadership Development Foundation Units during six months

## Partners

YLDF team & Volunteers' Alumni

## Project Duration

Every Six Months

## Targeted Governorrates

Sana'a

"Joining the volunteering program at the Youth Leadership Development Foundation has provided me with numerous skills and knowledge, especially since I am a recent graduate with no prior experience in the job market."

Hadeel Maqtari volunteer

## Beneficiaries

Total Number of Direct BNFs

Youth

20

Male 7

Female 13



**Social**



# 1 Youth Leadership Program 9 Yemen

## Aim

To build a generation of young leaders as innovators, and change-makers in the Arab region to become drivers for social change and accelerating process towards Sustainable Development Goals and 2030 Agenda.

## Partners

UNDP

## Project Duration

Sept 2023 – Dec 2023

## Targeted Governorates

Taiz – Hadramout

“The design thinking training helped me developed Solar Oven to make it usable even during the night, thus providing a sustainable and environmentally friendly cooking solution”

Aseel Program trainee

## Beneficiaries

Total Number of Direct BNFs

Youth

52

Male 24

Female 28



# 2 Promoting Inclusive access to Justice in Yemen

## Aim

To contribute and benefit from inclusive, accountable, and gender-responsive governance, at local and central levels in Yemen

## Partners

UNDP - ASF

## Project Duration

May 2023 – Aug 2024

## Targeted Governorates

Sana'a - Aden

## Beneficiaries

### Total Number of Direct BNFs

#### Community Member

211

Male 152

Female 59

#### Community Actor

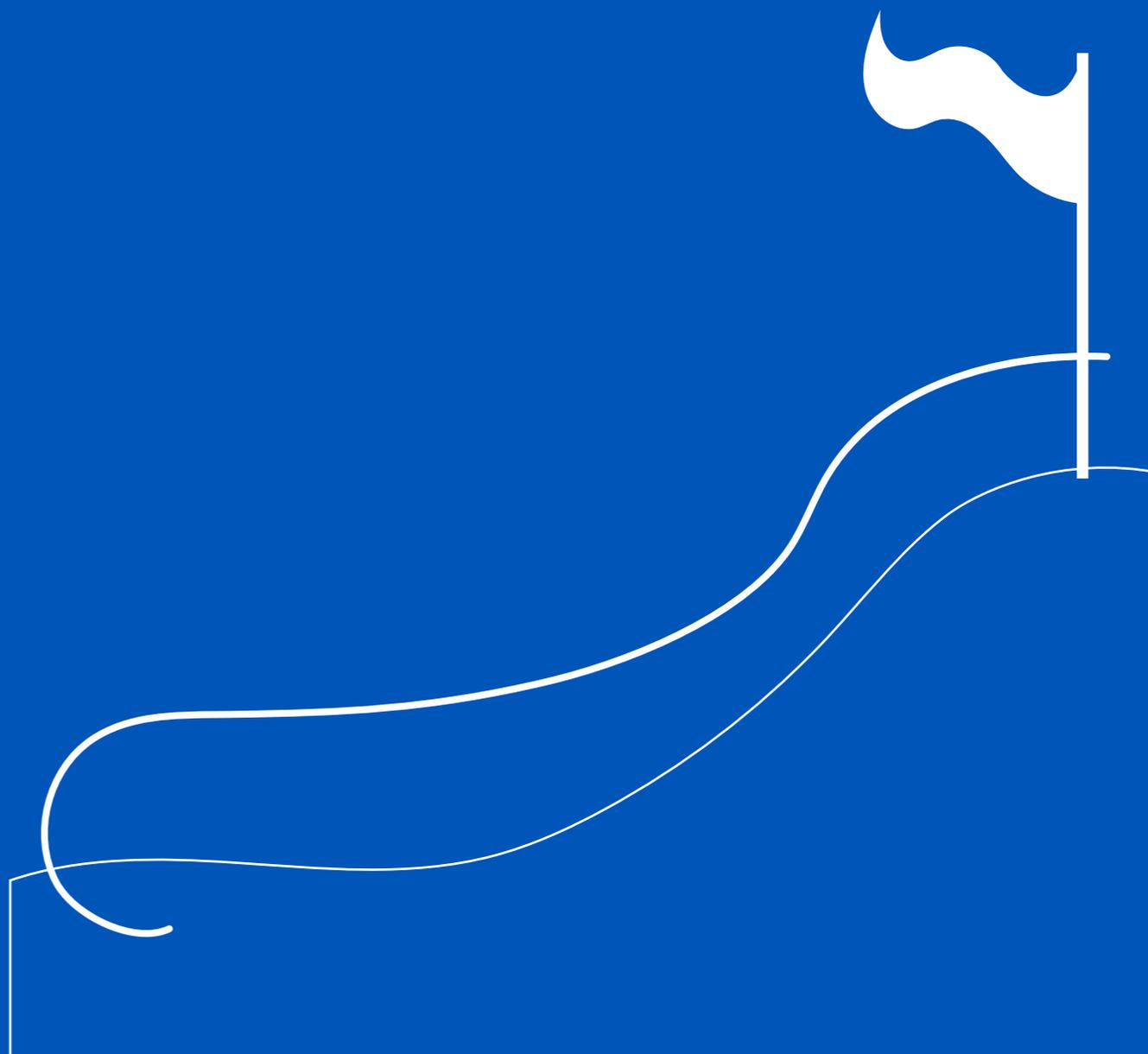
139

Male 110

Female 29



# Success Stories



# Warrior Walls

**Mansour Yahya**  
**Amran-Al-qaryat village**



The Al-Akhom isolation in Amran Governorate has suffered for years from the erosion of agricultural lands due to floods. How did the supporting wall the Youth Leadership Development Foundation constructed help people in the region preserve the scattered agricultural lands on the outskirts of the rugged mountains region?

Generous hands and humanitarian partners didn't reach agricultural lands in the area of Al-Akhoum Mountain in Eyal Yazid Mountain, Amran district, north of Sana'a. As one of the residents said: "The area is isolated and remote, and animals (donkeys) are considered the only means of transportation for people, which makes it a difficult task for local and international organizations to think of building supporting walls for the agricultural lands in a modern way to protect them from erosion."

This explains the fact that transporting rocks from one area to another is considered a risky endeavor due to the danger of slipping from the mountain peaks.

He added, 'This is the first time a local organization has come to help the residents of the area by building supporting walls for the agricultural lands.

After the team of engineers from YLDF arrived and conducted a comprehensive survey of the region's urgent needs, they chose to intervene by constructing supporting walls to reduce the erosion of the agricultural lands caused by floods.

This is part of the emergency food security and early recovery project implemented by the Youth Leadership Development Foundation in partnership with Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe and supported by Caritas Germany."

The project is part of the efforts undertaken by the Youth Leadership Development Foundation and its partners in constructing rock barriers, a successful method for retaining land, which encourages the reclamation of new agricultural lands and the expansion of cultivating new and profitable types of crops.

This will enhance the income and food security of the people in the area.

## The Beginning of the story:

For the supporting walls construction project, there is a story, that has commenced with identifying its target of improving access to developmental projects and basic services for deprived rural areas.

The component cash-for-work (CFA/FFA) within the Emergency Food Security and Early Recovery Project, supports rural communities in preserving and enhancing agricultural infrastructure such as irrigation systems and soil conservation, aiming to mitigate the risks and impact of floods.

The overall goal of the project includes Emergency Food Security and Early Recovery implemented by the Youth Leadership Development Foundation in Amran Governorate, enhancing resilience in targeted communities conserving and improving water resources, and also building or rehabilitating traditional irrigation systems.

Engineer Abu Talib explains that the project was chosen based on a study of the region's needs, as it is one of the farthest areas in the directorate and very difficult to access.



“ There are no paved roads to reach the targeted area because it is one of the areas where organizations rarely operate due to the difficulty of access.” He says,,.

He added that the selection of the project was based on various criteria, including population density and the number of beneficiaries of the service. The primary needs were the protection of agricultural lands situated on slopes and flood pathways.

## Project Execution:

After continuous work by the engineering team and completing the survey of the area's needs, the project was identified, and implementation began with the assistance of 31 workers from the village of Al-Masna'a Eyal Yazid Mountain District, whose residents work in agriculture and construction.

as part of the cash-for-work program for their efforts in the construction of the supporting wall, which extends along a length of 217 meters.

He pointed out that the residents of the area are actively involved in cultivating wheat and barley, gradually removing Qat trees from the agricultural lands. This encouraged the team to establish the project and meet the needs of the local population in improving agricultural crops and protecting the lands from erosion caused by floods.

The project's implementation in a remote area represents a ray of hope for families hoping that the project will contribute to improving their economic situation and developing the agricultural environment, nourishing groundwater through the philosophy of "rainwater harvesting," preserving soil moisture, reducing its erosion, providing practical solutions for reclaiming eroded lands, mitigating their natural degradation, reducing surface water runoff, and increasing its storage

## Diligent worker:

Optimistic worker Mansour Rafiq sits on a rock sticking out of the valley of Al-Masna'a village, surrounded by towering mountains that push floods toward the agricultural lands. These lands rely on a half-built traditional wall, on the verge of collapse in the upcoming rainy season, expected in June.

The thirty-something hard-working laborer, seeking shelter from the burning sun with a helmet and the shade of a tree, speaks about the hardship of transporting rocks on the backs of animals through the rugged rocky paths to be stacked and paved in the retaining wall of the agricultural lands.

He showcases the needs of the poor village, drawing attention to the struggle of its students to reach their distant school, forcing them to walk 2 kilometers, hindering the education process.

Mansour continues that students are limited to studying until the third and fourth grades from the primary stage until they become proficient in reading and writing.

Meanwhile, girls' education is considered to be an impossible dream due to the rugged village landscape.

He goes back to recounting his suffering in securing food for his family consisting of 10 members, (His parents, wife, and six of his children.)

He showcases the needs of the poor village, drawing attention to the struggle of its students to reach their distant school, forcing them to walk 2 kilometers, hindering the education process.

Mansour continues that students are limited to studying until the third and fourth grades from the primary stage until they become proficient in reading and writing.

Meanwhile, girls' education is considered to be an impossible dream due to the rugged village landscape



He adds that the humanitarian interventions of the Youth Leadership Development Foundation and its partners in the neglected, forgotten, and remote villages, facilitate the task of survival amidst complexity.

He refers to the Emergency Food Security and Early Recovery project as evidence, which ensured the purchase of essential needs for his family

The struggling worker explains that his participation in the Emergency Food Security and Early Recovery project, implemented by the Youth Leadership Development Foundation in partnership with Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe and supported by Caritas Germany, equipped him with the practical skills he lacked as an unskilled worker. This enabled him to learn construction and paving techniques, empowering him to add a room to his hidden house behind a farm, overseeing a supporting wall that protects it from raging floods.

He remembers with sadness the suffering of farmers as they resorted to traditional construction to enclose Agricultural lands, gathering and stacking stones and clay at the foothills of the mountains to contain the soil. However, these methods quickly weakened in the face of climate change, with winds and floods sweeping away much of the agricultural land and obstructing pathways in the rugged mountains of the region.

## Friendly walls:

The engineering team at the Youth Leadership Development Foundation continued to supervise 211 workers from the local community, representing 20 families who benefited from working on the project as part of the cash-for-work initiative.

The team continues the construction and paving work for the supporting wall, which embodies a loyal friend and a strong warrior facing floods to preserve the agricultural environment in the region.

As the workers depart, Mansour Yahya Rafiq gazes at the extended supporting wall across the mountains and says with joy,

“Farmers will finally be able to halt the deterioration and erosion of the soil, providing a suitable agricultural environment to improve livelihoods for the residents of the isolated Al-Akhoum, with a population exceeding 6,982, according to the 2004 Yemeni census.

The project, implemented by the Youth Leadership Development Foundation in partnership with support from Caritas Germany and Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe, contributes to finding practical solutions for agricultural lands facing rising temperatures, drought, shifts in planting and harvesting seasons due to changes in rainfall patterns, storms, hurricanes, and raging floods

The Youth Leadership Development Foundation, along with its partners, is implementing a construction and rehabilitation project of the agricultural lands in the targeted areas based on its humanitarian responsibility, finding sustainable solutions to reduce the impact of environmental factors that caused the rise of desertification rate increased from 90% in 2014 to 97% in 2022, which led to an annual loss ranging between 3 and 5% of arable land in Yemen.

# solar oven

**Asil Ali Shamsan Saleh**  
**Taiz Governorate**



Design thinking has helped me develop solar ovens that can be used even at night, providing a sustainable and environmentally friendly cooking solution," says Asil

In the heart of Taiz, where hope weaves its threads amid life's challenges, Asil Ali Shamsan Saleh stands as a symbol of creativity and courage. She is a young woman who not only soars in the sky of her dreams but has also fashioned wings from adversity to reach new horizons. As Nelson Mandela said, "Courage is not the absence of fear, but the triumph over it."

When one goes deep into difficult situations, they discover an opportunity to uncover their true strengths. For Asil, life has been a series of challenges that have transformed into milestones of learning and growth. Through her perseverance and determination, she has turned these challenges into golden opportunities, showcasing her remarkable ability to innovate and inspire.

Asil was born into difficult circumstances, with her mother separating from her father, leading her to live with her mother and siblings in Al-Turbah. Despite these challenges, Asil exhibited a passion for learning and work, which drove her to enroll in the foundation's program. She works as a lawyer and a human rights activist, allowing her to continue achieving her professional and social goals. She has adeptly transformed personal difficulties into motivation for improvement, highlighting humanity's ability to use every experience as an opportunity for growth and learning.

When Asil learned about the Young Leaders Program (YLP) in its ninth edition, implemented in partnership with the United Nations Development Program for 48 young men and women in Taiz and Hadhramaut, she felt this was the opportunity she had long awaited. Asil joined the program in the entrepreneurship track, seizing every chance to learn and grow. This program was not just a training opportunity; it was a pivotal turning point in her professional and personal journey.

foundation's official page. This led to a transformative moment in her life, where she learned how to create solar ovens. Asil developed a new model of the solar oven using simple, cost-effective materials such as wood shavings, glass, and wooden scraps, totaling no more than \$70 when purchasing the tools. This design allows for nighttime use due to the addition of a battery or power source. This innovation rendered the project a sustainable and inventive solution, addressing the crisis of excessive deforestation while providing an environmentally friendly alternative. This technological breakthrough reflects the spirit of initiative and the capacity to enhance environmental conditions

and climate change training. She learned to transform challenges into opportunities and refine her project for greater impact. Her journey was filled with discoveries, learning how to face challenges with a positive mindset and effectively utilize her acquired knowledge to improve her life and the lives of others.

Due to her achievements, Asil was selected as a trainer for solar oven manufacturing in Cairo. Upon her return, she plans to train displaced women and university dormitory students, distributing solar ovens to enhance their lives. She also intends to conduct new training sessions for the displaced in collaboration with Dr. Susan Al-Hadhrami, aiming to alleviate their suffering. Asil's vision extends beyond improving current conditions; she aspires to build a brighter future for her community by expanding her projects and training initiatives.

In conclusion, Asil's story is a testament to the power of will and innovation in overcoming challenges. Through her determination and initiative, she has inspired others to harness their potential and uplift their communities, reflecting her profound commitment to fostering hope and making a tangible difference. Her narrative underscores the capacity of individuals to effect significant change, proving that persistence and vision can transform challenges into golden opportunities. "Be the change you wish to see in the world," Mahatma Gandhi said.

**case study**



## From Carrying Stones to Stability

“ I can no longer bear the hardship of all these burdens alone.

”

With these simple, yet poignant words, Awad Abdullah, a 24-year-old young man, began his story. He was supposed to live a life full of hope and passion, but he found himself surrounded by responsibilities that exceeded his capacity. He had to support a family of 14 members (9 males and 5 females), including his grandfather who suffered a hip fracture from an accident, resulting in a permanent disability and needing ongoing treatments that were challenging him to afford.

"All I know how to do is carry stones to construction sites, and this is my only source of income," his daily life revolved around the task that provided him with a meager sum despite its toil. He strived hard to provide a livelihood for his large family. Despite all the challenges, he had no other choice but to continue this work to combat the poverty surrounding him and his family.

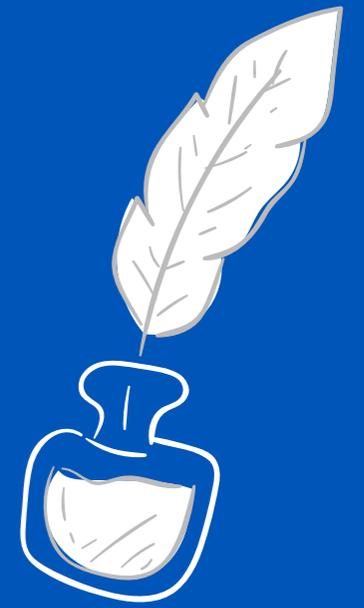
With these simple, yet poignant words, Awad Abdullah, a 24-year-old young man, began his story. He was supposed to live a life full of hope and passion, but he found himself surrounded by responsibilities that exceeded his capacity. He had to support a family of 14 members (9 males and 5 females), including his grandfather who suffered a hip fracture from an accident, resulting in a permanent disability and needing ongoing treatments that were challenging him to afford.

Awad received training during the project implementation, through which he acquired new and diverse skills. He learned the basics of construction, stone paving, as well as how to install and connect gabions to protect palm trees and agricultural lands, helping to improve their productivity. Awad proudly stated, "I will now be able to improve my income thanks to the skills I have acquired." He will no longer have to carry stones in the future but will be able to perform multiple tasks as a skilled worker, resulting in a better income. Thus, Awad transitioned from an unskilled laborer to a skilled worker with diverse abilities.

Skills were not the only thing Awad gained; the amount he received through the Cash for Work component of the project enhanced his resilience and supported agricultural livelihoods, enabling him to secure his family and purchase a comprehensive food basket for the first time, allowing him to provide for his and his family's basic needs. This had a profound impact on his life, as he joyfully exclaimed, "This is the first time I have been able to provide such a food basket for my family, making us very happy."

From a young man burdened with responsibilities to a skilled worker capable of improving his income, Awad managed to overcome life's challenges thanks to the opportunity presented to him by the "Cash for Work". These interventions are not just means to provide emergency assistance but are seeds that sow hope and enhance capabilities, enabling individuals to build a better future for themselves and their families. Awad's journey from carrying stones to construction encapsulates how a spark of support can ignite the fire of change, turning dreams into reality and challenges into tangible victories.

**Blog**





## The role of Data Analysis in Monitoring and Evaluation

Mohammed Al hadhri  
MEAL Sr. Coordinator

One of the most important phases in the monitoring and evaluation field is data analysis in which the transformation of unprocessed data into usable information. Researchers are being able to understand information and findings as a result of data analysis. It entails the act of comprehending, synthesizing, and arranging the data in a way that responds to the goals and indications of any designed project.

The M&E role handling the project requires a well-thought-out plan for data analysis before the initiation of the study. This plan should include an outline of the time frame and characteristics of data, methods and data structure required by the statistical tools and templates to achieve stated objectives and carrying out the analysis and interpretation of the results of the studies such as needs assessment, baseline/endline, market assessment and end-evaluation studies.

A crucial component of data analysis is the data collection process. It is the process of compiling information from diverse sources to assess a program's or project's effectiveness. Both qualitative and quantitative data can be collected. Therefore, the following techniques are used to gather qualitative data: focus groups, surveys, interviews, and observation. On the other hand, methods for gathering quantitative data include questionnaires, surveys, and secondary data.

This entails summarizing the relevant indicators and tabulating data to establish relationships. Subsequently, a comparative analysis of important indicators among respondents from different target groups, geographical areas, etc., will be conducted to offer more precise insights into the realities in the fields. In addition to these procedures, sophisticated tests like the correlation coefficient, T-test, variance test (ANOVA), simple regression analysis, and multiple regression analysis for determining a cause-and-effect relationship.

As M&E employees under the influence of technological advancements in data analytics, data analysis plays a huge role in decision-making, providing a better, faster and more efficacious system that minimizes risks and reduces human biases. Moreover, four types of data analysis techniques are usually used when dealing with data received from the intervention filed as follow:

- 1.Descriptive Analysis: This is the most fundamental and common sort of analysis. It is the simplest to accomplish from a technological standpoint. There are several descriptive statistics that provide us with methods for summarizing a set of data. (For example, counts, minimum and maximum values, sums, ratios, proportions and percentages, mean/median/mode, and dispersion measures (standard deviation and range)).
- 2.Diagnostic Analysis: This form of analysis looks for patterns beneath the surface, attempting to answer the question “why is this happening?”
- 3.Predictive Analysis: This entails making predictions about future outcomes based on historical data.
- 4.Prescriptive Analysis: This narrows our focus on the many courses of action we could follow and the possible results. The goal of prescriptive analysis is to provide a solution to the question, “What should we do?”

One another crucial thing is how to present your findings whether they are qualitative or quantitative. Data Visualization is the process of putting your data into charts and graphs which provide information about what the data is showing. However, you may want to use a specific software to serve your purpose, especially where the ‘look and feel’ of the final presentation or Dashboard is important or where you’re circulating documents for high-impact advocacy or the promotion of your learning and ideas. Moreover, Excel, Power BI, and Tableau are the most visualization tools used in the process of presenting data. Also, you could discover that you require more than just basic Excel graphs when your data gets a little more complicated. You could want to start looking into pivot charts for this, since they allow for rapid and simple analysis of cleaned data. The slicers can be used to assist in the creation of straightforward interactive dashboards for in-person presentations.

To conclude, data analysis is essential in the data-driven world of today. It assists businesses in utilizing data to make decisions, monitor processes, and evaluate projects. By transforming row data into valuable insights in which data analysis enables organizations to recognize opportunities, reduce risks, and improve overall performance.

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