

A close-up photograph of a middle-aged man with a grey beard and mustache, wearing a yellow hard hat and a high-visibility yellow safety vest over a brown shirt. He is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. The background is blurred, showing what appears to be a construction site.

Annual Report 2024

UN Peace Support Facility for Yemen

CONTRIBUTING PARTNERS



PART OF NORWEGIAN
REFUGEE COUNCIL



Photo: UNDP Yemen 2025 | Children gather to watch rehabilitation works supported by the UN PSF Phase II.

FOREWORD

Dear esteemed partners,

6 July 2025

Subject: The UN Peace Support Facility Annual Report 2024

UNDP is pleased to share the 2024 annual report for the United Nations Peace Support Facility. 2024 was a turbulent year in the region, in Yemen, impacting the facility's operations. Despite the turbulence, it delivered on planned initiatives, while initiating new activity streams. At the Steering Committee Meeting in December 2024, the United Nations Special Envoy for Yemen and the United Nations Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Yemen identified the 2025 strategic priorities, and donors renewed their commitment to the Facility. Below are highlights of last year's achievements.

Result Area One: Peace dividends and confidence-building measures

The outstanding activities under the Stockholm Peace Agreement progressed significantly; the rehabilitation of the Oil Berth commenced, and the manufacturing of the Pilot Boat was completed and is awaiting a shipping opportunity to the Port of Hodeidah. The UN PSF supported the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Yemen with implementation of the Ceasefire Mechanism and established a research portfolio catering to the knowledge needs for the Yemen peace process.

Result Area Two: Subnational Peacebuilding

The support to subnational peacebuilding continued, with an increased focus on Insider Mediation through a new global project financed by the European Union in coordination with United Nations Development Programme's Conflict Prevention, Peacebuilding and Responsive Institutions Unit in New York, and through the second round of the Small Grants Mechanism. In addition, the Facility began Phase 3 of the successful collaboration with the Women Research and Training Center located at Aden University and continued to support the Internationally Recognized Government in their implementation of the National Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security.

Result Area Three: Special Initiatives

The regional tensions continued to complicate the national-level mediation space in Yemen, hence no special initiatives were identified in 2024.

During the reporting period, the UN PSF delivered 97 percent of the planned annual budget, and 80 percent of the total contribution. We wish to express our sincere appreciation and gratitude to the contributing partners for their trust and continuous support to the UN PSF. We hope that in 2025 the peace process results in an agreement that ushers in peace to Yemen.

Yours sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

Zena Ali Ahmad

Zer

Resident Representative

United Nations Development Programme Yemen



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ACRONYMS

AMA	Abductees Mothers Association
DFA	De Facto Authority
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CFPs	Call for Proposals
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
EFDE	Emkan Foundation for Development and Entrepreneurship
EOD	Explosive Ordnance Disposal
ERW	Explosive Remnants of War
EU	European Union
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GSA	Gender Self-Assessment
ICTJ	International Center of Transitional Justice
IDPs	Internally Displaced Persons
ITB	Invitation to Bid
LVGA	Low Value Grant Agreement
MDF	Marib Dam Foundation
MGF	Marib Girls Foundation
MOE	Ministry of Education
MOH	Ministry of Health
MOSAL	Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor
NAP	National Action Plan
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NRC	Norwegian Refugee Council
OSESGY	Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary General for Yemen
PPF	Peace Paths foundation
PSF	Peace Support Facility
RP	Responsible Party
RYO	Renewal Youth Organization for development
SGM	Small Grants Mechanism
SYF	Sheba Youth Foundation for Development
ToT	Training of Trainers
UN	United Nations
UNMAS	United Nations Mine Action Service
YEMAC	Yemen Mine Action Centre
YRSPC	Yemen Red Sea Port Corporation
WPS	Women, Peace, and Security
WRTC	Women Research and Training Center
YWBOD	Youth without Borders Organization for Development

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2024

The United Nations Peace Support Facility (UN PSF) for Yemen has three result areas designed to support the UN Special Envoy for Yemen and the UN Resident Coordinator at various strategic levels. In 2024, key achievements under each result area included:

Activities under result area one supported the peace and stability processes through confidence-building interventions and mechanisms to promote continuous or renewed constructive engagement of the parties in the peace process. The key achievements included:

- Support to the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary General for Yemen (OSES-GY) in planning for a renewed ceasefire by developing a ceasefire management system and providing the required expertise.
- Laying the foundation for increased operational capacity of the Port of Hodeidah by conducting a technical assessment of Oil Berth No. 1 and Berth No. 4 (for import of general goods).
- Enhancing OSES-GY's knowledge base on federal fiscal structures and regionalization of state institutional arrangements.

Activities under result area two support new – and bring to scale existing – subnational peace initiatives to incentivize and lay the foundations for a more inclusive peace process. In 2024, the result area focused on three portfolios: 1) The Small Grant Mechanism; 2) Gender-focused portfolio; 3) Mine Action along front lines.

The first round of the Small Grant Mechanism was completed supporting six Yemeni civil society organizations in Marib, Taiz, and Aden. Collectively, the organizations' key achievements included:

In Marib:

- Establishment of the Hamzat Walz Network at the University of Saba Region, which trained women peacebuilders in digital literacy, strengthened

the capacity of women's organizations in Marib, carried out advocacy campaigns on women's roles in peacebuilding and decision-making, reaching more than 1,000 women.

- Established a peacebuilding cluster for NGOs, that completed 7 community projects for Internal Displaced Persons (IDPs), focusing on resolving issues related to community safety. The cluster also published a guide for conflict mediation.

In Aden:

- Created a dedicated Mediation hub for local community mediation. The hub trained more than 80 local community members on mediation and negotiation and through advocacy campaigns on peace reached over 200,000 Aden residents. Four community initiatives in four districts were pursued, which focused on lighting to reduce theft and sexual harassment and covering open sewage manholes for public safety.

In Taiz:

- Five local community conflicts were resolved by restoring access to water, benefiting more than 250 households. In addition, a breakthrough in mediation across the frontline in al-Hawban and Taiz City was made in mid-2024, leading to a joint water management roadmap and renewed access to water for communities in the two districts.

- Women's reporting to the police increased through gender sensitivity training and the implementation of eight gender-mainstreamed initiatives, which improved trust between police and local communities. Overall police capacity was enhanced by rehabilitating the Taiz Police Administration office and establishing a dedicated Women's Police Unit.

- Across eight districts of Taiz, police officers and community leaders were trained on ensuring community peace and policing. To aid decision-making and programming in Taiz, two policy papers on reintegration of recruits and returnees from the battlefronts were developed.

In response to the increase in mine action-related casualties, the UN PSF launched a mine action portfolio in 2023, with all activities completed in 2024. The projects managed to:

- Mitigate the immediate risk to life posed by explosive ordnance in Taiz and Lahj by clearing contaminated areas, providing risk education and explosive ordnance device (EOD) removal callout services.

Under the UN PSF Gender Portfolio, two avenues were pursued:

- The Peacebuilding Network in Aden completed its second phase, held a strategic planning workshop and initiated phase three. The workshop formulated a vision of peace in Yemen and defined the third phase of the project, which will increase the focus on implementing peacebuilding projects in Internationally Recognized Government (IRG)-controlled areas.

- Implementation of the National Action Plan (NAP) on the Women, Peace and Security Agenda (WPS), resulted in completing the Gender Self-Assessment of the Aden Police institution, which was used to formulate the Gender Responsive Action Plan, both endorsed by the NAP Steering Committee. The action plan led to significant improvements in women's interactions with the police in Aden, aided by a -6month advocacy campaign on the radio and at secondary schools encouraging women and girls to report incidents of Gender-Based-Violence (GBV). Gender mainstreaming took place at the policy level across the Ministry of Health (MOH), Ministry of Education (MOE), and Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour (MOSAL).

Result Area 3 of the UN PSF is designed to accommodate special initiatives and future peace agreements. In 2024, no special initiatives were put forward by UN PSF partners or parties to the conflict.

BACKGROUND

2023 ended with high levels of uncertainty for Yemen mainly caused by the regional tensions. Going into 2024, and the tenth year of conflict in Yemen, limited progress towards the implementation of the UN Roadmap was made. The attacks on commercial and military vessels in the Red Sea and the detention of UN and international and national NGOs' staff in areas under the De Facto Authorities (DFA) in northern Yemen, increased tensions and limited the mediation space.

While regional and national level tensions increased, in particular economic tensions between the parties, and the window for pursuing the national-level peace process seemed to shrink, conflict intensity at the subnational level remained stable. This continued the trend of 2023 with lower levels of confrontations across the Saudi border but a stable level of localized conflicts, as exemplified by the significant decrease in conflict intensity in Sa'ada, which previously experienced conflict between Yemeni and international actors. The areas in and around Taiz remained the conflict hotspot

between Yemeni actors in 2024¹. Effectively, the 2022 truce continued de facto into 2024, with a persistence of lower level of hostilities relative to the pre-truce period, as well as with other truce provisions related to flights between Sana'a and Amman as well as the import of fuel to Hodeidah. Furthermore, local agreements resulted in new road openings, which was welcomed by the international community.

While national level negotiations progressed throughout 2023, culminating in the UN Roadmap, the progress stalled in 2024. The increased regional tensions in 2024 continued to have an impact on Yemen, for instance by increasing obstacles for UN PSF imports to the Port of Hodeidah and continued escalation of attacks on shipping vessels in the Red Sea. The developments in global politics create higher uncertainty for (operating in) Yemen. This combined with priority changes to international aid, which will be significantly reduced, and increased uncertainty.

¹ ACLED dataset, URL: <https://acleddata.com/>

THE UN PSF PHASE TWO

In 2024, the UN PSF began the second year of Phase Two. Three partners committed directly to the second phase: The European Union (EU), Germany, and Norway, while remaining Phase 1 funding from Canada, Denmark, Germany, and Italy was carried over to Phase 2. In late 2024, Norway increased their contribution for an emergent initiative focused on providing support to the road opening in Taiz. The Technical Committee of the UN PSF, namely the EU, Germany, OSESGY, UN Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO), and UNDP Yemen, presented, vetted, and endorsed new initiatives throughout 2024. The EU reviewed the Facility in 2024, highlighting that: "PSF II provides a valid response to the needs of the wide array of its planned target groups, by promoting an inclusive and gender-sensitive approach to peacebuilding".² At the Steering Committee Meeting in December 2024, the co-chairs of the UN PSF, the Special Envoy and the Resident Coordinator, collectively presented their vision and priorities for the UN PSF 2025.³ The new priorities will be implemented under the current results framework:

Result Area 1: 'Continuous or renewed constructive engagement of the parties in the peace process' contains Output 1: Peace dividends and confidence-building measures with national impact are funded and successfully implemented.

Initiatives under Result Area 1 can be suggested by the UNRCO or OSESGY and are agreed to by the Technical Committee. At the December 2024 Steering Committee meeting, the original strategic priorities under this result area were reiterated: 1) Supporting incentives and confidence building measures in a multi-track approach; 2) supporting the planning and implementation of the multi-level Yemen Ceasefire Mechanism.

Result Area 2: Momentum and demand for peace created at local and subnational levels, is divided into outputs 2 and 3. Namely, 'Participation in local peace processes increased and tangible improvements in the lives of communities affected by the conflict are achieved'; and 'Capacity of women-led NGOs and community-based organizations enhanced to participate in local peace processes and promote gender equality / the Women, Peace and Security agenda'. Initiatives are tabled by the UNRCO, OSESGY, UNDP, or members of the technical committee, and are consensually agreed to by the technical committee. The steering committee meeting in December 2024, highlighted the following new priorities under this result area: 1) support peace incentives: road opening and enhancing understanding and awareness of peace dividends. 2) Support to Yemen ceasefire mechanism, 3) Support to an inclusive peace process, 4) Build analytical resource and knowledge base on all tracks of the peace process and on cross-cutting issues.

Result Area 3: International support to special initiatives relevant to the peace process contains output 4: Critical special initiatives complementing the peace process and once relevant supporting the implementation of a national peace agreement are addressed. Initiatives can be suggested by any partner of the UN PSF and be agreed to by the Steering Committee.

The situational uncertainty emphasises the need for the UN PSF to continue operating with remained agility and flexibility. The facility lowered operational costs maintaining a lean staffing structure that reflects current funding levels. The structure still allows for timely implementation of current priorities. The UN PSF mechanism can be rapidly scaled up as may be needed to support the peace process.

² EU ROM-Review Report (which can be shared upon request).

³ The UN PSF Strategic Brief 2025 has been circulated to partners and can be shared upon request.

RESULT AREA 1: PEACE DIVIDENDS AND CONFIDENCE BUILDING

Support to OSESGY and the UN RCO under Result Area I falls under output 1.⁴ In 2024, a research portfolio was added to result area 1, to provide guidance to OSESGY on key topics related to the national political process. Simultaneously, Result Area 1 continued to focus on the implementation of the Stockholm Peace Agreement related to the Port of Hodeidah, and the development and definition of a ceasefire mechanism for OSESGY. 2024 achievements on those three areas are outlined below:

ACTIVITY 1.1: CEASEFIRE MONITORING MECHANISM

The UN PSF has supported the development of a ceasefire management mechanism since its establishment. The support has been twofold: the development of the software Al-Hariss Sentry System and provision of technical expertise for defining a ceasefire mechanism. In 2024, the Al-Hariss Sentry System was completed and now offers OSESGY a platform to identify violations of a potential ceasefire and offers a platform to manage such incidents and, hence, promote peace opportunities. Secondly, two technical experts were recruited, a coordination specialist and a security specialist. These experts advise OSESGY on the parameters of the ceasefire mechanism and provide technical expertise for implementation of the al-Harris Sentry System. In 2025, the UN PSF will support the maintenance and enhancement of the al-Hariss system, based on the parties' feedback and support the usage of the system by key stakeholders, including

all delegations of the Military Coordination Committee.

ACTIVITY 1.2: PORT OF HODEIDAH

The rehabilitation of the Port of Hodeidah remained an objective of the UN PSF in 2024. Two activities were carried over from UN PSF Phase 1 and they remain key commitments under the Stockholm Peace Agreement. Collectively, the delivery of a Pilot Boat and the rehabilitation of Oil Berth No.1 will increase the operational capacity of the port and ease the import/export of humanitarian aid and goods to and from Hodeidah. Once finalized, the outstanding priorities listed in the agreed matrix between the UN PSF and the Yemen Red Sea Port Corporation (YRSPC) will be completed, marking the end of engagement on the Port of Hodeidah.

Manufacturing of Pilot boat

The UN PSF signed a contract with the supplier Johs. Gram -Hanssen A/S (JGH) in 2022 to manufacture a pilot boat for the Port of Hodeidah. The construction was successfully completed in 2024, and the boat is now being prepared for delivery to Hodeidah. The boat is a top priority for the YRSPC, as it is vital for the port's daily operations, serving multiple critical functions, including playing an essential role in facilitating the safe anchoring and manoeuvring of humanitarian vessels arriving at the anchorage area. The boat's manufacturing process was delayed in its early stages due to the extensive COVID19- lockdowns..



Photo: Manufacturing process of the pilot boat at the shipyard. @UNDP



Photo: Completed Pilot Boat prior to Sea Trial at Shipyard. @UNDP

⁴ Output 1: Peace dividends and confidence-building measures with national impact are funded and successfully implemented.

Rehabilitation of Berths

Rehabilitation of the port's berths will significantly enhance the operational capacity and safety of the port. Oil berth no. 1 is a vital piece of infrastructure, playing a crucial role in receiving fuel vessels and facilitating the transfer of fuel either directly to trucks or to the storage tanks allocated at the port. Ensuring its efficient and

safe operation is essential for meeting energy needs and supporting ongoing humanitarian efforts. Berth no. 4 is crucial for general goods and humanitarian aid entering the port. Despite finalizing the assessment of berth no. 4, the UN PSF does currently not have the adequate funding to finalize its rehabilitation. The ongoing aerial strikes pose a threat to rehabilitation efforts. The UN PSF is monitoring the situation closely.



Photos: Site visit to oil berth no. 1. @UNDP

ACTIVITY 1.6: RESEARCH PORTFOLIO

The portfolio was initiated as a response to OSESGY's need for bespoke research to help inform OSESGY's ongoing mediation efforts with the parties across all three tracks of the peace process. OSESGY aims to use this information in different ways, including developing options and proposals to share with the parties, identify local community needs and opinions with respect to the peace process, and promote a more inclusive peace process. In 2024, four research areas were pursued:

Transitional Justice

The UN PSF contracted the International Center for Transitional Justice (ICTJ) to develop a report that analyses the Yemeni context through a transitional justice lens to explore how such a framework could assist in addressing the causes and consequences of violence and conflict. The report will lay out key directions for transitional justice in Yemen and list recommendations for how to include them in the national political process. The final report is expected to be completed for presentation at the Yemen International Forum in February 2025.



Photo: Report on transitional justice. @UNDP

Women in Local Mediation

The work on local mediation that OSESGY and the UN PSF have engaged in since 2019, suggests that documentation and lessons learnt on women's roles in mediation remains necessary. The UN PSF therefore commissioned a report to explore the role of women in local reconciliation processes and identify relevant mechanisms that support women's involvement in local conflict resolution initiatives in Yemen since 2011. The research will also help to identify key entry points for building on women's local mediation activities and provide recommendations for how to leverage local reconciliation efforts in formal peace process negotiations. The research is expected to be completed in mid-2025.

Regional Governance Structure

The report seeks to inform OSESGY's preparations for a future intra-Yemeni political process by unpacking the multiplicity of the issues related to the Southern question and how it can be integrated into the political, economic, and political track of the process.

Fiscal Policy

The report lays out various options for a new fiscal structure drawing from other global examples. It provides OSESGY with a foundation of knowledge enabling further negotiation with parties, and the ability to present concrete alternatives to the current divisions.

RESULT AREA 2: SUBNATIONAL PEACEBUILDING

ACTIVITY 2.1: DHAMAR WATER REHABILITATION

While the water infrastructure rehabilitation was finalized in 2023, it continued to receive reports in 2024 of malfunctioning water pumps from community representatives. The main malfunctions of the pumps were linked to too much sedimentation in the water. In mid-2024, a final solution increasing elevation of the pumps and providing one additional pump. Responsible community representatives were trained in pump usage and the reporting system for malfunctioning water pumps.

ACTIVITY 2.2: MINE ACTION PORTFOLIO

In response to increased mine-related incidents and fatalities in 2022, the UN PSF developed a Mine Action Portfolio to enhance community safety and address explosive ordnance risks. In 2024, the portfolio focused on explosive ordnance clearance, disposal, surveys, and risk education in Taiz, in partnership with HALO Trust. The project deployed mechanized clearance teams and excavators, which significantly increased the safety and pace of operation in urban areas. The project managed to deliver the following:

Mine Clearance Operations: 23,303m² hazardous land in Al-Jahmalia Al-Sufila and Al-Kamb in Salah district were cleared, exceeding the target by 122%. Key sites, including a former military supply yard, were cleared, enabling safe residential and community use for displaced families and returnees.

Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD): 30 emergency callouts responding to community requests were made, leading to the removal of 40 explosive devices, ranging from mines to rockets. These efforts directly benefited 391 individuals, including men, women, and children, ensuring safer access to homes and essential services.

Non-Technical Surveys (NTS): Comprehensive surveys covered 100% of Salah district, identifying two high-priority contaminated areas, the Cultural Centre and Al Kawthat, and updating national geo-databases to inform clearance planning.

Risk Education: A total of 273 Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) sessions were delivered, reaching 3,902 individuals, including men, women, and children. Participants demonstrated a 75% increase in safety knowledge, contributing to accident prevention in high-risk areas.

Outcome: The project significantly improved community safety while supporting the return of displaced populations and fostering a more secure environment for development projects. The combination of mine clearance, EOD responses, non-technical surveys, and community education has contributed to reducing immediate risks, enabling residents to reclaim their lives and pursue economic opportunities in a safer environment.⁶

⁶ A full report on the Mine Clearance project is available upon request.

⁵ Output 2: Participation in local peace processes increased and tangible improvements in the lives of communities affected by the conflict are achieved.



Photo: Abdullah return to his home after landmine clearance. @HALO Trust.

INFO BOX 1: COMMUNITY IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

Abdullah (62), a former employee in Yemen's electricity sector, was forced to flee his home due to conflict, joining millions of Yemenis uprooted by war. He spent seven years displaced in Sana'a, unable to return as violence dragged on. The closure of his workplace left him jobless, deepening the strain on his family.

In 2022, Abdullah returned alone to Taiz to check on his home—only to find it severely damaged by shelling and partially burned. "I couldn't bring my family back," he said. "It was destroyed."

Abdullah's neighbourhood has been severely impacted, with some losing their lives, others injured and many suffering from psychological conditions due to the presence of mines and war remnants. The HALO Trust visited Abdullah's neighbourhood, Al Jahmaliyah, in November 2023 to identify any evidence of landmines and other explosives and delivered explosive ordnance risk education (EORE). Upon returning home, Abdullah was able to recognize the signs of an unexploded mortar in his house. "I thought that I would be caught in an explosion at any moment from the projectile, and I was afraid that it would explode and damage what was left of the house. HALO came and removed the item. It changed my life, I feel safe again," says Abdullah.



Photo: EORE education. @Halo Trust.

INFOBOX 2: WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

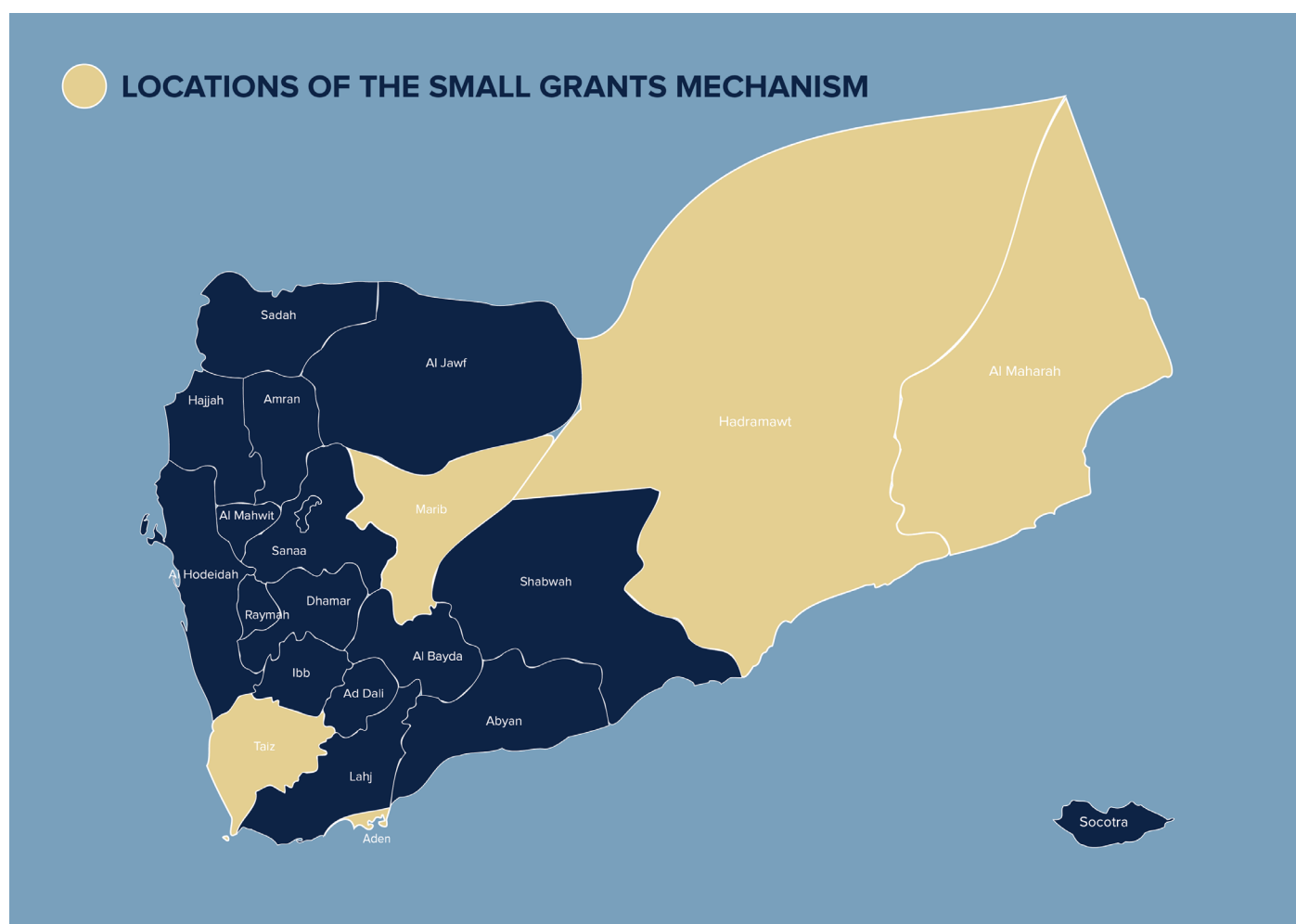
Fatima from Al-Kamb used EORE knowledge to educate her community, reducing accidents and fostering resilience. During the UN PSF-HALO Trust project, 273 EORE sessions were held benefitting 3,903 people, 81 percent of which were women and youth. The targeted delivery of EORE sessions to at-risk communities were vital to address common misconceptions and encouraged safe behaviour. Only 6 per cent of EORE beneficiaries had received risk education before which underscores the importance of this work, as equipping individuals with knowledge to make informed and safe decisions about EO is vital for preventing accidents in contaminated areas.

ACTIVITY 2.5: SMALL GRANTS MECHANISM

The Small Grants Mechanism (SGM) was established to support Yemeni organizations involved in local peace processes with funding, technical capacity, and solutions to their contextual challenges. This approach to subnational peacebuilding aims to foster local ownership, leading to tangible improvements for conflict-affected communities. Half of the grants are allocated to women-led Civil Society Organizations (CSO).

Round 1 started in 2023 and ended in August

2024, while round 2 started in November 2024. The budget of each grant is approximately US\$ 80,000 for eight months. So far, 12 grants have been distributed after endorsement by the UN PSF Technical Committee. All have been implemented in IRG-controlled areas. Each round of the SGM was initiated with a start-up workshop and continuous training of the CSOs took place with regular intervals. The second round received high interest from Yemeni civil society with 61 CSOs applying. The current funding limitations do not allow for a separate scaled-up function of successful SGM projects.⁷



⁷ Th EU ROM Review Report also pointed out the lack of scale-up funding and the need to distinguish between new proposal and scale-up proposals.

SGM in Taiz

Four organizations in Taiz received grants in rounds one and two: Sheba Youth Foundation for Development (SYF), Renewal Youth Organization for Development and Peace (RYO), Youth Without Borders Organization for Development (YWBOD), and Abductees' Mothers Association (AMA).

SYF started the Sanad 3 project in 2023 focused on community mediation in water-related conflicts and social cohesion processes. In 2024, the project established a Mediation and Community Cohesion Unit within the Security Administration, to coordinate between the Water Corporation, the Security Department, neighbourhood chiefs, and community youths. A series of workshops with all stakeholders were held to define the unit's scope and membership, while strengthening community cohesion. Training was provided to 30 youth participants of the unit on various skills linked to peacebuilding. To identify and monitor local conflict cases, 30 field visits were conducted, resulting in five key community conflicts being selected for mediation. Small grants were distributed, mainly for repairing the water network in Taiz City, resulting in restoring water pumping services after more than seven years of disruption, benefiting over 360 households (2,155 individuals). Lastly, a peace awareness campaign was conducted across Taiz.⁹ Lastly, a breakthrough in mediation across frontlines re-engaged community leaders and water authorities and led to a draft roadmap for local water management. The UN PSF extended the duration and increased the budget of the Sanad 3 project to support further mediation and potentially solidify the water management plan.

In late 2024, during the second round of the SGM, **SYF** received a UN PSF grant to implement Sanad 4. Running in parallel with the extension of Sanad 3, the project continued the focus on working with youth and women-led initiatives to resolve water-related conflicts. Starting with a three-day training on facilitating community

dialogue and resolving disputes, the participants will be provided with small grants to rehabilitate disputed water wells. Lastly, the Sanad 4 will document women-led mediation initiatives in Taiz City from 2020 to 2025. The findings will be shared and linked to the UN PSF research portfolio.

RYO supported the Taiz Police Administration's Training and Rehabilitation Unit with investigation tools and equipment. In parallel, the project facilitated eight community dialogues with community members and police, to improve mutual trust and collaboration, and identified eight initiatives to be implemented. Initiatives ranged from the rehabilitation of training facilities and dedicated space for women police officers, to training sessions on the danger of celebratory gunfire.

YWBOD implemented the project 'Civil Society Support for Security in Taiz (CSSST)' under the first round of the SGM. It promoted collaboration between civil society and security institutions by establishing a forum to identify security concerns while providing training on key peacebuilding topics and project management. The project culminated in the establishment and capacity building of a Joint Operation Room and the Women Police Unit in the Police Department of Taiz, and two research papers on regulating weapon carrying in Taiz City, and demobilisation and reintegration of former fighters.¹⁰ YWBOD continued under the second round of the SGM, with the project Civil Society Support for Security in Taiz (CSSST) II. The project began in November 2024 and builds on the findings of the two research papers, by focusing on support to the Psychological Support Unit in the Military Hospital, enhancing its capacity to assist former fighters in their psychological recovery, and capacity building of the Criminal Identification Bureau within the Investigation Bureau of Taiz Police Department.

⁸ Participants 50% women and 50% men. Pre- and post-training assessments so significant improvement of skills.

⁹ 2,155 beneficiaries (1,505 men and 650 women) were reached.

¹⁰ The two papers will be presented at the first Leveraging Track II Peacebuilding in Yemen (T2Y) in 2025 and can share upon request.

In late 2024, **AMA** initiated the project ‘Protecting Civil and Women’s Spaces and Promoting Women’s Role in Peace Processes in Taiz’ to enhance the protection of civic and women’s spaces and strengthen women’s roles in peacebuilding. The project will train stakeholders from various police departments, conduct a series of dialogues, and publish a report on the violations experienced by women. The public report will be used as part of an awareness campaign targeting policy makers.

SGM in Marib

During the first round of the SGM, two projects were implemented in Marib by the **Marib Girls’ Foundation (MGF)** and **Marib Dam Foundation (MDF)**, respectively. **MGF** implemented the project ‘Women’s Community Effective for Peace’, a series of activities aimed at building the capacity of local women’s organizations, enhancing digital literacy, and integrating peacebuilding initiatives within the community. The training resulted in the implementation of eight community initiatives¹¹ and the establishment of Hamzat Wasl, a university-based network of women students aimed at fostering leadership skills and advocacy.

The **MDF** implemented the ‘Course Correction of Peace Activities’ project and established the Peace Cluster for Marib. The cluster brought together organizations, initiatives, and local actors in Marib engaged in peacebuilding. It ensured better coordination and has reduced duplication of peacebuilding activities. Building on the extensive experience of cluster members, MDF developed a guide on tribal customs and how they can facilitate conflict resolution and promote peace.¹² Last, MDF implemented 12 community development initiatives through the peace cluster. The initiative aimed at strengthening community cohesion, and addressed critical needs ranging from access to water, electricity, and education, to conflict resolution. Most initiatives aimed at improving social cohesion between IDPs and host communities.¹³

In the second round of the SGM, **Emkan Foundation for Development and Entrepreneurship (Emkan)** is implementing the ‘Enhancing and Coordinating Private Sector Efforts in the Process of Peacebuilding’ project which is the first project under the UN PSF that aims to enhance and coordinate the private sector in peacebuilding. After a series of training sessions, 20 gender mainstreamed projects will be implemented in support of the private sector that has been affected by the conflict. At the end of 2024, the project is still in the planning phase.

SGM in Aden

SOS Foundation (SOS) implemented projects under both the first and the second round of the SGM. During the first round, the project ‘Strengthening Community Peace and Countering Misinformation in Aden Governorate’ was selected and was implemented in the Aden districts of Dar Saad, Sheikh Othman, Khor Maksar, and Mansoura. It aimed at fostering peacebuilding, promoting gender equality, and addressing misinformation. By establishing a peace caravan, the project developed a safe space for community dialogue and conflict resolution for 80 community leaders, members of women’s networks, and youth representatives,¹⁴ who were identified and trained in key peacebuilding skills, including mediation and negotiations skills. The training equipped participants with practical tools to address and resolve community disputes effectively, fostering long-term peace.

¹¹ Collectively the initiatives reached more than 500 beneficiaries

¹² The guide is available in Arabic and English upon request.

¹³ 1,570 families were direct beneficiaries of the IDP-focused intervention, and 16,714 individuals (50% women and 50% men) benefitted from initiatives in non-IDP communities.

¹⁴ 39 Women and 41 men.

The training equipped participants with practical tools to address and resolve community disputes effectively, fostering long-term peace. The participants identified and implemented several community security and safety priorities, including public lighting installations and the replacement of hazardous sewage covers. In its final phase, the project conducted a research and advocacy campaign to combat misinformation. Following a comprehensive research study involving 231 participants through surveys, focus groups, and interviews, an advocacy campaign that combined online and offline strategies was launched.¹⁵ It raised awareness about misinformation and its impact on women and minorities and reached more than 200,000 people.

SOS's project under the second round of the SGM, built on the success of the first project, and aims to create community committees and community situation rooms to counter misinformation, and monitor and mediate in community grievances. The project began towards the end of 2024 and will be finalized by May 2025.

SGM in Hadramaut and Al Mahrah

The second round of the SGM is funding one project in Hadramaut and Al Mahrah, The Tarabot project by Peace Paths Foundation (PPF). Through joint training and mediation sessions, the project will build local capacities and foster collaboration among law enforcement authorities and community committees. Towards the end of 2024, the project is still in its planning phase and is expected to be finalized in mid-2025.

Activity 2.6: Support to Taiz Area-Based Approach.

The UN PSF was requested by the UN Country Team (UNCT) via the RCO to support a workshop to discuss and define the area-based approach in Taiz. The workshop was held in Cairo and was co-organized by the Taiz local authority and the UNCT. Taiz Governorate representatives presented the draft 2026-2024 Taiz Development Plan, while existing and upcoming donor-funded projects and activities were mapped. The plan was used to coordinate and ensure optimal use of scarce resources to contribute to the development of the region. While the workshop took place in November 2023, the expenditure was not accounted for until early 2024.

¹⁵The study is available upon request.

¹⁶ 20 men and 19 women.

INSIDER MEDIATION

The Insider Mediation (IM) program leverages the unique capabilities of insider mediators—individuals deeply embedded within local communities—to resolve disputes and build social cohesion. It is part of a global UNDP project financed by the EU, and Yemen was included in 2024. The Initiative consists of three key components: development of an Insider Mediation Strategy, an advanced training component, including Training of Trainers (ToT), and a mediation effort in Taiz and Lahj. The ToT component capacitates mediators and NGO staff to develop independent and contextual training curriculums to train new mediators, creating a cascading effect. The approach to all three components is to conceptualize Insider Mediation as a methodology rather than a distinct project. It is envisioned as an ecosystem where insider mediators serve as the 'frontline supported by a comprehensive backing system. By the end of 2024, the following was achieved:

- A draft Insider Mediation Strategy was finalized. It is based on a desk review followed by 39 key informant interviews representing diverse stakeholders, such as UNDP staff, Yemeni NGOs, INGOs, donors, subject matter experts, and insider mediators from key regions like Taiz, Lahj, and Aden.¹⁶ To further refine the findings, four validation workshops were held in late 2024 — two in Amman and two in Yemen — brought together 34 participants to review and address gaps, ensuring the strategy's relevance and inclusivity. The final version of the strategy is expected to be finalized in early 2025.

- The training component is targeted at insider mediators and their support system in Taiz and Lahj. To ensure synergies, mediation projects under the SGM will participate and receive training. In early 2025, Clingendael Institute will facilitate the training in Amman, Jordan, as part of their Yemeni initiatives, and the UN PSF is envisaging future collaboration with Clingendael.

RESULT AREA 2: WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY

Output 3¹⁷ is a sub-component of Result Area 2 and concerns stand-alone gender-focused and WPS projects, and the support to the operationalization of the National Action Plan (NAP) on WPS. The following interventions were implemented in 2024.

ACTIVITY 3.1: PEACEBUILDING NETWORK

The UN PSF's stand-alone gender focused project with the Women Research and Training Center (WRTC) at Aden University began in 2022 and entered its third phase in 2024. The project focused on a women-led peacebuilding network centred around the Gender Studies programme at WRTC. WRTC continues its strategic collaboration with reputable academic institutions, leveraging their credibility to enhance community engagement and promote the WPS agenda. The network has successfully raised awareness and sensitized communities about the importance of the WPS agenda. The phase 2 closing conference in 2024 convened network members and stakeholders to discuss WPS-related themes. The event featured discussions on four key WPS focus areas with accompanying working papers,¹⁸ fostering critical dialogue and sharing insights.

In April 2024, the UN PSF co-hosted a five-day workshop for academics and peacebuilders, including members of the Peacebuilding Network, which was attended by 35 participants.¹⁹ The workshop addressed challenges, explored opportunities, and proposed actionable strategies for fostering a gender-inclusive peace process in Yemen. Outcomes from the workshop contributed to the development of a gender-inclusive peace strategy shared with OSESGY,

and a concept note to further support the Peacebuilding Network's initiatives. Given their trusted relationships with diverse stakeholders, the Peacebuilding Network is uniquely positioned to conduct dialogue meetings aimed at reducing conflict, fostering mutual understanding, bridging differing perspectives, and building trust. These efforts will enable greater collaboration to further the WPS agenda.

To sustain the momentum and build on past achievements, the third phase of the project started in November 2024 and will focus on strengthening the leadership and peacebuilding capacities of network members through targeted training initiatives. Areas of focus will include dialogue facilitation, mediation and negotiation, partnership management, mobilization and advocacy, conflict analysis and project design and management.

Additionally, the project will incorporate eight online coaching sessions to guide the development of six proposals tailored to community needs and aligned with the gender-inclusive strategy developed during the April 2024 workshop.

The third phase will be managed by the Women's Research and Training Center at Aden University in collaboration with the Peacebuilding Network, will run from November 2024 to June 2025. Activities will target areas under the control of the Internationally Recognized Government (IRG), furthering peacebuilding efforts and solidifying the network's role as a vital actor in advancing the WPS agenda in Yemen.

¹⁷Output 3: Capacity of women-led NGOs and community-based organizations enhanced to participate in local peace processes and promote gender equality / the Women, Peace, and Security agenda.

¹⁸ The four areas are: 1) Gender Justice in the Peace Agenda; 2) The Concept of Gender Justice in International References; 3) Women-Led Civil Society Organizations and Gender Justice; 4) Women's Civil, Political, Social, Economic, and Cultural Rights in the Women, Peace, and Security Agenda.

¹⁹26 women and 9 men.

WPS CAPACITY BUILDING

The Facility conducted three online information-sharing sessions for 62 CSOs on key gender concepts, gender mainstreaming, and the WPS agenda. These sessions engaged a total of 94 participants.²⁰ The primary objective was to encourage participants to critically reflect on and challenge personal and institutional perceptions, attitudes, behaviours, and practices related to gender equality within a safe and constructive environment.

To further support CSOs in integrating gender perspectives into their work, the UN PSF developed a gender analysis tool. This practical resource includes a straightforward checklist designed to guide organizations in conducting gender analysis throughout the project life cycle. To familiarize CSOs with the tool, the UN PSF facilitated three orientation sessions. A total of 38 staff members²¹ from the Facility's Implementing Parties attended these sessions. The orientations provided participants with the knowledge and skills needed to effectively utilize the tool, ensuring gender considerations are systematically incorporated into their projects and programs.

ACTIVITY 3.3 & 3.2: OPERATIONALIZING THE WPS NATIONAL ACTION PLAN

The Norwegian Refugee Council's (NRC) expert advisory roster, NORCAP, and the UN PSF have since 2021 collaborated on supporting the implementation of Yemen's first National Action Plan (NAP) on Women, Peace, and Security (WPS). A national and an international advisor were deployed to work with the lead ministry, MOSAL, to implement activities and provide coordination assistance to the NAP WPS working group. In general, the WPS NAP implementation led to 1) a stronger partnership between the Government and CSOs; 2) NAP documents and training material were made available to all stakeholders, increasing the general awareness of the WPS and how concretely to implement WPS activities; 3) Men in ministerial leadership positions have meaningfully participated; 4) Local

communities have increasingly become aware of GBV-issues. The official closing date of the NAP is 31 December 2024, but to ensure finalization of ongoing activities the UN PSF will continue support till 30 June 2025.

In 2024, the key achievements included:

- **Gender Self-Assessment of the Aden Police (Completed)**

- The Gender Self-Assessment (GSA) of the Aden Police was finalized in April 2024. Its findings and recommendations were discussed and negotiated by the local assessment team, consisting of 13 members representing police leadership and led by a woman.²⁴ The GSA report was endorsed by the director of Aden police and MOSAL.²²

- **Gender Responsive Action Plan (Completed)**

Based on the recommendations of the GSA, a one-year Gender Responsive Action Plan (GRAP) for 20 police centres in Aden Governorate was designed and implemented in collaboration with the police leadership. Deliverables of the GRAP during the period of January to December 2024 include:

- Rehabilitation of 13 Aden police centers, creating a safe space for policewomen to work and for local women to report GBV incidents.²³
- Police Personnel trained²⁴ on gender-responsive policing knowledge and skills.
- 13 women police officers trained in criminal investigation and handling of substantial policing tasks, equal to policemen.
- 5 police centres established documentation units to collect gender-segregated data.

- **WPS Agenda mainstreamed across ministerial policies and practices (Completed)**

To mainstream the WPS Agenda across ministerial policies and practice, training and consultation sessions were conducted throughout 2024. A few highlights: - The MOE published a review report of their policies integrating a gender intersectional lens.²⁵

²⁰ 51 women and 44 men

²¹ 19 men and 19 women

²² The GSA Report is available in English and Arabic upon request.

²³ The rehabilitation was finalized in late 2024, the UN PSF will have sex-aggregated data available on the impact of the safe spaces in mid-2025.

²⁴ 30 women and 40 men

²⁵ The available in Arabic upon request.

- The Ministry of Justice (MOJ) established a specialized team to develop a system documenting women's access to justice and crimes for primary courts. The team received training on gender-disaggregated data collection and have been embedded in in the MOJ.
- For data quality assurance, the UN PSF has provided equipment and training to the specialized team and made available an Information Analyst to conduct regular follow-up and technical support.

• **Public Gender and WPS awareness Campaign**

A six-month campaign was launched in Aden Governorate to strengthen trust and partnership between the police, INGOs and CSOs that provide psychology, legal services and economic aid for the GBV survivors, and the local community. The

campaign succeeded in:

- Training focal points²⁶ of the five documentation units on GBV reporting, survivor assistance, and service provider access.
- Campaigning across 36 secondary schools, with education posters and theatrical performances on referral services for GBV survivors.
- Broadcasting a radio show titled "Security and Peace for All." The 33 episodes from October 2023 to June 2024, focused on GBV, girls' education, women's participation in leadership positions, women's participation in the police, women with disability and their challenges to access basic services, and women's economic development. The episodes can be viewed on [YouTube](#)²⁷ and currently have more than 100,000 views.

RESULT AREA 3: SPECIAL INITIATIVES

During 2024, no initiatives were presented to the UN PSF under this output.

²⁶ 16 women

²⁷ <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLv7jIL3WNRKu9WMOzbWdCSkkVLjpNAhS6>

CHALLENGES

In 2024, the UN PSF continued to face challenges. The increasing tension at the national and regional levels has been amplified most of the challenges.

Regional tensions. While regional tension is an ongoing issue for implementation, following October 2023 it has posed further challenges. This is mainly linked to the rehabilitation of the Port of Hodeidah, which faced significant delays resulting from the lack of interest by international companies to work in the port. Delays related to the pilot boat are linked to the ongoing tensions in the Red Sea. Once the Pilot Boat was ready for shipping, it was difficult to identify shipping companies willing to deliver to the port, and it has since not been possible to receive an import clearance.

Stalled peace process Ongoing regional tensions, such as the Gaza conflict, hostilities in the Red Sea, and other recent national and international developments, have considerably slowed down national and international efforts to resume the political process in Yemen. Nevertheless, preparations for restarting the peace process are ongoing and remain a priority, with the UN consistently urging all parties to adopt measures that will facilitate this endeavour.

Authorization, clearance, and approval Obtaining clearances and authorizations continued to cause general delays for implementing partners. The issue has affected the implementation of some activities, specifically the mine action portfolio and the SGM.

Limited institutional capacity and lack of ownership by governmental institutions Limited institutional capacity of government institutions has been a delaying issue for the implementation of the WPS NAP led by MOSAL. The limited coordination between ministries and CSOs and between ministries themselves hampered the ability to identify service gaps, share information, and ultimately identify synergies.

Low salaries and influence of public employees

The lack of financial incentives and operational facilities for senior and junior staff in ministries, local government authorities, police, and justice institutions has hindered progress on multiple projects. Mediation initiatives where government authorities are involved have been either delayed or cancelled, due to the lack of financial incentives. Furthermore, approximately half of the ministries' female representatives and local authority organizations engaged in the NAP institutional structure, had no decision-making authority within their own institutions. They could not present the NAP in their institution or deliver any of the related activities. This problem undermined the active engagement of government stakeholders and gave a wider opportunity for CSOs to take the lead.

High demand and low levels of funding

Yemeni civil society is dynamic, thematically and geographically diverse, and has a high level of contextual knowledge. The demand for support and funding, and especially flexible peacebuilding funding is high as demonstrated by a total of 78 applicants across the two rounds of the SGM. This aligns to one of the critiques of the international community that it is too prescriptive when collaborating with civil society and does not adequately consider their contextual knowledge both operationally and thematically.

Low operational capacity of CSOs Despite the abovementioned high level of contextual expertise of Yemeni CSOs, the introduction of small CSOs in the SGM highlighted a low capacity to deliver on operational and more formal requirements per UNDP's policies and regulation. The low-capacity created delays in financial transfer. Meanwhile, UNDP introduced new anti-money laundering measures, which further delayed financial transfers.

Banking issue Yemen's banking sector faced a liquidity issue in 2024, forcing implementing partners to change banks and withdraw large amounts of cash. Unfortunately, the liquidity issue started just as advances were due to multiple partners, creating delays.

MITIGATION MEASURES

Various mitigation measures have been implemented to address the impact of the challenges:

Mitigating the regional tensions and a stalled national level peace process have been difficult and force the UN PSF to focus more on supporting efforts to prepare for the national peace process, such as support to the ceasefire or the in-depth exploration of issues related to the peace, as well as on subnational peacebuilding implementation and supporting local processes when opportunities arise, for example the breakthrough in mediation in Taiz. Through the collaboration of its various partners, the UN PSF ensures linkages between efforts at the sub-national and national level exist.

To mitigate the delays and lack of authorizations and clearance, the UN PSF had to relocate certain activities and provide CSOs with project extensions. Going forward, time buffers will be built into timelines.

The high demand from CSOs has a positive element. The UN PSF stakeholders, including the UN RCO and OSESGY, will continue efforts to raise further funds for scaling up activities.

The low capacity of CSOs is mitigated through training. The UN PSF has dedicated significant resources to this end, and improvement is evident. The language barrier is being addressed with the UN PSF identifying how organizations can submit proposal in Arabic overcoming the translation barrier

ACHIEVEMENTS AGAINST RESULT FRAMEWORK

Indicator	Progress	Target 2024	Status/Comment
Project Output 1: Peace dividends and confidence-building measures with national impact are funded and successfully implemented.			
1.1 Number of peace dividends and confidence-buildings initiatives supporting the peace process implementation.	3	3	Despite delays on the Port of Hodeidah, the UN PSF finalized the ceasefire mechanism and two research papers.
1.2 % increase of beneficiaries (direct and indirect) with confidence in the peace process at the end of a result area 1 initiative, disaggregated by sex & age group.	N/A	25% M 25% F	Due to the sensitive security and the challenges associated with meeting staff and beneficiaries at the Port of Hodeida, it is currently not feasible to track progress on this indicator.
1.3 % increase of beneficiaries (direct and indirect) with a positive outlook to the future at the end of ab result area 1 initiative, disaggregated by sex & age group.	N/A	25% M 25% F	Due to the tense security situation and the challenges associated with meeting staff and beneficiaries at the Port of Hodeida, it is currently not feasible to track progress on this indicator.
1.4 Number of initiatives that received training on Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse.	2	2	Staff from the YRSPC and from Hala Systems participated in a training on Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse.

Indicator	Progress	Target 2024	Status/Comment
Project Output 2: Participation in local peace processes increased and tangible improvements in the lives of communities affected by the conflict are achieved.			
2.1 Number of initiatives supporting sub national peacebuilding	10	5	Exceeded the target as the Small Grants Mechanism included a series of new initiatives and the Insider Mediation project was initiated.
2.2 % increase of population in result area 2 target areas participating in local peace processes by end of result area 2 projects, disaggregated by age group and sex.	47% M 45% F	25% M 25% F	The survey population in areas targeted by the subnational peacebuilding project demonstrated higher than expected participation.
2.3 % increase of beneficiaries who feel that their security has improved at the end of result area 2 projects, disaggregated by age group and sex.	81% M	25% M 25% F	Perception of security has increased significantly.
2.4 Initiatives that received Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse. training.	9	5	All RPs under the UN PSF participated in training on Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse.
Project Output 3: Capacity of women-led NGOs and community-based organizations enhanced to participate in local peace processes and promote gender equality / the Women, Peace and Security agenda.			
3.1 Number of initiatives that promote women's participation in the local and national peace process.	6	3	All UN PSF initiatives are gender mainstreamed while several projects specifically target women's participation.
3.2 % increase of beneficiaries who feel that they were able to participate in local peace processes and promote gender equality / the WPS agenda at end of gender-specific projects under result area 2, disaggregated by age group and sex.	20% M 38% F	20% M 30% F	While the gender disparity was expected in the planning process of the UN PSF. The UN PSF is aiming to increase the rate of men in new activities using the lessons learned.

Indicator	Progress	Target 2024	Status/Comment
Project Output 4: Critical special initiatives complementing the peace process and – once relevant – supporting the implementation of a national peace agreement are addressed.			
4.1 % of PSF partners who believe that the PSF is used strategically to support the Yemeni peace process.	100%	60%	100% of partners responded that the UN PSF was used strategically, with an average satisfaction of 70%.
4.2 % of PSF partners who feel the PSF is able to deliver quickly and with the needed flexibility.	100%	60%	100% of partners responded that the UN PSF is delivering quickly and with flexibility, with an average satisfaction of 50%.
4.3 % of PSF partners who believe that the PSF has managed to adequately support the implementation of a national peace agreement.	TBD	60%	There is no national peace agreement signed yet.

CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

The main cross-cutting issue is uncertainty, and while it is a concern for all peacebuilding and stabilization projects, the volatility or the level of uncertainty increased in Yemen in 2024 as the regional and global tension increased and funding from traditional donors is decreasing. The UN PSF is designed to operate in this type of environment and communicates risks with donors pre-emptively and with a high level of transparency. Going forward, the volatility could increase, forcing the UN PSF to continuously reassess contextual and operational risks.

Gender mainstreaming continues to be a key focus for the UN PSF across all initiatives. Multiple trainings and workshops have been held, and the topic is incorporated in all projects. As gender

mainstreaming is linked to behavioural change, it requires time and patience to achieve tangible and impactful change.

Obtaining contextual knowledge is a key challenge for all international actors working on Yemen as they are mostly based outside Yemen or isolated in compounds in Yemen. The challenge is amplified by the size of Yemen and the high level of local nuances and dynamics. All international actors, including the UN PSF, are required to continuously monitor the situation(s) in Yemen and have ongoing engagement with partners to ensure that their challenges are well understood and that they are at best assisted in finding suitable solutions.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The extensive risk register is available in the project document. Below is the risk register relevant for 2024, with some risks having been carried over from 2023.

Description	Type	Impact & Likelihood	Status & Mitigation Measures
Uncertainty	Operational Uncertainty	Likelihood: 3 Impact: 3 Risk Level: Moderate	Uncertainty is a constant in Yemen but has increased in 2024. The mitigation measures are reflected in the general operational policy of UNDP, and specifically in the staffing structure of the UN PSF.
UN PSF Underfinanced	Financial	Likelihood = 3 Impact = 4 Risk level: Moderate	This remains a risk. Additional funding was secured in late 2024 from Norway. However, the 2025 mobilization strategy is costed at US\$ 7.7 million, well-defined prioritization is therefore required from the UN RCO and OSESGY.
Banks will have low liquidity	Financial	Likelihood = 4 Impact = 3 Risk level: Substantial	UNDP Yemen monitors this continuously, and provides guidance on which banks to use, both for RPs and for staff salaries.

Description	Type	Impact & Likelihood	Status & Mitigation Measures
Result Area 2 projects lack sufficient linkage with or do not contribute directly to the national peace process.	Operational	Likelihood = 3 Impact = 2 Risk level: Moderate	All sub-national peacebuilding initiatives are closely coordinated with OSESGY and aligned to OSESGY's priorities to ensure linkages to the national peace process. While direct linkage might not always be possible to establish, supporting local peace infrastructure and capacitating local CSOs result in a more agile and prepared civil society once national peace is agreed to.
There is a risk that the UN PSF cannot adhere to the principle of a balanced approach: implementing in both DFA-controlled areas and IRG-controlled areas. This is due to the possible Foreign Terrorist Organization (FTO) designation of the Ansar Allah (AA) and the subsequent reactions of both the donor community and implementing partners, including the increased challenges of working in areas under AA/DFA control (e.g. banking, etc.). Reduced possibility to finalize the rehabilitation efforts on the Port of Hodeidah due to regional tensions.	Operational	Likelihood = 4 Impact = 3 Risk level: Substantial	This continues to be a risk, and it will increase if/once the AA is designated as FTO.
Reduced possibility to finalize the rehabilitation efforts on the Port of Hodeidah due to regional tensions.	Operational	Likelihood = 4 Impact = 4 Risk level: High	The risk will lead to the UN PSF's inability to finalize projects on the port of Hodeidah in a timely manner.

LESSONS LEARNT

Limited capacity of government institutions and CSOs delayed fund transfers and implementation. Capacity assessments and targeted training programs for CSOs and government entities should be provided at the outset of the process.

Limited coordination between ministries and CSOs hampered the ability to identify service gaps and synergies. Establishing formal coordination mechanisms, such as inter-ministerial working groups or regular CSO-government dialogues, enhances collaboration and information exchange.

Delays in obtaining clearances and authorizations affected project implementation timelines. Developing a dedicated liaison team to engage with clearance authorities and establishing predefined timelines with authorities could reduce delays.

Yemen's banking liquidity issues delayed transfers for implementing partners. Diversifying financial partners and establishing contingency funds for

emergency disbursements can mitigate delays. Monitoring financial sector trends to anticipate issues is essential.

Language barriers excluded small Yemeni organizations from participating in the SGM process. Translating key documents into Arabic and offering language support services during application and reporting processes can improve inclusivity and participation.

Introduction of new governance structures initially slowed processes. Investing in change management, including staff training and transition plans, facilitates quicker adaptation to new structures.

The log frame indicators initially identified by the UN PSF, did not prove indicative of the impact of implemented initiatives. As initiatives are selected by the technical committee on a rolling basis, there is a need for more universal indicators. The indicators will therefore be amended in early 2025.

CONCLUSIONS AND WAY FORWARD

2024 solidified the governance structure of the UN PSF, and the co-chairs of the Facility, OSESGY and the UNRCO, have identified their key priorities for 2025. The path going forward is therefore clearly defined, but the availability of funding and the overall progress in the peace process remain uncertain. While the rehabilitation of the Port of Hodeidah will be finalized in 2025, other future priorities are already being implemented: the support to locally established peace initiatives (the Taiz Road Opening), the establishment of a research portfolio (research on women's roles in local mediation, and mechanisms for transitional justice), and the increased focus on insider mediation.

Going forward, the facility will support local processes where possible, for example by establishing a separate funding mechanism for successful and scalable SGM projects. The UN PSF will furthermore continue OSESGY's initiative 'Pillars of Peace' under a second phase of the project and increase OSESGY's knowledge foundation on peace dividends and other areas that can be used actively in the political process. It is important to stress that if further funding is not provided, the Facility will have to wind down before fulfilling its full mandate.



Photo: UNDP Yemen 2023 | Participant in a training for peacebuilding network stakeholders in Aden, Yemen.

ANNEX 1: FINANCIAL REPORT

This report offers a comprehensive overview of the project's income, expenses, and resulting balance, providing insights into its financial operations.

Income/Revenue:

In 2024, the project phase II received contributions amounting to \$ 1,626,941.42. This brings the cumulative total revenue for project Phase II to \$ 9,222,474.91. The income/revenue garnered by the project in 2023 and 2024 originates from diverse sources, reflecting the collaborative efforts of multiple donors, including:

Donor Contribution	2023 received amount in US\$	2024 received amount US\$	Total Revenue
Germany	4,264,392.32		4,264,392.32
UNDP Track	49,741.17		49,741.17
European Commission	3,281,400		3,281,400.00
Norway		1,388,369.42	1,388,369.42
NORCAP		238,572.00	238,572
Total contribution received	7,595,533.49	1,626,941.42	9,222,474.91

UN PSF EXPENDITURE REPORT 2024

A- PHASE I

No contributions were received for Phase I during 2024

Donors	Available Resources for 2024	Expenditure 2024	Advances	PO commitment	Total Fund Utilized in US\$	Balance
Canada	843,460.07	48,627.00		794,353.01	842,980.01	480.06
Denmark	1,037,467.43			1,036,912.55	1,036,912.55	554.88
Germany	570,823.12	- 147.46		563,969.52	563,822.06	7,001.06
Italy	827,488.65	426,874.32		399,635.56	826,509.88	978.77
Norway	372,877.85	343,624.42			343,624.42	29,253.43
Total	3,652,117.12	819,125.74	0.00	2,794,870.65	3,613,848.92	38,268.20

B- Phase II

Donors	Available Resources for 2024	Expenditure 2024	Advances	PO commitment	Total Fund Utilized in US\$	Balance
Germany	2,252,110.80	1,206,822.86	39,940.00	66,096.00	1,312,852.74	939,258.06
European Commission	2,181,006.00	2,166,129.80	10,577.96	684.80	2,177,392.56	3,613.44
Norway	1,388,369.42	440,751.23		340,887.77	781,729.82	606,639.60
NORCAP	238,572.00	209,362.69			209,357.38	29,214.62
Total	6,060,058.22	4,023,066.58	50,517.96	407,668.57	4,481,332.51	1,974,253.60

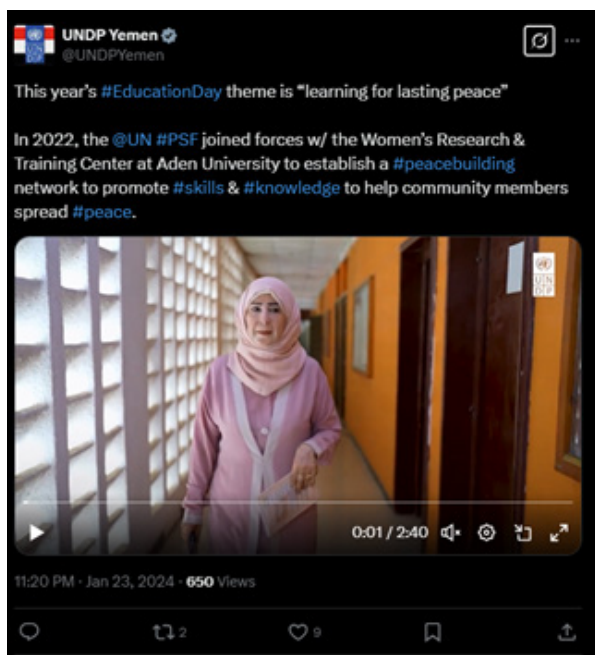


Photo: UNDP Yemen 2025 | Peace Support Facility's Small Grant Mechanism, Taiz, Yemen.

ANNEX 2: UN PEACE SUPPORT FACILITY COMMUNICATIONS ACTIVITIES

The UN Peace Support Facility has produced a series of communication products related the Result Area 2 and subnational peacebuilding. All videos produced can be found on [YouTube](#)²⁸ and have been shared widely on Facebook, LinkedIn, X, and Instagram. The UN PSF has furthermore

been mentioned extensively in various Yemeni media sources. Below are examples of the social media posts and a list of internal and external sources referring to the UN PSF.



²⁸ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t-ZR1ZA764&list=PLrUFZBP3CgvgqIBdEaSCEYtRq_P_Uk5h-&ab_channel=UNDPYemen

LIST OF COMMUNICATION PRODUCTS:

WEBSITE:

1. <https://www.undp.org/yemen/news/placing-living-heritage-heart-peace>
2. <https://www.undp.org/yemen/news/fostering-peace-building-resilience-yemen-undp-and-european-union>
3. <https://www.undp.org/yemen/blog/forging-pathways-peace-multilateral-approach-humanitarian-development-peace-nexus-yemen>

SOCIAL MEDIA:

1. [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [X](#), [Instagram](#)
2. [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [X](#), [Instagram](#)
3. [Facebook](#), [X](#), [Instagram](#)
4. [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [X](#), [Instagram](#)
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27. [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [X](#), [Instagram](#)
28. [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [X](#), [Instagram](#)
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2. <https://x.com/mdfyeorg/status/1787177519457726639>
3. <https://www.facebook.com/MDF4Development/posts/pfbid02o8zuL5nC3MF4KxK-CFkR4jVc3rNmHSzHk5Yq5bPw9tzPNvjbne3wFpbsWuoGZGcW8l>
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