



# Search for Common Ground - Yemen

## Program Overview

**10-YEAR ANNIVERSARY**  
OF SEARCH FOR COMMON GROUND IN YEMEN

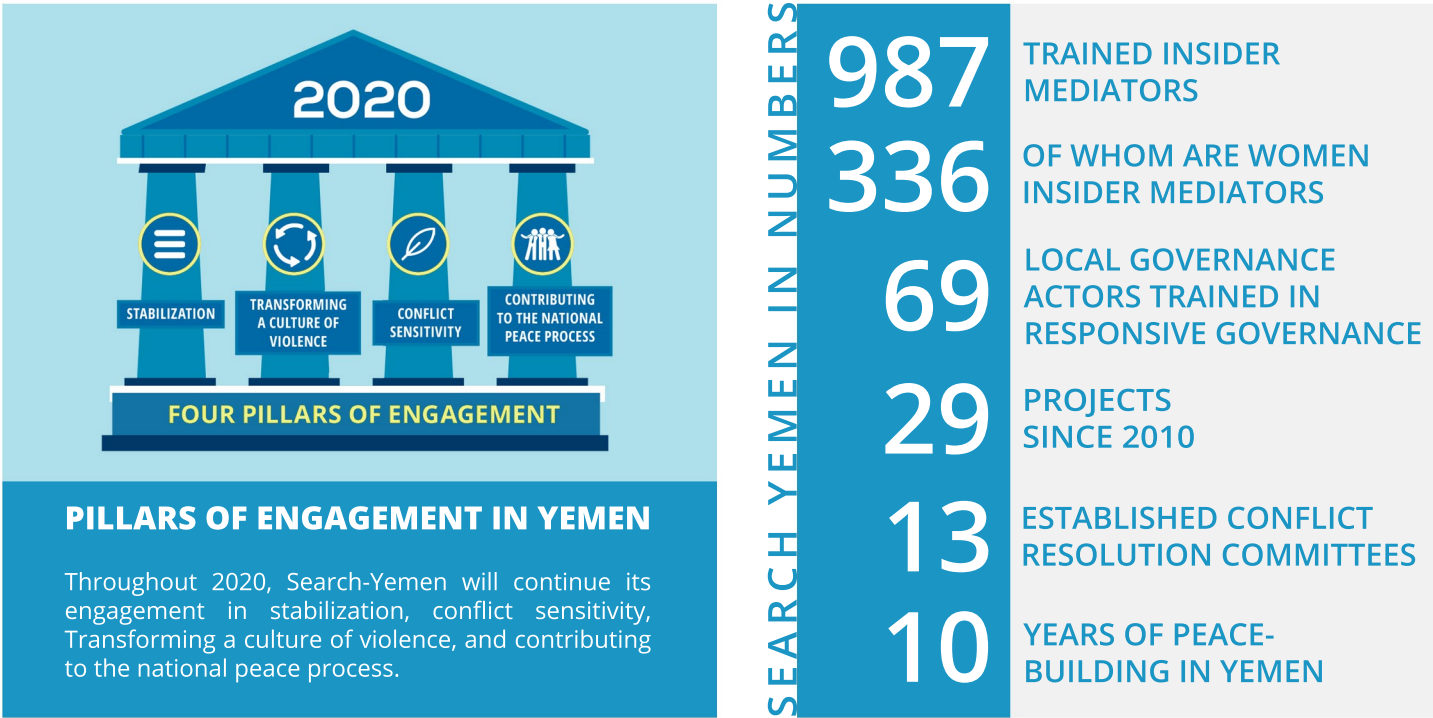
As the protracted conflict in Yemen continues, the humanitarian crisis across the country remains the worst in the world, leaving 24 million people in need of humanitarian or protection assistance. Tens of thousands of people have been killed or injured since 2015, and an estimated 3.3 million remain displaced.

Competition over resources is becoming more acute as displacements push new populations into communities that are already unable to meet basic needs. Escalating conflict is causing extensive damage to public and civilian infrastructure, as well as the widespread disruption of economic activities.

With a decimated health infrastructure, the global COVID-19 pandemic is another major threat to the people of Yemen. The creation of new fault lines and deepening of existing divides threaten to permanently polarize Yemeni society, posing serious challenges to the long-term sustainability for potential peace.



Established in 2010, Search-Yemen is operated by a qualified team of Yemeni nationals who are deeply rooted in the country and governorates where we work, possessing both expert knowledge and local contacts that enable high performance of programs. Search-Yemen has continued programming throughout the most recent conflict, implementing projects from two offices in-country, in Aden and Sana'a. By the end of 2019, Search-Yemen interventions had reached 29 districts in 7 Yemeni Governorates and has networks and partnerships which span the country. Starting from 2020 onwards, Search-Yemen intends to scale-up its dedicated support and services for local communities.

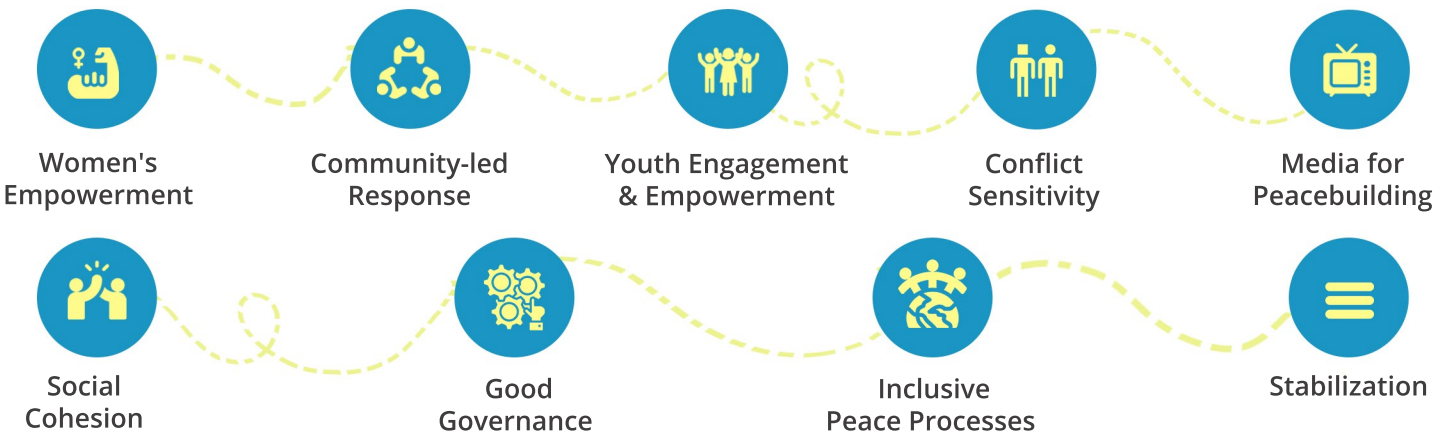


## OUR MISSION

**Search-Yemen's program strives to build lasting trust, collaboration, and meaningful engagement among target communities and actors in order to address conflict without violence.**

Search-Yemen works through and with local partner organizations in order to build peacebuilding skills and capacity across the country, and intentionally targets key local leaders (cross-cutting social standing, gender, age, and ethnicity) and governance actors in order to build a cohort of peacebuilders within institutions and civil society.

## WHAT WE DO





## Peace Education in Yemeni High Schools

Search-Yemen sought to increase youth resiliency by implementing institutional and individual capacity-building activities alongside raising community awareness of youth as positive agents of change.

### Key results

- Increasing student inclusion and involvement in decision-making processes related to their school through the creation of 11 Student Mediation Clubs and provision of advanced training for 110 Student Mediators;
- Strengthening the relationship between parents' councils and students through engaging 679 students, teachers, and parents in workshop sessions; and
- Actively countering armed group recruitment incentives that deploy youth to frontlines by organically countering violent rhetoric with adherence to peacebuilding principles led by peers.



*Funded by The French Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

2017 - 2019

## The Community Peacebuilding Project

Search-Yemen implemented the second phase of The Community Peacebuilding Project to increase local-level social cohesion in six Yemeni districts with the aim of reducing the risk of inter-communal violence through dialogue and mitigating the risk of future conflicts, with an increased focus on gender dynamics and masculinities.

### Key results

- 150 Insider Mediators trained in dialogue processes.
- 36 conflict cases resolved through community dialogue.
- 94% of project participants reported that the project helped to strengthen positive relationships within communities and 98% believe that the project helped to increase collaboration among community members.



*Funded by The Conflict, Stability and Security Fund (CSSF) - UK*

2018 - 2019

## A Future Called Peace

The goal of the project was to enhance youth leaders' role (ages 20 to 35) to transform conflict without violence through strengthening youth leaders' capacity in conflict analysis and conflict transformation and increasing collaboration among youth leaders and between youth and elders across dividing lines.

### Key results

- 88 Youth Insider Mediators trained in dialogue processes.
- 24 conflict cases resolved through community dialogue.
- 98% of project participants expressed the effectiveness of project activities in increasing collaboration among the community across dividing lines and 96% of respondents indicated that the community dialogues and other project activities strengthened the relationship between youth leaders and elders as well as reduced the gap between them.



*Funded by The United States Agency for International Development (USAID)*

2017 - 2019

## Cooperative Communities

With the goal to re-establish trust between communities and governance structures, this initiative enabled communities to advance effective governance structures to revitalize social services, public order, and the local economy through inclusive dialogue and cooperative action.

### Key results

- 30 Insider Mediators trained in dialogue processes.
- 69 local governance actors trained in responsive governance principals and methods.

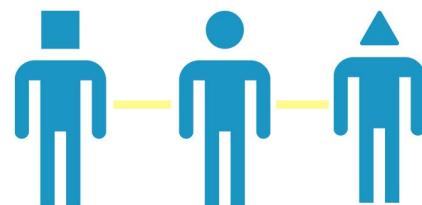


*Funded by The Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

2018 - 2019

## Conflict Sensitivity Support Project

As part of the DFID-funded Multi-Humanitarian Response Programme (MHRP), Search-Yemen provided conflict sensitivity technical support to a consortium of humanitarian actors operating in Taiz – including CARE, Action Contre la Faim (ACF), Mercy Corps, and the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC).



### Key results

- 7 conflict scan reports; 70 community meetings; up to 1,050 community members participating in the conflict scans.
- 7 validation workshops in targeted seven districts, involving approximately 175 participants representing different stakeholders from the district.
- 3 Conflict sensitivity trainings held; in Sana'a, Taiz, and Al-Hodeidah; targeting a total of 60-90 participants.

*Funded by CARE International*

2018 - 2019

## Furthering the Youth, Peace, and Security (YPS) agenda in Yemen

Through this project, Search-Yemen sought to operationalize the Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) Agenda by creating mechanisms for inclusion of youth in peace processes that shape the future for the coming generations. This was achieved through strengthening the capacity of youth to lead local peacebuilding processes and encouraging an enabling environment for their leadership.



### Key results

- 1 detailed mapping of youth-led CSOs, youth groups, and individual youth.
- 1 YPS Situational Report.
- Increased youth inclusion and involvement in local-level peacebuilding processes.
- Strengthened the relationship and partnership between youth and YPS stakeholders in Yemen.
- 5 consultations meetings: in Aden, Taiz city, Al-Turbah, Hadhramout and Ma'rib with youth on participation, protection, prevention, release and reintegration in an attempt to arrive at a framework for actualizing the YPS Agenda in Yemen.

*Funded by The United Nations Population Fund - UNFPA*

2019

## Strategic Communication in Support of Peace in Yemen

The project was delivered by a consortium composed of Albany Associates and Search-Yemen. The overall objective was to strengthen the Yemen peace architecture by supporting Yemeni civil society and peace actors, such as OSESGY, through strategic communication campaigns.



### Key results

- Implemented 5 community initiatives, including providing garbage containers in Khormaksar, Aden and supplying a water pump to the village of Al-Sala'a, near Lawdar city.
- IMs and journalists indicated that capacity building trainings were highly effective and these provided them with essential skills to advocate for peace.
- Community members expressed that dialogue helped improve relationships among community members and repair broken social ties.

*Funded by The Conflict, Stability and Security Fund (CSSF) - UK*

2017 - 2019

## Promoting Women's Inclusion in Peacebuilding in Yemen

Search-Yemen seeks to engage women in local and national peace processes through capacity building; building bridges between grassroots women peacebuilders and established women's peace groups; and to contribute to transforming norms around gender roles in four target governorates: Taiz, Lahj, Ibb, and Abyan. This holistic approach will ensure the meaningful participation of a diversity of Yemeni women in peacebuilding and the amplification of their voices into the national peace process.





## What we aim to achieve

Search-Yemen aims to advance the inclusion of a diversity of women in peacebuilding at the local and national level in Yemen through three specific objectives (SOs) and one cross-cutting objective:

- SO1: Enhance gender-inclusive approach and women's capacity to develop and lead grassroots peacebuilding initiative;
- SO2: Support inclusive and diverse women-led contributions to the national peacebuilding process; and
- SO3: Mainstream positive social norms around women peacebuilders.
- **Cross-cutting objective: Increase community, especially men's, acceptance of women's meaningful participation in peacebuilding.**

*Funded by The Government of Canada*

2019 - 2021

## The Yemen Conflict Sensitivity Platform

The Yemen Conflict Sensitivity Platform (YCSP) is a one-stop-shop for supporting conflict sensitivity in Yemen. The Platform is a critical response for enhanced aid effectiveness across the Humanitarian, Development, and Peace Nexus. YCSP provides three types of support: capacity assistance to agencies delivering aid in Yemen, inter-agency lesson-sharing and learning on how to deliver aid considering conflict dynamics, and advice and technical support to donors and policymakers on aid strategies.



### What we aim to achieve

The overall goal of the planned framework is to promote peace and stability in Yemen through enhancing conflict sensitive approaches and practices for actors planning and delivering assistance. The project will look to achieve this goal through three specific objectives:

- Humanitarian peacebuilding, stabilisation, recovery, and development actors provide conflict sensitive programmes in Yemen;
- Sufficient capacity exists for actors to deliver assistance in a conflict sensitive manner; and
- International and regional track 1 actor and donor policies, along with overall engagement strategies, are better placed to support peace and stability in Yemen.

*Funded by The Department for International Development (DFID) - UK*

2019 - 2022

## Enhanced Security and Access to Justice at the Local Level in Yemen

Through this project, Search-Yemen seeks to improve community access to formal and informal justice and security in Aden, Hadhramout, and Lahj.



### What we aim to achieve

This will be achieved through:

- Identifying the barriers to and opportunities for security and justice at the community level;
- Empowering community members to collectively address security and justice issues in their communities; and
- Strengthening the relationship between local communities and security/justice formal and informal providers.

*Funded by The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)*

2019 -2020

## Lifting Women's Voices in Yemen

This 3-year project aims to promote women's rights to freedom from violence and mitigating the acceptability of gender-based violence in Yemen. Search-Yemen will work with international partner, Internews, to achieve this end in Lahj, Ibb, and Hadramout.

### What we aim to achieve

The goal of this project is to be achieved through working with women-led CSOs to:

- Increase the capacity to lead grassroots violence-reduction initiatives;
- Foster perspective-sharing and collaboration; and
- Counter negative social norms surrounding GBV through local-level media engagement.



*Funded by The European Union*

2019 -2022

## Systems, Health and Resiliency Project (SHARP)

Funded by USAID and implemented in a consortium with John Snow Inc. (JSI), the National Yemeni Midwives Association (NYMA) and the Yemen Family Care Association (YFCA), this project will foster an enabling environment and strengthen the health system in Yemen by improving policies, strategies, practices, and local ownership across Taiz, Aden, and Lahj.



### What we aim to achieve

To support the broader project of improving health outcomes and increasing resilience, Search-Yemen will:

- Create demand for RMNCH+Nutrition services and improve healthy behaviors by disseminating evidence-based messages; and
- Improve governance by regularly including local authorities in project activities to build trust and understanding.

*Funded by The United States Agency for International Development (USAID)*

*2019 -2020*

## Supporting Resilience and Food Security in Yemen

This joint program is being implemented by FAO, ILO, UNDP and WFP. The overall objective of the program is to contribute to reduced vulnerability and strengthened resilience capacity of crisis-affected communities in Yemen through creation of sustainable livelihoods and access to basic services in Lahj, Abyan, and Taiz.



### What we aim to achieve

As a result of this action, communities and local authorities will have enhanced capacities to respond to conflict and gender-sensitive priorities needs.

*Funded by The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)*

*2019 -2020*

## Durable Solutions

This project is a 2-year initiative funded by the EU and implemented by a humanitarian consortium led by ACTED, and consisting of CARE, International Rescue Committee, Norwegian Refugee Council, Danish Refugee Council, and Search-Yemen. The overall goal of the action is to promote resilience and social cohesion for vulnerable communities in Yemen, through an integrated approach, with a special focus on IDPs, returnees, and host communities.



### What we aim to achieve

Search-Yemen will be responsible for ensure the conflict sensitivity of the action and align activities withint the peacebuilding agenda throgh promoiting community social cohesion and strengthening the capacity of the local authorities and civil society organizations.

*Funded by The European Union*

*2019 -2020*



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