

**Short narrative progress 2019.**

**Organisation: Cordaid**

**Title: RH in Yemen**

**Project Duration: 1/11/18 – 31/10/21**

Cordaid's project on Reproductive Health in Yemen started in November 2018. The overall objective is to "strengthen health systems and Reproductive services and education in hard to reach areas". The 6 components are divided by 3 Result Areas: A. Strengthen Health Facilities; B. Improved access to RH information and education; C. Improved access to RH services. A1) refresher training for Health staff on RH services; A2) supporting of 30 health facilities with equipment and incentives according to Result Based Finance criteria; A3) supporting of Non Communicable Diseases (NCDs) patients with medications; B4) health education through helpline, radio spots, secondary schools and community sessions B5) application of community management risk reduction in two villages in Utmah district; C6) distribution of 15,000 vouchers for safe motherhood and family planning services.

All project activities *on the ground* were in the remote mountainous and hard to reach district of Utmah in the governate of Dhamar.

As an innovative approach Cordaid drafted a contract with the social enterprise called Upinion to implement surveys through Facebook to better understand the attitude of women and men towards modern Family Planning. Yamaan, Cordaid and Upinion staff jointly developed a questionnaire for this occasion. The surveys were not only done in Utmah but also in the rest of the governate of Dhamar and in the governates of Ibb and Lahj where Yamaan is working too. The expansion of the survey to Ibb and Lahj brings more information. The results of this research will be taken into account for improvement of the voucher program and for the design of the health education approach at community level.

The governate of Dhamar is under the control of *the de facto Houthi government based in Sanaa*. SCMCHA (Supreme Council for Management and Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs) is the governmental department of *the facto Houthi government based in Sanaa* that is dealing with national and international NGOs. All national and international NGO that work in the *Houthi controlled areas* need approvals from SCMCHA for their activities.

The war and the negotiations with authorities delayed the planned activities. The refresher trainings for health staff, the planned education / outreach on RH for communities and the radio spots didn't happen in 2019. The preparations to start Result Based Financing (RBF) went well: Cordaid trained staff of Yamaan and the different ministries in Amman. The approval of business plans for the Health Facilities to start RBF was done as well. The humanitarian support through medications to patients suffering from NCDs happened according to plan. The helpline to answer any questions on RH received more questions and provided more answers than planned. It reached 25,000 people.

Cordaid provided the training on Community Managed Disaster Risk Reduction in Amman. Yamaan carried out the pilot in one village called Markez in the Bani Swaid region of the district of Utmah through a Participatory Disaster Risk Analysis (PDRA). The villagers implemented the action plan. It improved the sanitation and thus the hygiene and health in the village. The distribution of vouchers and the reimbursement went according to plan in 2019.