

Annual Report 2025

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مؤسسة شباب سبأ للتنمية
Sheba Youth Foundation for Development

Sheba Youth Foundation for Development (SYF) is a civil society organization led by youth and women who work collaboratively to empower youth and women to play an active role in development and peacebuilding in Yemen. The Foundation is driven by a clear vision of a stable society where young people and women enjoy peace, sustainable development, and lasting coexistence.

About Us



Vision

a stable society where young people and women enjoy peace and sustainable development



Mission

We work to promote social cohesion, advance peacebuilding, and enhance the meaningful participation of young people and women in political, social, and economic development by developing effective policies and mechanisms and adopting a participatory approach, while remaining firmly committed to the principles of neutrality, empowerment, and integration



Values

Empowerment
Teamwork
Volunteerism
Participation
Neutrality



Strategic Goals

Improve the quality and sustainability of public services by strengthening governance, promoting local mediation, and fostering trust between communities and local authorities.
Empower target groups politically, economically, socially, and culturally—with a particular focus on young people and women—while strengthening adolescents' leadership skills and capacity for meaningful community participation.

Governorates We Targeted in 2025



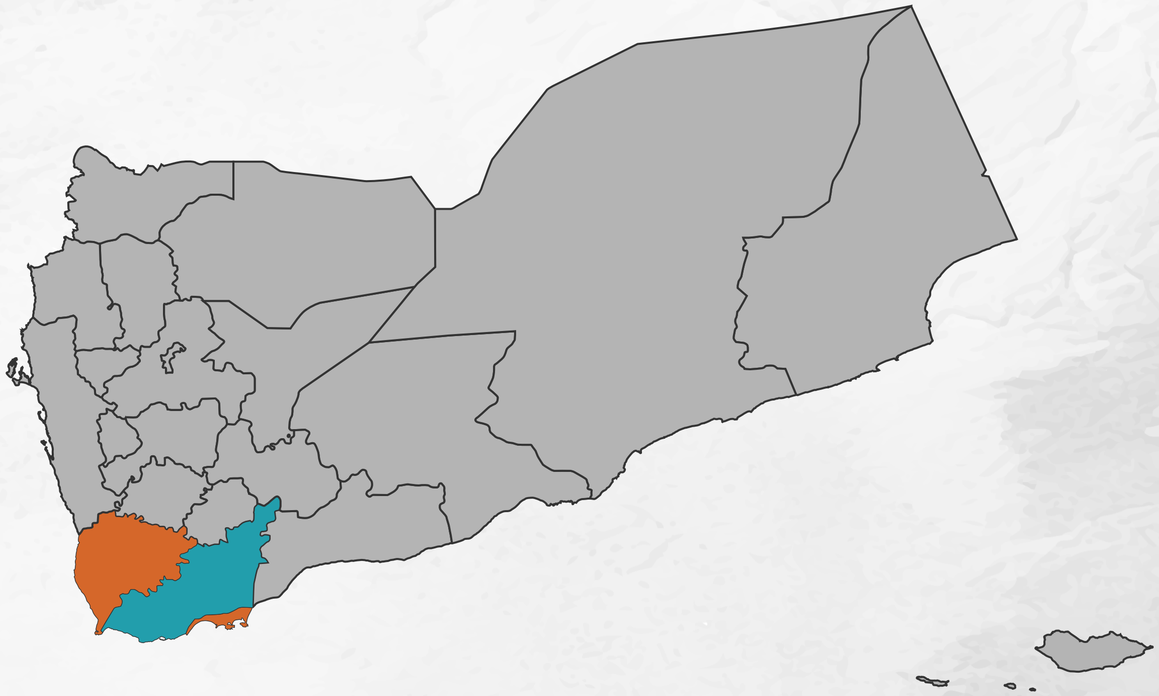
Taiz



Lahj



Aden





Our Projects in 2025

Strengthening the Capacity of Youth Constituencies in Peacebuilding



Donors & Partners	Save the Children
Benefeciaries	+10,000
Area of Implementation	Taiz Governorate

Strengthening the Capacity of Youth Constituencies in Peacebuilding

The project was implemented at the local level in Yemen and pursued two primary objectives:

- Strengthening coordination among youth constituencies engaged in peacebuilding.
- Enhancing the capacities of young people in conflict analysis and community engagement.

منصة شباب لبناء السلام
Youth platform for peacebuilding

The project included the restructuring of the Youth Platform for Peacebuilding (YP4P), a nationwide network comprising **16** youth- and women-led organizations across Yemen. It also delivered training workshops to strengthen youth capacities in conflict analysis and the design of community initiatives. In addition, the project implemented six community interventions in Taiz, Aden, Lahj, and Shabwah governorates to promote social cohesion and support the peaceful resolution of community-level conflicts.



مجموعة الدعم الشبابية
Youth Support Group

The project also provided capacity-building support to the Youth Support Group (YSG), a network comprising **6** youth coalitions working on political participation and peacebuilding. The training focused on political analysis and analytical report writing, culminating in the publication of an analytical report entitled "The Impact of Local Conflicts on the Political Process and Political Stability in Yemen." This initiative strengthened youth's capacity to contribute to peacebuilding efforts and engage meaningfully in policy dialogue and discussions on political and community issues.

Yemen Humanitarian and Resilience Programme for Crisis- and Disaster-Affected Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and Host Communities



Donors & Partners

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF DENMARK
Danida

OXFAM

Benefeciaries

+7,140

Area of Implementation

Taiz & Aden

Yemen Humanitarian and Resilience Programme for Crisis- and Disaster-Affected Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and Host Communities

Sheba Youth Foundation for Development implemented this project in Al-Ma'afer and Ash-Shamayatayn districts of Taiz Governorate in partnership with Oxfam and with funding from the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA). The project aimed to empower women, young people, and marginalized groups by enhancing their participation in decision-making and inclusive peacebuilding. It also strengthened their capacities in advocacy, social cohesion, public policy development, negotiation and conflict resolution, gender, and community engagement. In addition, the project engaged and supported women's and human rights organizations to lead locally driven peace initiatives.

منتدى السلام الريفي
Rural Peace Forum

The project also worked with the Rural Peace Forum, a voluntary platform established by rural women to strengthen the meaningful participation of rural women in peacebuilding, with technical support from Sheba Youth Foundation for Development. The project strengthened the Forum's institutional capacity through strategic planning, advocacy, and the development of its governance framework, including organizational policies, bylaws, and governance structure. This enabled the Forum to implement a number of local initiatives promoting women's participation in local governance and decision-making, thereby enhancing its institutional sustainability and long-term impact at the local level. In addition, the project facilitated dialogue sessions with local authorities in Taiz and Aden to promote women's participation in public affairs and present the recommendations of the policy papers developed during earlier phases of the project.



As part of the project's efforts to strengthen social cohesion and reduce local conflicts, three sustainable community-based initiatives were implemented in the water sector across Al Ma'afer and Ash Shamayatayn districts in Taiz Governorate. These interventions included the construction of a community water reservoir in Al Janah Village, accompanied by training for local water management committees to ensure sustainable operation and maintenance; the rehabilitation and reactivation of the Barman Well in Farjat Adeem Village to address increasing demand resulting from population pressures; and the rehabilitation and replacement of the Bani Shaibah Al Gharb water distribution network with durable steel pipelines to minimize water losses and service disruptions. These integrated interventions successfully resolved community tensions and disputes over access to water resources, ensured the continuity of water services, and improved access to safe water for local communities. They also eased the significant daily burden on households - particularly women and girls - while fostering greater trust, cooperation, and social cohesion among community members.



The project also produced a position paper entitled "The Role of Yemeni Women in Local Authorities: Between Representation and Marginalization" to promote the empowerment of women in Al Ma'afer and Ash Shamayatayn districts of Taiz Governorate. The paper was informed by a research study employing a mixed-methods approach that combined quantitative and qualitative methodologies and was conducted between August and September 2025 to examine the gap between women's formal representation and their actual influence in local governance. The position paper highlighted the key daily, structural, institutional, security, social, and cultural barriers that perpetuate the marginalization of women, limit their roles to symbolic representation, and constrain their meaningful participation in decision-making, mediation, and peacebuilding processes. Alongside documenting inspiring examples of women leaders who successfully challenged societal barriers, the paper concluded with a comprehensive set of policy recommendations and strategic actions aimed at reforming legislation and public policies, operationalizing women's quota mechanisms, and strengthening support and accountability systems. These recommendations seek to advance a more equitable, inclusive, and sustainable local governance environment that reflects the needs and aspirations of all members of the community.

Project to Enhance Digital Awareness Among Adolescent Girls



Donors & Partners	Save the Children
Benefeciaries	+2,015
Area of Implementation	Taiz Governorate

Project to Enhance Digital Awareness Among Adolescent Girls

Sheba Youth Foundation for Development implemented the Project to Enhance Digital Awareness Among Adolescent Girls as part of the Digital Compass Campaign, with the aim of empowering youth and adolescents to prevent and respond to online violence while promoting digital safety. The project also actively engaged parents and caregivers to strengthen their role in supporting safe and responsible digital practices. The project focused on three key objectives: increasing young people's awareness of digital safety and misinformation; equipping adolescent girls and boys with the knowledge and skills needed to adopt safe digital practices; and strengthening family awareness of the important role parents and caregivers play in guiding young people toward the responsible and informed use of digital spaces.





As part of the project, **two** youth-led podcast episodes were produced to raise awareness of misinformation, digital well-being, and digital literacy, amplifying young people's voices and promoting informed and responsible engagement in digital spaces.



In addition, the project developed and disseminated a user-friendly digital guide for adolescent girls and boys, providing practical guidance and tools for navigating digital content safely and protecting personal data. The project also delivered two awareness-raising workshops in Taiz Governorate, bringing together **20** adolescents and their parents or caregivers to strengthen family engagement and foster a shared understanding of digital risks and safe online practices.

Strengthening Socioeconomic Recovery and Empowering Women-Led Civil Society Organizations for Peacebuilding



Donors & Partners	Women's Peace & Humanitarian Fund — A United Nations & Civil Society Partnership; UN WOMEN
Benefeciaries	5,250
Area of Implementation	Taiz Governorate

Strengthening Socioeconomic Recovery and Empowering Women-Led Civil Society Organizations for Peacebuilding

Sheba Youth Foundation for Development implemented Strengthening Socioeconomic Recovery and Empowering Women-Led Civil Society Organizations for Peacebuilding in Taiz Governorate. The project pursued two overarching objectives: First, to promote the economic empowerment of women and youth and strengthen their role as key actors in advancing women's leadership within local civil society organizations. Second, to enhance the institutional and technical capacities of women-led organizations to promote community peace, strengthen civic engagement, and contribute to inclusive local governance.



The project included the implementation of the Tech Leaders Programme, which delivered technical, life skills, and professional training to equip young participants with competencies in communication, interpersonal skills, CV writing, and the development of websites and digital platforms. As a result of the programme, 4 customized digital platforms were developed to support 4 local women-led organizations in Taiz Governorate. These platforms enhanced the organizations' capacity to deliver community services while strengthening collaboration and strategic partnerships with the private sector and local communities.



The project also provided targeted women-led civil society organizations with training in strategic planning, resulting in the development of four strategic plans tailored to the participating organizations. To support the implementation of these plans, the project awarded small grants to finance community-based projects and initiatives aimed at strengthening women's role in peacebuilding and community engagement. Overall, the project enhanced the capacities of women and young people in Taiz Governorate, created sustainable economic opportunities, and strengthened the institutional role of women-led civil society organizations in promoting community peace, social cohesion, and inclusive local development.

Nabni Project - Building for Peace Fascility



Donors & Partners	KFW NABNI B4P FACILITY nahr
Benefeciaries	+988
Area of Implementation	Taiz & Aden

Nabni Project - Building for Peace Fascility

Sheba Youth Foundation for Development participated in the co-design phase of the Nabni – Building for Peace Project in partnership with the National Authority for Humanitarian and Development Response (NAHR), with the aim of developing an integrated project that promotes social cohesion and supports local peacebuilding efforts in Taiz and Aden Governorates. The Foundation led local peace and conflict analysis in the districts of Crater and Al Mualla in Aden, and Al Qahirah and Al Mudhaffar in Taiz, while engaging local communities, authorities, and community stakeholders in identifying conflict-related challenges and peacebuilding opportunities.

The activities included conducting introductory meetings with government entities and local authorities, as well as organizing community dialogue sessions and interviews with local leaders, youth, women, and civil society organizations to collect data and analyze conflict dynamics and root causes. The phase also included the preparation of technical, environmental, and social feasibility studies for the proposed initiatives.



This co-design phase contributed to developing a comprehensive project framework focused on strengthening social cohesion, supporting local governance, and enabling communities to actively participate in peacebuilding and stability efforts in the targeted areas. The next phase is expected to move toward the implementation of the proposed project activities, guided by the findings of the conflict analysis and community consultations conducted during the design phase.

Advancing Gender Equality and Social Cohesion for Sustainable Peaceful Coexistence in Yemen



Donors & Partners

giz Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

MERCY CORPS

Benefeciaries

30,463

Area of Implementation

Taiz Governorate

Advancing Gender Equality and Social Cohesion for Sustainable Peaceful Coexistence in Yemen

Sheba Youth Foundation for Development, in partnership with Mercy Corps Yemen, implemented the Project to Promote Gender Equality and Social Cohesion for Peaceful Coexistence in Yemen in Taiz Governorate, with support from GIZ's Strengthening Resilience and Local Participation Programme in Yemen (SRPL).

The project aimed to promote peace, social cohesion, and local governance by supporting civil society organizations and local communities to develop participatory and sustainable solutions addressing the root causes of conflicts and enhancing inclusive participation, with a particular focus on women, youth, marginalized groups, and persons with disabilities.

The project targeted six districts in Taiz Governorate: Al-Ma'afer, Al-Mudhaffar, Sala, Ash-Shamayatayn, Jabal Habashi, and Al-Qahirah. It focused on strengthening the capacities of civil society organizations, supporting youth- and women-led community initiatives, and developing dialogue and community mediation mechanisms to promote peaceful coexistence.

As part of the project's components, eight local organizations, in addition to Sheba Youth Foundation for Development, received institutional capacity-building support covering governance, financial management, project management, monitoring and evaluation, and internal systems development. These efforts enhanced their ability to implement peacebuilding initiatives and respond effectively to community needs.

The project also implemented eight community-based peacebuilding interventions across five districts: Al-Ma'afer, Ash-Shamayatayn, Al-Mudhaffar, Sala, and Al-Qahirah. These interventions focused on improving access to basic services and addressing drivers of local conflicts, including projects in water, sanitation, and infrastructure rehabilitation, benefiting approximately **30,463** individuals.

To strengthen community participation, the project established and activated social cohesion committees, community working groups, and mediation groups in Al-Ma'afer, Ash-Shamayatayn, and Jabal Habashi districts. These groups facilitated community dialogues and led initiatives addressing issues of marginalization while promoting the participation of women and youth in local decision-making processes.

Advancing Gender Equality and Social Cohesion for Sustainable Peaceful Coexistence in Yemen

Key interventions implemented included:













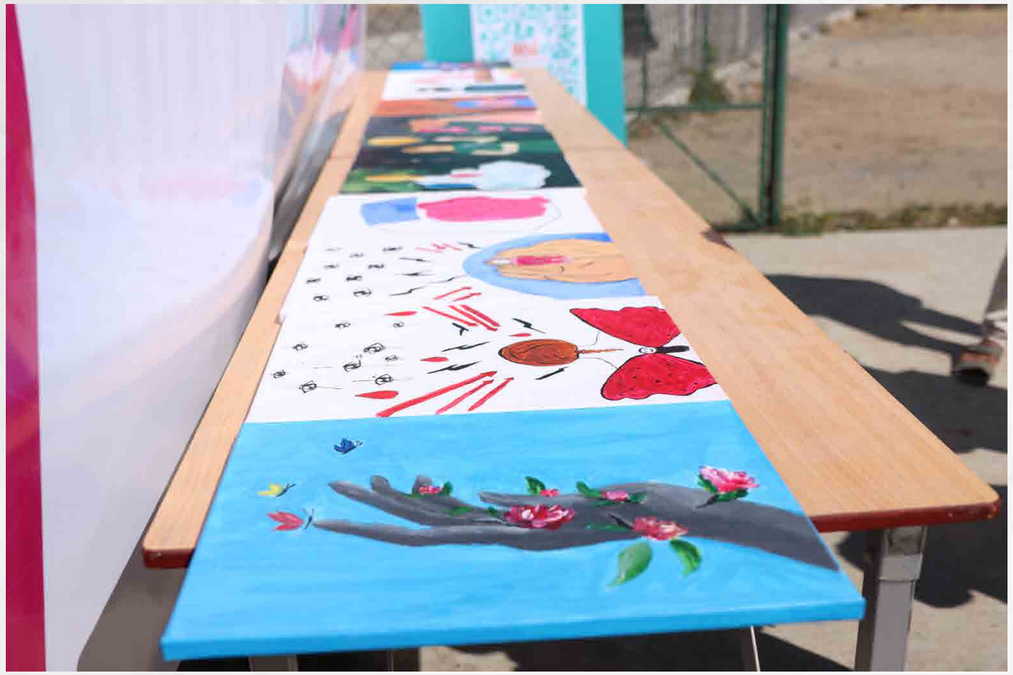
Girls and Arts Programme



Donors & Partners	Purposeful
Benefeciaries	+50
Area of Implementation	Taiz Governorate

Girls and Arts Programme

This programme was implemented in partnership with and with the support of the Karama International Network, as part of Wa'ed Network's efforts to promote adolescent girls' empowerment and create safe spaces for expression and community participation.



The programme focused on empowering adolescent girls to understand child and women's rights issues and express their perspectives through visual arts, enhancing their social awareness and ability to transform these issues into impactful visual messages. During the implementation of the programme, 12 artworks were produced reflecting community issues related to children and women. These artworks were showcased at the Girls and Arts Exhibition, which was attended by a group of influential figures. The activities also contributed to enhancing participants' understanding of art as a tool for expression and advocacy. The programme further strengthened girls' self-confidence and developed their ability to present social issues through clear visual narratives, while creating a safe space that enabled them to express the issues they felt needed to be addressed and discussed.

Strengthening Women's Capacities for Participation in Track II Peacebuilding



Donors & Partners	PARTNERSYEMEN Member of PARTNERS NETWORK
Benefeciaries	+3,100
Area of Implementation	Taiz & Aden

Strengthening Women's Capacities for Participation in Track II Peacebuilding

Partners Yemen, in coordination with Sheba Youth Foundation for Development, implemented the Women Leaders Track Two Project in Taiz Governorate. The project aimed to empower the second generation of women leaders by strengthening their participation in decision-making and peacebuilding, while creating direct channels of influence with local and international decision-makers. The project focused on developing the capacities of women leaders, enabling them to play influential roles at the community and political levels, and connecting them with support networks to ensure the sustainability of their initiatives.

The project included the selection of women leaders based on defined criteria and the establishment of a support committee of experts to provide professional guidance. It also delivered intensive training on adaptive leadership and conflict management, with a strong focus on the practical application of acquired skills. In addition, the project facilitated quarterly networking and institutional bridging meetings, expanded linkages in Aden Governorate, and supported the participation of women leaders in international engagements. These included a Women's Summit meeting with the Dutch Ambassador and a group of prominent feminist activists, where participants had the opportunity to showcase Yemeni women's capacity to develop practical solutions to local challenges and connect them with international diplomatic processes. The project contributed to strengthening women's participation in decision-making and peacebuilding, enhancing their leadership and political skills, and supporting their transition from trainees to active community representatives. It also laid the foundation for developing national policy papers that reflect the perspectives of women in Taiz on the future of inclusive and sustainable peace.



In clonclusion,

We extend our sincere appreciation to all our partners, supporters, local communities, and everyone who contributed to achieving the accomplishments and impact highlighted in this report.

We take pride in every partnership built, every opportunity created, and every positive change achieved. We look forward to continuing our collective efforts toward a future of greater development, peace, and prosperity.

Thank you for being part of this journey.

Success Partners

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF DENMARK
Danida

MERCY CORPS

Women's Peace & Humanitarian Fund
A United Nations & Civil Society Partnership

OXFAM

Save the Children

UN WOMEN

NABNI
B4P FACILITY

secdev. foundation

UNDP

PARTNERSYEMEN
Member of PARTNERS NETWORK

nahr

Governmental Partnerships

Local Authorities

Local Corporation for Water and Sanitation - Taiz

Cleaning and Improvement Fund - Taiz

Coalitions We Have Contributed to Strengthening

شبكة وعد
Wa'ed Network

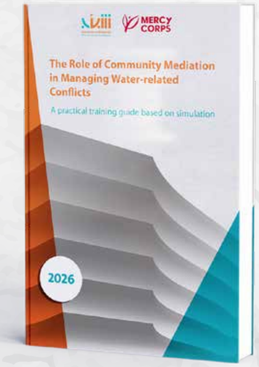
منصة شباب لبناء السلام
Youth platform for peacebuilding



مجموعة الدعم الشبابية
Youth Support Group

منتدى السلام الريفي
Rural Peace Forum

2025 Publications



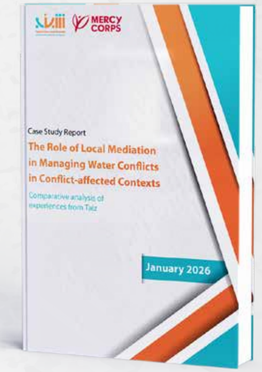
Training Guide

The role of Community Mediation in Managing Water-Related Conflicts



Brief Policy Paper

The Role of Local Mediation in Mitigating Water Governance Gaps in Conflict



Case Study Report

The Role of Local Mediation in Managing Water Conflicts in Conflict-Affected Contexts



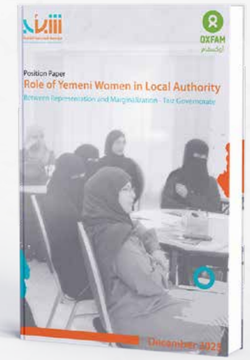
Awareness Guide

A Step Towards Your Digital Safety



Analytical Report

The Impact os Local Conflicts on the Political Process and Political Stability



Position Paper

The Role of Yemeni Women in Local Authority. Between Representation and Marginalization



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