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## An overview of the tragic situation in Yemen

It has been very inspiring to see the work being done by the GlobalGiving and humanitarian community. Sanid Organization for Relief and Development (SORD) expresses its utmost gratitude to all the supporters in the humanitarian field who are doing their utmost to help the Yemeni society and alleviate its suffering. In the midst of the escalating global food insecurity crisis, the hope of millions who are actually suffering from severe hunger is dwindling, so GlobalGiving was the hope to save it from the specter of famine that reached it.

According to the Humanitarian Needs Overview document for Yemen (HNO) for the year 2022 In the Aslam district, one of the districts of Hajjah Governorate and one of the poorest regions of Yemen, there is famine, epidemics and diseases, not to mention being a conflict and war because it is a border area with Saudi Arabia, which as a result has become an arena of wars and continuous conflicts that has led to depriving it of the most basic services and suffering from an applied siege and making it a military zone in which the humanitarian conditions have worsened. The most important of which is the famine that led to malnutrition among children under the age of five and pregnant and lactating women, as these children and women are considered the most vulnerable and sick. They struggle every day for their lives and need immediate, specialized care to save their lives in order to survive. . A child with severe acute malnutrition is 9 times more likely to die than a well-nourished child. For this reason, the ambition of the organization's work is to continue life-saving care for the child in more than 8 centers during the year 2023 for therapeutic feeding throughout Hajjah governorate. In the event that the capabilities are available, this is the ambition of its goals.

Hajjah is one of the Yemeni governorates with a high prevalence of acute malnutrition It needs an emergency health and nutrition project and an emergency human capital project To provide vital nutrition services to the most vulnerable communities. There are eight therapeutic feeding centers. It lacks sufficient support to cover the needs of malnourished people, whether nutritional supplements, the most important of which is therapeutic milk. It is also in dire need of rehabilitation, furnishing, equipment and supplies.

According to the analysis, the most vulnerable district of Aslam is in Hajjah Governorate, where food insecurity and acute malnutrition converge to very high levels.

For severe malnutrition, this district's WHZ score, a measure of wasting for children under five, ranges from 17% to 26%, well above the emergency threshold of 15% for those concerned, while for acute food insecurity, this district is the safest. The highest prevalence rates, with more than 65 percent of the population in the third stage of classification, are obtained by the official authorities and the follow-up of the situation for food insecurity and above at the present time.

It is also expected that a significant number of the targeted district will move to higher IPC stages, with significantly reduced levels of humanitarian food assistance.

The proposed project aims to contribute to reducing deaths and diseases associated with acute malnutrition for children under the age of five, pregnant women and nursing mothers in targeted areas with high rates of acute malnutrition. During the third quarter of 2022, children under the age of five and pregnant and lactating women suffering from severe acute malnutrition were provided with appropriate complementary feeding. Community awareness has been raised among pregnant women, nursing mothers, and girls of childbearing age regarding the prevalence of malnutrition, both for the child and the mother, the importance

of good nutrition for mental and physical health, and how to use available resources in order to overcome or reduce malnutrition. More details about the project's achievements can be found on our side, and based on the available capabilities, we have made remarkable progress compared to the percentage of cases recorded by the team in the field. During the third quarter of the year 2022 in Hajjah Governorate, Aslam region, as follows:

Activity	Indicator	Period	Carried out	Achievement percentage
Receiving and assisting malnourished children under the age of 5 (new), including examinations and complementary treatment.	250	November December	189	%75.6
Receiving and assisting nursing and pregnant mothers (new). Comprehensive examination, examinations and complementary treatment.	250	November December	177	%70.8
Follow up and help malnourished children under the age of 5 who have been previously admitted. Comprehensive examination, examinations and complementary treatment.	314	November December	263	83.75
Follow-up and assistance to nursing and pregnant mothers (hesitating). Those who have previously been accepted, including examination, examinations and complementary treatment.	361	November December	288	%79.77
Activating external referrals by communicating with service providers in the centers of neighboring regions.	50	November December	24 children and 7 women	%62
Activating and sharing a map of similar services in the district's health centers and units	1	November December	Coordination has been made with the competent authorities	
Educating a woman about malnutrition prevention measures, hygiene methods, and proper healthy nutrition. through awareness sessions	500	November December	320	%64



The total number of beneficiaries during the months of November and December: 1,709 women and children distributed over the services implemented by SORD. To elaborate, they can be described as follows:

- Coordination was made with the health center to receive 189 cases of malnourished children (new). They were examined by the specialized doctors within the malnutrition program at the health center in Aslam district. Approximately 497 cases of malnourished children were recorded, and as we mentioned that due to the lack of resources, Sanid Organization for Relief and Development (SORD) could not help this high number of people. It was able to provide assistance (examination, examinations and disbursement of therapeutic supplements only to 189 children under the age of 5 years who are suffering both SAM and MAM.
- Immunization was carried out through vaccinations for children under the age of five, for 308 children, from infectious and deadly diseases.
- 263 children under the age of five admitted in October still receiving treatment until recovery. Their cases were followed up through examination and nutritional supplements.
- Coordinating with the health center, the Department of Maternity and Childhood, 177 (new) malnourished mothers, pregnant and lactating mothers have been received.
- About 288 pregnant and lactating women with malnutrition were registered. As we mentioned, due to the lack of resources, SORD could not help this number of pregnant and lactating women in need of health care and follow-up. SORD was able to provide assistance (examinations, examinations, and disbursement of therapeutic supplements to 177 women (pregnant and lactating women).
- 111 pregnant women given vaccinations against tetanus.
- Also, 309 women who visited the center received follow-up, who were assisted in the month of October, especially from pregnant women in the last months and newly breast-feeding women. Their cases were followed up through (examination, weighing, and dispensing nutritional supplements).
- 7 cases of pregnant women suffering from chronic diseases and needing special care have been referred to hospitals in the governorate center. A case, including a heart patient, was referred to the capital, Sana'a.
- Raising 32 awareness sessions on aspects of reproductive health, measures to prevent malnutrition, hygiene methods, and proper healthy nutrition. 320 pregnant and breastfeeding women were targeted by volunteers.
- Coordinating with the local authority and the competent authorities in the Aslam district in order to obtain a map of services for the agencies working in the same field within the district and neighboring areas in order to exchange experiences and refer some cases that need other services that are not available to us.
- 27 cases recorded to recovery from malnourished children, including 12 females and 15 males

#### Challenges:

- The deterioration of the health situation in health centers in the targeted areas.
- Unavailability of salaries for workers in health centers.
- Poor capabilities to cover the visitors to health centers.

- Lack of support and donations.
- The high number of malnourished people.

#### **Lessons learned:**

- Get acquainted with the conditions of the target area closely.
- Tangible cooperation by the health authorities represented by the health center in the Aslam district, the health department in the directorate and the competent authorities.
- Society's love, appreciation, respect, and thanks to the executing organization and to the parties supporting the implementation of these activities.
- Identifying many areas in Hajjah governorate, in which malnutrition cases are increasing.

#### **Recommendations:**

- Intensifying efforts to provide support and assistance to save the largest number of children and women who are on the brink of death.