

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

In a year that promised so much, 2022 saw the people of Yemen badly let down by the international community.

After eight years of conflict, a staggering 23.4million Yemenis need humanitarian assistance. A record 4.5 million people are internally displaced, and over 4 million young children, pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers are acutely malnourished. The situation in Yemen continues to be one of the world's worst humanitarian crises.

The six-month truce that began in April created the most peaceful period since the conflict erupted in 2015, providing an opportunity to distribute aid more widely and give more support to those in desperate need. Instead, the UN's World Food Programme (WFP) - for which Islamic Relief Yemen is proud to be one of the main implementing partners – was forced to cut food rations because donors gave less than half the \$3.85 billion required to meet humanitarian needs.

The war in Ukraine has made the situation worse, pushing up the prices of food and fuel and putting further pressure on Yemen's collapsed economy. The country depends on imports for 90 per cent of its wheat, and relied on Russia and Ukraine for almost half of these imports before the war began.

Against this challenging background, this Annual Report is a cause for hope. It shows that Islamic-Relief Yemen worked against the odds to provide vital aid to more than 3.4 million Yemenis in 2022.

2.171,361 of these people received food rations or vouchers to enable them to buy food from local shops and markets. Our livelihoods programmes helped nearly a quarter of a million people to earn a living while boosting food production and building new community infrastructure, such as schools.

Our nutrition programmes provided lifesaving treatment to over 367,000 acutely malnourished women and young children. We also supported 24 health facilities, providing vital supplies and equipment as part of a health programme that helped ease the suffering of over 30,000 people.

Over 612,000 people received food or clothing through our seasonal distributions of Ramadan food packs, gurbani meat, and warm clothes in the winter months. Our water, sanitation and hygiene projects gave more than 165,000 people better protection against disease.

This is a report full of stories of individual resilience - including children who are going to school and

daring to dream of a positive future, thanks to our orphan and child welfare programmes. A recurring theme, however, is that so many are surviving rather than thriving – they still have so much hardship to contend with. Yemen ranks 183 out of 191 countries in the UN's Human Development Index, reflecting the heartbreaking impact of poverty and conflict on the economy, education, life expectancy and quality of life.

The positive impact of our programmes could not have been achieved without the extraordinary dedication of our 303 staff and over 3,000 volunteers who support them. We owe a debt of thanks to them all, as well as to the Islamic Relief donors around the world and the institutional funders who make Islamic Relief Yemen's outstanding work possible.

We also owe it to the people of Yemen to ensure that their plight is not forgotten. We must continue to press for a peaceful resolution of the conflict and for a major injection of additional aid. As I write, at the end of May 2023, the international community has only committed \$911 million to the humanitarian aid effort – less than a third of what the UN needs.

The WFP has spoken in its own annual report of being hampered by "a notable increase in attempts at interference, bureaucratic hurdles and delays, as well as movement and access restrictions". As well as working for peace, the international community must press all parties to the conflict to respect their obligations under international law, do more to protect civilians and allow aid to get through to those who need it most. The lives and livelihoods of tens of millions of Yemenis are at stake.



MESSAGE FROM COUNTRY DIRECTOR

Eight years of intense conflict in Yemen have left more than 23 million people in need of humanitarian assistance – two-thirds of the population. Of these, 12.9 million are in acute need of humanitarian aid.

Yemen's food security remains alarmingly fragile, despite a truce offering some relief from the conflict. The absence of regular payments for both salaries and high unemployment rates continue greatly to affect the lives and livelihoods of the most vulnerable.

We are proud that Islamic Relief Yemen has remained steadfast in its support of the Yemeni people, assisted by the unwavering support we received both locally and internationally.

In this challenging context, we have continued to work tirelessly throughout 2022 to preserve lives, reduce suffering, prevent disease outbreaks, and deliver humanitarian aid as transparently and effectively as possible. We simply could not have done this without the support and partnership of countless organisations and individuals.

We are particularly thankful to the United Nations' World Food Programme (WFP), Yemen Humanitarian Fund (YHF), the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida), Global Affairs Canada (GAC), the Humanitarian Academy for Development (HAD), the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Welthungerhilfe (WHH), and member offices from across the global Islamic Relief federation.

In Yemen, the conflict has ravaged the country's entire infrastructure, leaving half of health facilities non-functional or partially functional, potentially putting millions of lives in danger

The severity of the health crisis means that health projects are an important part of Islamic Relief's programming. Our work includes salary support and training for health workers; procuring medication and medical supplies; and providing the country's health system with other support and equipment it requires. Our support has delivered healthcare services and lifesaving treatments to more than 31,000 people.

The Covid-19 pandemic has only exacerbated the difficulties, leaving many people in need of treatment, while making it more difficult for healthcare workers to provide critical support. Through the distribution of emergency hygiene items, masks, gloves and medical equipment to healthcare workers, we continue to play

an integral role in reducing the risk of contracting coronavirus.

Helping families in extreme poverty to strengthen their resilience and enhance their wellbeing is another critical part of our work. We do this by providing training, coaching, mentoring, grants, and equipment to enable people to create and sustain small businesses and support their families. We also continue to provide emergency food aid and cash transfers to vulnerable families in dire need of assistance.

Yemen's crisis will further worsen if humanitarian funding continues to decline. In addition to making every effort to support the Yemeni people, we will do all we can to ensure that their plight and needs are not forgotten by the international community.

Despite the immense challenges on the ground, we can take encouragement from how our staff, volunteers and partners continue to work effectively with the humanitarian cluster system, local authorities and communities to deliver lifesaving aid.

Muhammad Zulqarnain Abbas Country Director, Islamic Relief Yemen



OUR WORK IN 2022

OVER 3.4 MILLION PEOPLE HELPED IN 13 GOVERNORATES

Through the Emergency WASH Response in Taiz, Yemen project, we strive to provide clean water access and address the suffering of communities, like those in Al-Shamaytin district, in 2022.



With more than 23 million people in need of humanitarian assistance, 12.9 of whom are in acute need, according to the UN, Yemen is a country ravaged by poverty, conflict and international neglect. The country's ongoing war has devastated the economy, destroyed infrastructure and severely impeded access to basic services and humanitarian aid.

Yemen desperately needs more aid, but efforts are chronically underfunded. While millions of people benefit from some humanitarian assistance, millions more are left behind facing hunger, malnutrition and disease.

As of December 2022, only 49 per cent of the \$3.85 billion requested from the international community to deliver the 2022 Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan (YHRP) had been received. This funding deficit caused vital humanitarian programmes to be reduced or suspended, especially in the areas of health, nutrition, water and sanitation, protection of children and other vulnerable groups, and education. This

means that millions of people are still struggling to survive without adequate support. Reduced funding also limited the humanitarian community's ability to respond to new challenges, such as floods and desert locusts.

Islamic Relief Yemen has been responding tirelessly to the emergency since the conflict began. We continued to do so in 2022, despite the increasingly bleak picture that resulted from underfunding of the YHRP. In 2022 alone, we assisted over 3.4 million people through interventions including emergency food assistance; water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH); nutrition and healthcare; orphan and child welfare; non-food items (NFIs); and livelihood support.

This report summarises our work in 2022. It begins with brief context of our historical presence in Yemen, then provides an overview of our programme focus areas, followed by more detail about each – including the number of people we served and stories of people we have supported.



OUR FOCUS AREAS

Islamic Relief Yemen's extensive programmes cover seven key focus areas: emergency food assistance; food security and livelihoods; nutrition; health; water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH); orphan and child welfare; and seasonal distributions of food and other essentials.



EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE

In a country where millions are malnourished and millions more go hungry, providing food to the most vulnerable people – including those newly displaced by the conflict and its economic fallout – is the core of our work. To some we provide food items, to others, cash or vouchers to enable them to get the food they need from local shops and markets.



FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

Our food security and livelihoods teams ensure that our support of the most vulnerable goes far beyond basic food aid. Alongside providing essential food for people living with hunger we work to create sustainable livelihoods to help lift families out of poverty, empowering them to become self-reliant.

As part of this programme, we provide cash grants, interest-free loans and training so that people can start their own small businesses. We also provide farmers with livestock and equipment, as well as supporting the building of irrigation infrastructure to help increase food production.



NUTRITION

Islamic Relief Yemen's nutrition programme provides life-saving support to children under five, pregnant and breastfeeding women, refugees and internally displaced people (IDPs), and host populations suffering from acute malnutrition. We deliver healthcare services at health facilities and at the community level, aiming to reduce the chronic levels of sickness that afflict the malnourished population.

Key activities include the treatment of acutely malnourished individuals, prevention of malnutrition through feeding infants and young children, blanket supplementary feeding to increase the strength of the most vulnerable, micro-nutrient supplements to boost vital vitamin and mineral levels, and support to complement health services in hospitals and clinics.



HEALTH

In 2022, Islamic Relief Yemen's health programme continued to provide essential health services to the people affected by the ongoing conflict and humanitarian crisis. Our health programme focused on providing primary and secondary healthcare, responding to disease outbreaks and rehabilitating health facilities. Our activities included salary support for health workers, procuring medication and medical supplies, training health workers, and supporting the work of numerous health facilities. The support we provide aims to ensure that the health infrastructure and its workforce are equipped as well as possible to deliver good healthcare without the need for further outside intervention.



WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

We prioritise WASH services for displaced and host populations, providing emergency water supplies and sanitation, solid waste management and hygiene support to the most vulnerable people. We also restore and maintain water supply systems and sanitation facilities, particularly in high-risk areas, to protect people from water-borne diseases.



ORPHAN AND CHILD WELFARE

In 2022, we scaled up our support for orphans and children in need by adding more than 1,300 new orphans to our programme, reaching a total of over 21,100. We focused our efforts on the most vulnerable areas of Yemen, such as Sana'a, Sa'ada, Aden and Taiz. Our programme aims to improve the wellbeing of sponsored children of all ages and abilities by providing their families with access to education, healthcare, nutrition, protection and shelter, as well as opportunities for sustainable livelihoods.



SEASONAL PROJECTS

Our seasonal distributions help families suffering from hunger cope with the religious and winter seasons. Those who benefit are living with poverty and affected people who have little or no access to food. We distribute food packs in the holy month of Ramadan; qurbani meat packs around the festival of Eid al-Adha; Eid gifts of clothes for children; and blankets, mattresses and winter clothing in the coldest months.

OUR **LIFE-SAVING WORK** IN NUMBERS



Lifeline of hope: Men and women in Amran governorate patiently await vital food rations provided by Islamic Relief, a lifeline amid a humanitarian crisis

In 2022 Islamic Relief Yemen provided humanitarian assistance to 3,424,295 individuals across the country in the areas of emergency food assistance, food security and livelihoods, nutrition, health, orphans and child welfare, and WASH. We implemented 46 projects.

Sectors	Number of people served
Emergency food assistance	2,171,361
Food security and livelihoods	55,776
Nutrition	367,051
Health	30,971
Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)	165,527
Orphans and child welfare	21,004
Seasonal programmes	612,605
Grand total	3,424,295

OUR RESPONSE:RAPID RESPONSE MECHANISM (RRM)

We continued to distribute food to people in need through our Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) in 2022.

We reached 70651 people with general food distribution (GFD) and cash voucher transfer network(CVTN).

EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE

Spread joy this Ramadan 2022 by contributing to our food distribution project in Dhamar Governorate, Yemen. See the impact of your donation as communities receive essential Ramadan food baskets and benefit from your generosity.





Sa'adah. Fleeing to a camp in Hamdan district, Sana'a governorate, the family left behind everything but the clothes they wore.

"We have no income and no way to provide for our children. We rely on charity to survive. Our main meal is usually just bread with water."

The family are among millions of people in Yemen who do not know where their next meal is coming from. According to the WFP more than 23 million people need humanitarian assistance, including food.

Islamic Relief's food distribution, funded by the WFP, is helping ease hunger. Qasim's family receive a food ration of one sack of wheat, three kilograms of beans, and a gallon of cooking oil - but there is not enough food to sustain them. Hunger, combined with the dire living conditions in the camp, is taking its toll, particularly on the children.

"We are very grateful for the assistance we have received from Islamic Relief Yemen. Without their help, we would have nothing to eat. Even though the food ration is not enough, it is still very important for us. It helps us to survive and gives us hope for a better future."

Despite the challenges they face, they remain hopeful for the future.

"We hope that the conflict will end soon, so that we can return to our homes and live a normal life. Until then, we are grateful for the support we have received from Islamic Relief Yemen and others who are working to help families like ours."

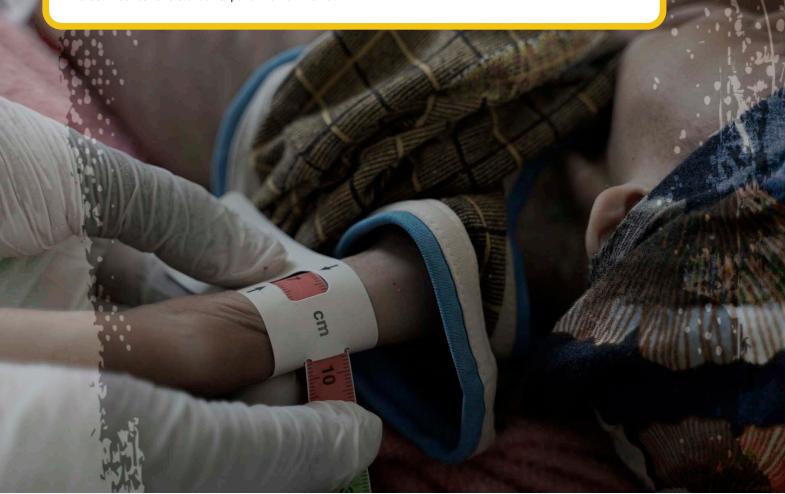
FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

Our food security and livelihoods programme helps communities in two ways: first, by providing them with essential food aid, and secondly, by working with them to develop sustainable livelihoods. In 2022, we implemented 22 projects in this area, reaching 55,776 people.

Islamic Relief Yemen strives to find lasting solutions to the economic and social challenges people face, and to ensure that no one suffers from hunger. Our ultimate aim is to lift families and communities out of poverty, and that means empowering them to become self-reliant.

To achieve this, we offer people cash grants and interest-free loans to start or expand their own small businesses, and we provide them with the training and equipment they need to succeed. We also continue to distribute emergency food packages to the most vulnerable families.

Support for small businesses is just one aspect of our long-term projects, which also include empowering women in vulnerable households to establish their own businesses with business training, plans, and starter kits. We support farmers with livestock, technical guidance, and irrigation schemes to generate income and promote sustainable farming practices. Our goal is to provide long-term resilience in rural areas, improve access to markets, and promote sustainability.



Facing malnutrition head-on: A child in Al-Hodeida is measured to assess the severity of his acute malnutrition and guide the treatment needed. Widespread malnutrition is just one of the devastating consequences of Yemen's ongoing crisis.



Hands up for a better learning environment: Children enjoying their new school in the village of Naibat Al Orbi, built by the local community with funding from Islamic Relief



Opportunities to earn an income are hard to find for many in Yemen, but Basheer takes pride in having found work building a new school in his home village – thanks to Islamic Relief Yemen.

Basheer, a 42-year-old father of six, benefited from one of our cash for work projects in the village of Naibat Al Orbi in Zabeen district, Al-Hodeida governorate. These projects aim to help build or improve infrastructure to benefit the entire community, while boosting the livelihoods of local people through short-term employment opportunities.

Basheer was employed as a labourer for three months to help build the school. He earned 60,000 Yemeni rials (about \$100) per month, using the money to buy food, medicine and clothes for his family.

Before the project, Basheer's children did not have a school to go to. They used to study in a small yard whose owner would also use it for his livestock when he came back from the city, forcing parents to take their children elsewhere. The nearest school was simply too far away and too expensive.

"Education is very important for our children's future," says Basheer. "It was very hard for my children to study in such conditions. They had no desks, chairs, books or teachers."

The new school has four classrooms, a water tank and a latrine. It can accommodate up to 200 students of primary school age. "My children are very happy now," says Basheer. "They go to school every day with enthusiasm. They have a proper place to learn and play. They are more confident and hopeful about their future."





"The price of everything these days has skyrocketed to the point that we have barely been able to afford the basics to survive. A sack of flour costs 20,000 REY (about \$40) and keeps us going for just 10 days," he says, explaining that mothers going hungry means breastfeeding is harder, resulting in children also becoming malnourished.

Having already lost four of his children to malnutrition, Jubree was devastated when his youngest, Yassir, was diagnosed with severe acute malnutrition at just six months old. Their local hospital, Al-Zuhrah Hospital, lacked the resources to treat the infant, but then an Islamic Relief project offered a lifeline.

Thanks to our support for a health facility in Al-Moaras, including providing medicine and medical supplies, little Yassir and his surviving siblings are now receiving therapeutic feeding treatments for malnutrition, to their father's great relief.

"I hope that this health facility will receive more support in order to be able to continue providing adequate medicine and nutritious food supplies to children and mothers suffering from severe acute malnutrition."



Delivering hope: A health worker in Al-Hodeida governorate smiles as he receives vital medicines and supplies from Islamic Relief, enabling him to provide lifesaving care to those in need



and the conflict. We also equipped health facilities



College student Ali, 26, used to work on his family's farm in Bait Al-Badawi village, Amran governorate. Now he is a health worker in the health facility through a project implemented by Islamic Relief Yemen, that is improving healthcare in his community.

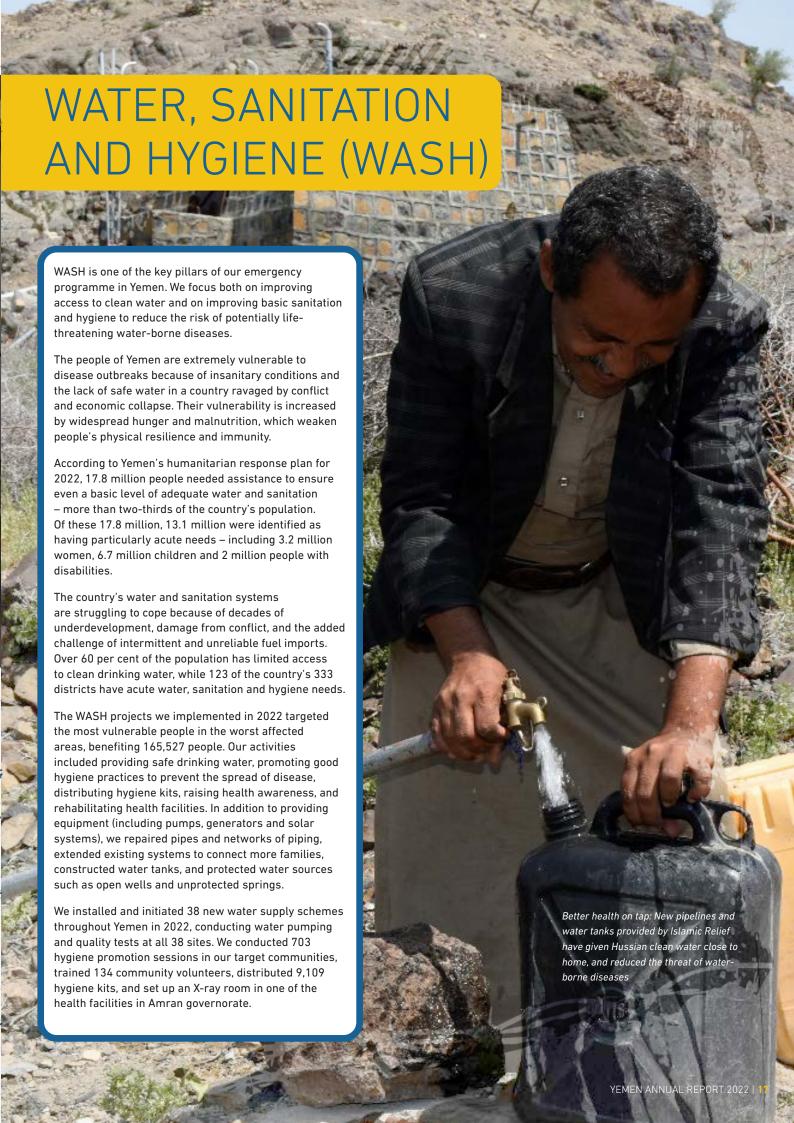
"I experienced first-hand the lack of access to clean water, healthcare, medicine, food and livelihoods in my community," says Ali. "The local hospital lacked the proper medical equipment to accept new patients, so patients had to travel long distances to Amran city for treatment."

Then Islamic Relief began an intervention to boost access to healthcare at Ali's hospital, Al-Sararh Rural Hospital.

We equipped the hospital with essential equipment including an X-ray unit, a defibrillator, and a neonatal warmer. We also provided salary support to enable healthcare workers to keep working."I feel proud of my work and the impact I have on the patients' lives," he adds. "I hope that Islamic Relief Yemen will continue to support the poor in our community and the hospital so that the community can continue to improve their healthcare services."



Quenching thirst, restoring hope: Islamic Relief Yemen provides access to clean drinking water, bringing relief to one of the villages in need in Amran governorate



HUSSIAN'S STORY

"Our donkeys are exhausted from carrying jerry cans filled with water for long distances," says Hussian, who turned to livestock as a source of income when his salary was suspended due to the conflict.

The father-of-five lives in Swiar district, Amran governorate, where clean drinking water is often difficult to find. Drought causes water shortages, making it difficult to grow food for people and animals alike. Without clean water, deadly diseases such as cholera, malaria and diarrhoea spread easily in communities. Women and children often find their days dominated by the gruelling task of fetching water.

After Hussian's donkey died of exhaustion from constantly fetching water, he and his family had the back-breaking task of carrying the water home themselves.

But then Islamic Relief made it possible for local people to get the water they need closer to home. We installed new solar power systems, pipelines and water tanks – and Hussian played a crucial role, as a member of one of the community committees that worked tirelessly to ensure the project succeeded.

Through their efforts, the spectre of thirst and disease has been eliminated. The water pipeline we installed passes within 15 metres of Hussian's home, and he now takes care of his sheep comfortably in the knowledge that his family and livestock have clean water to drink.

"We are now comfortable and delighted thanks to the great efforts exerted by Islamic Relief Yemen," Hussian says. "They provided us with a solar system, water pipelines, and water tanks, the kind of project we've not had for my whole life."

The water project implemented by Islamic Relief Yemen was the biggest achievement in Swiar district, where access to clean water is scarce. Hussian hopes to see more projects of this kind in his village, as well as improvements to education and healthcare provision. He extends his gratitude to Islamic Relief Yemen and calls on other international organisations to implement similar activities.

In Hussian's own words: "We really thank Islamic Relief Yemen and Islamic Relief Canada for this support."

ARWA'S STORY

Arwa, a woman in her 40s, is taking care of five orphaned children under the age of 14, left for her to look after when her sister passed away. Each day Arwa gets up early in the morning to read the Qur'an, before doing housework and preparing breakfast for her family, as well as helping the children with their schoolwork.

"I consider these children as my own, and they look at me as their mother rather than their aunt," she says.

The family also includes Ahmed, who is the children's grandfather and Arwa's father. They rely on the modest rent from a property he owns as their main source of income. They also receive vital support from our orphan sponsorship programme, to help provide for the children – particularly their education.

Arwa says the children's living conditions have improved thanks to our sponsorship, but the family sometimes struggle to make ends meet. Despite this, the children are all doing well in school.

The family lacks clean drinking water close to home, and their home has no electricity supply. The oldest girl is suffering from nasal polyps, but the family cannot afford the cost of the operation she needs to have them removed.

Before the conflict, Arwa's and her sister's families lived in much better conditions, with better access to food, healthcare, electricity and water. However, the impact of the conflict has been severe, plunging Arwa and Ahmed deeper into poverty.

Arwa hopes that the conflict will end so that her family and others in similar circumstances can return to a more stable life. Islamic Relief Yemen has been a lifeline for the family, providing sponsorship and support through various projects. "If Islamic Relief was not here to help, our children would have suffered a lot," she says.

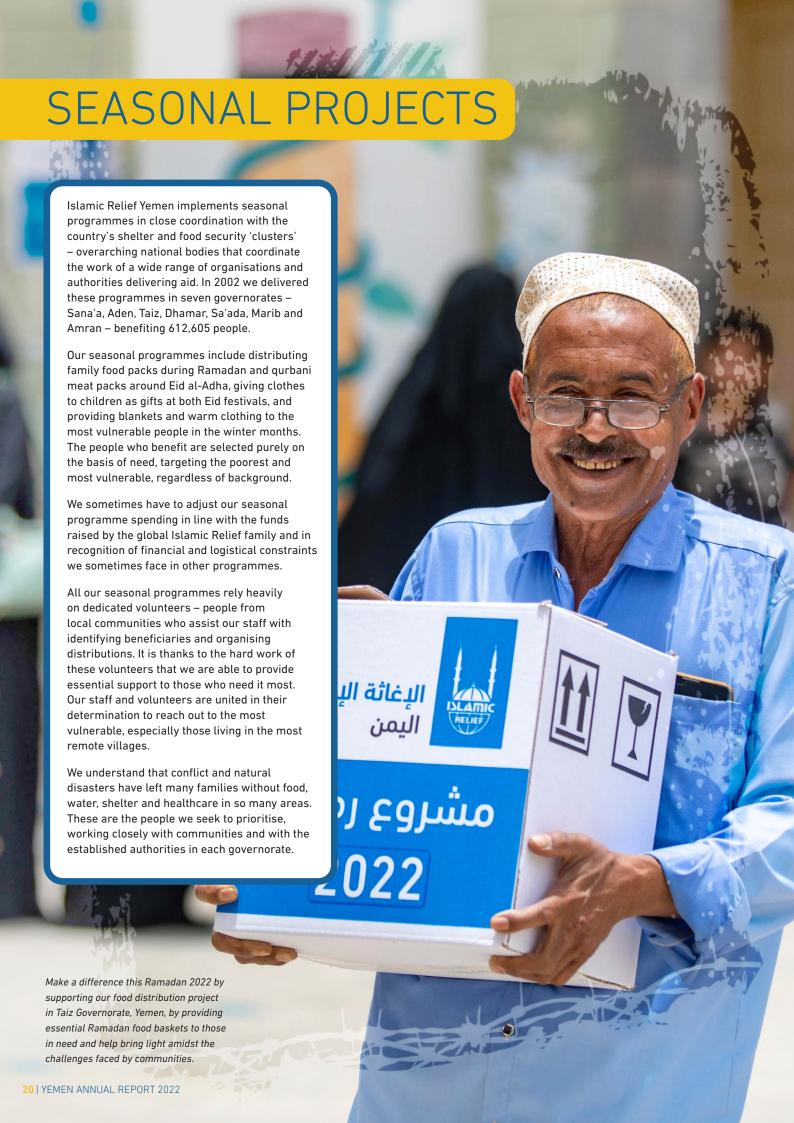


Our orphan and child welfare programme continues to grow, despite the many challenges facing our staff and the communities they serve. We aim to support the most vulnerable children, with our definition of orphans extending both to those who have lost both parents and those who have lost the family's main breadwinner.

In 2022 we expanded our activities in four governorates in particular: Sana'a, Sa'ada, Aden and Taiz. We enrolled more than 1,300 new orphans, reaching a total number of 21,004 children throughout Yemen sponsored by donors across the world.

Our programme supports the wellbeing of sponsored children of all ages and abilities and their families by giving them access to education, health, nutrition, protection and shelter, as well as sustainable livelihoods. Every child deserves the best start in life, and we try to ensure that some of Yemen's most vulnerable children have a chance to develop to their full potential.

Covering the cost of education: Arwa (left) dotes on the five orphaned children she cares for, but would struggle to clothe them and send them to school without Islamic Relief's orphan sponsorship





Hussien and his sisters attend school thanks to the monthly sponsorship their mother receives from Islamic Relief Yemen, which covers their tuition fees. Life is still a struggle in many ways, but Hussien is dreaming of a better future.

"We have difficulties paying for books and school uniforms," he says.
"But I wish to be a doctor and a poet in the future. I hope that Islamic
Relief Yemen will continue its support."

As well as getting help with the cost of education, Hussien's family has benefited from our distributions of warm clothing in the winter months, including coats, scarves, gloves and hats.

"Islamic Relief Yemen has supported us financially, and our living conditions have improved, but we still face food and water shortages," he says. "When we face difficult times, we must have patience and appreciate everything our beloved mother does for us.

"My sincere gratitude is extended to Islamic Relief and the donors. May Allah (SWT) accept their good deeds, and give them more from the treasuries of his kingdom."



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