

► Multisectral Needs Assessment in Ahwar, Jayshan, Khanfar, Sarar and Zinjibar Districts_Abyan Governorate.



Research Unit
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Multi-Sectoral Needs Assessment, in Khanfar, Zinjibar, Sarar, Ahwar & Jayshan Districts, Abyan Governorate

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List of abbreviations

HHs	Households
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
IDPs	Internally Displaced People
INGOs	International Non-Governmental Organizations
IOM	International Organization for Migration
KAP	Knowledge, Attitude, & Practice
MSNA	Multi-Sector Needs Assessment
NFIs	Non-food Items
NGOs	National Non-Governmental Organizations
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
YFCA	Yemen Family Care Association

Executive Summary

The Governorate of Abyan shares boundaries with Aden, Al-Dhali'a, Al-Beidha and Shabwa. The area of Abyan Governorate is 16,943 km². The governorate is comprised of 11 districts; with Khanfar being the largest district and Zinjibar being the capital, and has a total population of 664,732. According to secondary data, Abyan governorate suffers at level of all sectors that assessed in this assessment (Livelihoods & Food Security, Water Sanitation and Hygiene WASH, Shelter, Education, Protection, and Health & Nutrition).

The overall objective is to gain a comprehensive understanding of the humanitarian needs in Abyan governorate and develop sustainable solutions to address them, taking into account geographic location and gender differences. The insights gained will inform key donors, clusters, and the wider humanitarian response in Yemen, while the specific objectives are:

- To assess the current humanitarian situation in five districts of Abyan governorate, including identifying gaps in living standards, coping strategies used, and the severity and extent of multi-sectoral needs
- To identify current and expected priority needs in livelihoods, food security, health and nutrition, WASH, education, protection, and shelter.
- To examine how these needs, vary by geographic location (i.e., district) and gender

Within the five districts (mentioned above) about 68 villages and neighborhoods have been targeted in this assessment. Thematically, all active sectors (Livelihoods, Food Security, Water Sanitation and Hygiene WASH, Shelter, Education, Protection, and Health & Nutrition) were covered in the MSNA tool.

A quantitative (HHs questionnaire) & qualitative approach (KIs tools) have been used to obtain the data that serve at achieving the essential objectives of this assessment, and the random & purposeful sampling techniques were used in selecting the respondents. 754 household surveys were collected in-person from Feb 5th to Feb 22nd 2023 by YFCA enumerators trained on the specificities and handling the MSNA questionnaire tool. Primary data was collected simultaneously across all districts, and a desk review of secondary data was conducted using sources from UN agencies, humanitarian clusters, NGOs, and government sources to supplement and contextualize the findings of the MSNA.

Equally of male & female respondents have been targeted in this assessment, while as for the head of the households, females represent 36% of the total. 79% of households' heads are married, 61% of them in age between 31 & 50, and 54% have vulnerability. The total number of surveyed households' individuals is 5177, 51% of them are females, while 49% are males, and the average number of households' members is seven members.

Livelihoods & Food Security

The main livelihoods activities in Abyan are agriculture (producing around 4.7% of the country's total agricultural products), fisheries, livestock breeding, and beekeeping. The five selected

districts in this assessment have Emergency IPC Phase (Phase 4) according to IPC, Yemen, Dec 2022.

According to the findings, the three main sources of income are daily wage work with 39%, followed by a government/retirement salary with 24%, then the livestock with 19%. There are other income sources in addition to the three main sources, such as; collecting firewood for sale with 5%, private work / motorcycle / taxi with 4%, agriculture with 2%, handcrafts with 2%, etc.

In 70% of surveyed households, one person is responsible for the household income (80% in Jayshan, 80% in Zinjibar, 79% in Khanfar, 54% in Sarar, and 32% in Ahwar), while in 18% of them, two persons are responsible for the household income, but there are 10% of households have nobody who responsible for the household income.

Less than 50,000 YR is the average of monthly income for 55% of surveyed households, between 50,000 and 100,000 YR for 28% of households, and between 100,000 and 150,000 YR for 14% of surveyed households.

The majority of the surveyed families in rural districts such as Sarar, Jayshan and Ahwar work in livestock breeding, with 97%, 94%, and 69% respectively, while in urban districts such as Khanfar and Zinjibar, the percentage of workers in Livestock breeding does not exceed 50% at the district level (41% in Zinjibar and 17% in Khanfar). However, not all surveyed households raise livestock to benefit from it as a source of income, where many households (33% of total households) raise livestock for their personal consumption (as a source of food).

Agriculture is considered one of the most important livelihoods and sources of income in Abyan Governorate in general, and in the targeted districts, according to secondary data and also according to what was mentioned in the implemented KIIs, especially the districts of Khanfar and Zinjibar, which contains the Abyan Delta, which is one of the most fertile agricultural areas in Yemen. In addition to the fact that agriculture is one of the livelihoods in the targeted districts, it is also one of the most important sources of food, as confirmed by the representatives of the districts who were interviewed.

Due to the lack of job opportunities, very minimal wages, far away of the areas that provide jobs, irregular salaries payment, and the high prices, 82% of the households faced challenges getting enough money to meet their needs (96% in Jayshan, 88% in Khanfar, 86% in Ahwar, 77% in Sarar, and 63% in Zinjibar). In order to coping this income shortage, 69% total households borrowed money, 64% of them reduce the level of health care, medicine and education expenses, 61% spend their saved money, 38% sell productive goods/assets such as sewing machine, tools/machinery, furniture, car, livestock, land, house, etc., and 28% of them sell assets and properties such as television, jewelry, etc.

Jayshan district suffers greatly from the issue of markets do not operate normally in the district with 99%, followed by Ahwar district with 27%, then Khanfar district with 25%. 100% in Jayshan, 99% in Sarar, 52% in Ahwar, 45% in Khanfar, and 21% in Zinjibar, cannot access the markets all the time, especially women.

The vast majority of respondents depend on markets as a main source of food, which they buy on credit 87% or cash 66%. 45% of surveyed households have poor FCS, while 76% of them have high reduced coping strategy index.

➤ **Recommendations**

- Implementing Cash-for-Work projects to;
- Supporting Livestock
- Support and Encourage Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs)
- Support & Encourage the Agriculture
- Urgent Cash or Food Basket Assistance

WASH

The main source of water used by households for drinking is piped water into the compound, with 58%, and for other purposes with 62%. Piped water supply into the household compound is the primary source of water for drinking and other purposes in three of the five districts, Ahwar, Khanfar and Zinjibar. In these districts, over 67-90% of households rely on piped water for both drinking and other needs. In contrast, the districts of Jayshan and Sarar have lower access to piped water supply. In Jayshan, unprotected wells are the primary source of water for drinking (73%) and other needs (69%) for households. This represents a major public health concern as unprotected wells are considered unimproved sources that often provide contaminated water. In Sarar, harvested rainwater is the main source of water for nearly half the households for both drinking and other needs.

The water scarcity is a significant issue in the targeted districts, with a 25% of households reporting water shortages in the past month (Ahwar 56%, Khanfar 28%, Jayshan 28%, & Zinjibar 15%). Borrowing water from neighbors and reducing water consumption were the most common adaptation strategies.

The majority of households reported that the water is safe to drink (70%), but there are significant disparities in the evaluation of drinking water quality across the districts, where, 28% of households said that the taste of drinking water is poor, as well as 2% reported that the water causes health issues such as diarrhea.

The access to and availability of proper sanitation facilities are significant challenges in the targeted districts, with non-flush toilets and pits without lids being the most common types of facilities used. Open defecation is still practiced by a significant portion of the population in some districts.

35% of respondents report no sanitation issues (Jayshan 90%, Ahwar 35%, Sarar 34%, Zinjibar 28% & Khanfar 20%), while 65% of them report the opposite (56% of them report the trash in the streets, 8% report the sewage flowing into the streets, and 35% of them report both as the main sanitation issue).

Poverty is a significant barrier to accessing hygiene items, with the inability to afford them being the primary issue cited, where, the majority of respondents across all districts and genders have

reported difficulty obtaining hygiene items, with 71% (Jayshan 97%, Ahwar 81%, Sarar 68%, Khanfar 65%, & Zinjibar 62%).

➤ **Recommendations**

- Improve piped water access
- Maintenance the public water network & tanks
- Construction of rainwater harvesting tanks, dams, etc. to overcome the water scarcity issue
- Proper filtration or chemical treatment (chlorination) of the water to improve the quality (taste, odor, & appearance) of water
- Improve access to the hygiene items
- Knowledge, Attitude, & Practice (KAP) activities, should be included in any WASH projects
- Constructing the sanitation network in the districts which have no such network
- Hygiene & waste management campaigns

Health & Nutrition

There are number of challenges faced by 46% of the respondents that hinder their access to health facilities, and these difficulties increase in rural districts such as Jayshan, Sarar, Ahwar, and rural areas that targeted in Khanfar district. These challenges are; lack of money to pay for health care 77%, lack of medical supplies 54%, shortage of medical staff 46%, lack of transportation 28%, and the remoteness of health facilities 27%.

41% of respondents reported that at least one member of their families has been suffered from health problems such as diarrhea or fever during the past two weeks (Jayshan 82%, Ahwar 62%, Zinjibar 47%, Khanfar 26%, & Sarar 13%), while 35% of them indicated that there are members in their families have chronic diseases (Ahwar 61%, Zinjibar 40%, Khanfar 35%, Jayshan 28%, & Sarar 9%)

At the household level, 5% of respondents reported that, they have children under the age of two in their families who have been diagnosed with malnutrition (Jayshan 11%, Ahwar 8%, Zinjibar 6%, and Khanfar 4%), while at the district level, 42% of respondents indicated that there are malnutrition cases in their districts (Jayshan 80%, Ahwar 52%, Khanfar 41%, and Zinjibar 39%). the vast majority of respondents indicated that malnutrition cases are treated in health centers in the districts.

➤ **Recommendations**

- Constructing, furnishing, and equipping the rural hospital Jayshan & Sarar Districts
- Providing mobile clinics providing health services for free, in villages far from health facilities
- Supporting health facilities with medical devices, supplies, and medicines needed by the community, provided that the health facility provides its services for free
- Developing the skills of the medical staff in health facilities through training in all fields, especially the field of therapeutic nutrition
- Implementation of a nutrition project in the targeted districts

- Inventory and registration of cases of chronic diseases, and the provision of periodic examinations and medicines necessary for these cases in the nearby health facilities so that they are disbursed monthly to patients free of charge

Education

72% of respondents in the five targeted districts have school-age children, and most of them send their children to school, indicating the importance of education. However, there are still barriers preventing some children from accessing education, and there are significant differences between districts in terms of parents with school-aged children and those who do not send their children to school.

The Main Reasons for The Children Not Going to School:

- Can't afford school: Overall, 83% of respondents listed this as a reason, with a higher percentage among males (89%) compared to females (78%).
- School supplies shortage: Overall, 42% of respondents listed this as a reason, with a higher percentage among females (63%) compared to males (19%).
- Children work to help their parents instead of studying: Overall, 24% of respondents listed this as a reason, with a higher percentage among males (30%) compared to females (19%).

From the view point of the representatives of education offices interviewed the main reasons of school dropout are:

- Difficult financial conditions of the most households and their inability to afford schools, transportation, bags, notebooks, & pens, etc.
- The lack of textbooks and teaching staff.
- The remoteness of the schools from some areas & villages, as well as the rugged roads and lack of transportation or its high cost if any.

Children's cash assistance, which includes support for transportation and school fees, is the highest priority need at 80%. This suggests that many families in the region may struggle to afford the costs associated with sending their children to school, and that targeted financial assistance is needed to ensure that all children can access education. The need for textbooks and other school materials is also urgent, with 71% & 52% respectively of respondents identifying this as a priority need. In addition to financial and material support, the data also highlights the need for staff provision and support, where, 47% of respondents identified this as an urgent need, suggesting that there may be a shortage of trained educators in the region. The education needs vary in scope and priority across districts; hence, tailored solutions are needed for each district.

➤ Recommendations

- Provide targeted financial assistance to families and students,
- Ensure access to textbooks and other school materials
- Attract and retain qualified staff
- Providing laboratories, educational aids, & solar systems to schools
- Provide nutritional support for children in schools.

- Rehabilitation of the dilapidated & reoperation of the closed schools
- Construction the additional classrooms in schools in need to expansion especially the secondary schools

Protection

10% of respondents reported that they face difficulties in obtaining civil documents such as identity cards, birth and/or marriage certificates. At district-level of data analysis, Jayshan district with 29% is the top (24% males & 34% females), followed by Ahwar district with 20% (30% males & 10% females), then Zinjibar district with 9% (8% males & 9% females), Sarar district with 4% (2% males & 6% females), and finally Khanfar district with 3% (2% males & 5% females). It is noted from the previous percentages that females suffer more than males with regard to obtaining civil documents in all targeted districts except for Ahwar district, where the percentage of males (30%) was more than the percentage of females (10%). As for the reasons of that difficulties, the most common reasons that reported by respondents are very complex process and takes time with 67%, civil registry difficult accessible with 36%, and the people not familiar with the procedures with 16%.

It should also be noted here that other reasons were mentioned by some districts exceptionally, where 30% of Khanfar respondents indicated that they face difficulties in obtaining civil documents because they are IDPs, while 25% of Ahwar district respondents reported that they do not have the costs of obtaining civil documents.

➤ Recommendations

- Simplify the procedures of obtaining official civil documents
- Opening the civil registry office in Jayshan & Sarar Districts
- Opening service points affiliated with the civil registry in rural areas far from district centers
- Providing services with free or nominal fees
- Finding effective solutions regarding IDPs' access to such important civil documents
- Reoperation of closed civil registry offices, if there are, in targeted districts
- Accurate and documented enumeration of cases of unaccompanied children by the district administration
- Supporting the girl's basic and secondary education in terms of food and cash to avoid early marriage

Shelter

This part of the assessment targeted the IDPs in the districts of Khanfar and Zinjibar only because they are considered among the most districts in Abyan in particular and in Yemen in general in hosting the displaced since the beginning of the crisis in Yemen, where the total IDPs in Khanfar is 20,013 individuals, and in Zinjibar 12,284. The targeted numbers of IDPs households was 152 households (101 HHs in Khanfar & 51 HHs in Zinjibar, that represented 33% of the targeted households of Khanfar & Zinjibar districts and 20% of the overall surveyed households).

30% of overall surveyed IDPs households accommodated in an unofficial and unplanned camp (males respondents with 44% & females with 16%), 26% in a damaged rented house (males

respondents with 20% & females with 31%), 25% in an undamaged rented house (males respondents with 20% & females with 30%), 11% in an official and planned camp (males respondents with 9% & females with 12%). As for the general structural shelter condition, 68% of total targeted IDPs shelters in a poor condition, and 32% in an acceptable condition. 91% of Khanfar IDPs have electricity in their shelter (86% of male respondents & 96% of females), while 82% of Zinjibar IDPs have no (81% of male respondents & 84% of females).

The source of electricity is a public network (governmental), as indicated by 100% of respondents who have electricity in their shelter. Regarding the cooking fuel, the firewood is the most fuel used by the targeted IDPs with 62% (75% of male respondents & 48% of females), followed by the gas with 19% (7% of male respondents & 31% of females), then the kerosene with 15% (16% of male respondents & 14% of females), and finally the coal with 4%.

77% of the targeted IDPs reported that they have shelter urgent needs, 87% in Khanfar (96% of male respondents & 79% of females) and 57% in Zinjibar (54% of male respondents & 60% of females). As for the type of shelter needs, at total level analysis 58% of surveyed IDPs indicated that they need a rent subsidy, 31% of them need shelter maintenance/rehabilitation, 6% need transitional shelter, 3% need shelter expansion & NFIs, and 2% need emergency shelter.

➤ Recommendations

- Rent subsidy & shelter rehabilitation for IDPs live in rented house
- Shelter maintenance for IDPs live in camps
- Distribution of NFIs for all IDPs in Khanfar & Zinjibar
- Monthly distribution for cooking fuel

Humanitarian Aid

75% of surveyed households had not received any aid during the six months preceding this assessment (Jayshan 98%, Zinjibar 87%, Khanfar 86%, Ahwar 57%, & Sarar 23%). As for the type of assistance that the respondents received, it was 100% in-kind assistance, with the exception of the assistance received by the female respondents in Ahwar district, where 47% of them received in-kind assistance and 53% received cash assistance. As well as the assistance received by the respondents in Khanfar district, where 62% of the males received In-kind assistance, 19% cash assistance, and 19% both types of assistance, while 78% of females received in-kind assistance, 17% cash assistance and 6% both types.

65% of respondents reported that the cash assistance is the urgently need for their households, while 28% of them said the urgently need for their households is the food assistance.

I. Introduction

This report presents the main findings of the Multi-Sectoral Needs Assessment MSNA, implemented by Yemen Family Care Association YFCA to understand the humanitarian needs in Abyan governorate, to inform key donors, clusters and the humanitarian response in Yemen more generally.

1.1. Background & Context

The Governorate of Abyan shares boundaries with Aden, Al-Dhali'a, Al-Beidha and Shabwa. The area of Abyan Governorate is 16,943 km². The governorate is comprised of 11 districts; with Khanfar being the largest district and Zinjibar being the capital, and has a total population of 664,732¹. Abyan has a diverse landscape; the northern part is mountainous and the southern part is a coastal plain. A number of valleys (wadi) run into this governorate, most prominent of which is Wadi Bana that constitutes the Abyan Delta which is the most fertile area in Yemen. The governorate has two types of climate; the mountainous regions have a moderate to warm climate in the summer and cold in the winter. As for the southern parts, they are hot in summer and mild in winter. This governorate is known for its production of cotton, agriculture and farming. The economy of Abyan depends highly on agriculture, livestock, fisheries and people working in the private and public sector. There are six main tribes in Abyan are shown in the table below².

Table 1 The Main Tribes in Abyan

Tribe	Details
Al-Fadli Tribe	This tribe can be found mostly in Zinjibar. In Khanfar, they are mostly in the southern and eastern parts of the district. Within this tribe, there is also the Shadad sub-tribe which is mostly found in Hisn Shadad village (Zinjibar)
Yafe'e Bany Kasid Tribe	This tribe can be found in Khanfar district
Marakshah Tribe	Mostly found on Al-Marakshah mountains in eastern part of Khanfar
Alah Tribe	Mostly found in Jayshan and Al-Wadea districts
Awadhel Tribe	Mostly found in Lawdar district
Al-Kazmi Tribe	Mostly found in Ahwar and Mahfad districts
Zabod	Are originally from Tehama (Hodeidah) and migrated to settle in the coastal areas in Abyan
Hajor	Derive their name from Hajr Valley in Hadhramout and they are spread throughout Abyan governorate

Five districts were selected from Abyan governorate to carry out this assessment, namely; (Ahwar, Jayshan, Khanfar, Sarar, and Zinjibar), because their (IPC Phase 4); i.e. Emergency Phase³, the active

¹ All numbers of population according to the UN Final Population Projection Dataset, Yemen 2023

² Community Profiling Governorate of Abyan, Zinjibar & Khanfar Districts, OCHA

³ IPC, Yemen, Dec 2022

displacement in Khanfar & Zinjibar districts, and as well as, to expansion the YFCA coverage area by targeting districts such as Ahwar, Jayshan & Sarar for a first time.

1.1.1. An Overview About the Targeted Districts

Ahwar

Ahwar is located in the middle between Shuqra and Wadi Mayfa'a. The area of Ahwar district is 4384 km², and has a total population of 36,228. It occupies a leading production position represented by its agricultural, fish, animal and bee wealth, as the Ahwar district is considered one of the largest districts in the governorate in terms of its vast agricultural area and its economic wealth, in the field of huge fish and animal wealth, it is an area with a lot of rain, and therefore the torrents cause many problems, including what happened in 1996: the torrential rains led to the expansion of the "Wadi Ahwar" basin, bringing the average width of the valley to more than one and a quarter kilometers. kilometer (1250 meters), while its width did not exceed three-quarters of a kilometer (750 meters). Among the most famous products of Wadi Ahwar are: dates, grains, sesame, and other products. Recently, dozens of lands in this valley have been suffering from severe drought due to the flow of torrential waters into the sea, without benefiting agricultural lands.

As for the most important towns and villages of Ahwar, including: the market of capital of Ahwar district, Al-Bahbah, Khumour, Al-Yahawiya, Hanath, Al-Mahsama, Al-Rawadal, Ruwais, Hisn Al-Tami, Al-Ja'ash, Al-Naeem, Hisn Bin Hariba, Hotat Al-Madarik, Hisn Al-Bandar Belaid, the village of Al-Malha, Al-Makhshaf, Al-Gharib, Al-Jathwa, Al-Shaqah, and other small villages that consist of modest houses built mostly from mud. It should be noted that the district of Ahwar has a small marina, which is used by sailboats⁴.

Jayshan

Jayshan District is located in the northeastern corner of the map of Abyan Governorate. It is bordered to the east and north by Shabwah Governorate, to the west by Al Bayda Governorate, and to the south by the districts of Mudiya and Lawdar. The area of Jayshan is 824 Km², and has a total population of 21,563. The majority of the people of Jayshan district work in grazing (livestock) and agriculture, and Jayshan agricultural products vary between grains such as wheat, millet, sorghum, sesame, and beekeeping, where honey is considered one of the best types of honey, especially the honey that is produced in the village of Wasr.

The valleys abound in two armies, including Wadi Dhara, which is the largest of the valleys, Wadi Azmar, Rehab, Jaberah, Tarraq, Amsnad, and all these valleys flow into the Shabwah governorate. Jayshan is a mountainous area with a height of about 1,500 meters above sea level, and Mount (Marsi) is one of its most important features, in addition to Al Aidh (2356 m), Jabal Mirmal (2326 m), Jabal Halak (2316 m), Qarn al Maldah (2192 m), Al `Awl Mishar (2188 m). Being from the central

⁴ <https://www.khuyut.com/blog/ahwar-abyan>

highlands, the climate is mild in summer and cold in winter. Rain falls seasonally in the summer and autumn seasons.

Khanfar

Khanfar district is the largest district of Abyan governorate, and it contains the city of Ja'ar, the capital of Khanfar district. Khanfar has a total population of 174,438. Ja'ar is a small city and capital of Khanfar District in south-western Yemen. One of the largest settlements, the largest and most important city of Abyan governorate, it is located in the south of the Abyan governorate to the north of Al Kawd and the regional capital of Zinjibar. The town is located about 2 kilometers east of the right bank of the Wadi Bana. Khanfar is a southern suburb of the town, noted for its ceramics and munitions production.

The main livelihoods activity in Khanfar district are; the trade, work for daily wages, producing & selling agricultural crops (grains, vegetables, and fruits), and smaller manufacturing, such as sesame oil production livestock, and fishing, etc.⁵

Wadi Bana, it is one of the most prolific valleys in Yemen, as it has many tributaries that come from the rainiest areas in Yemen. The valley pours into Abyan Governorate, where it irrigates the largest delta in Yemen, which is the Abyan Delta, in addition to Wadi Hassan. There are a number of mountains in the district the most famous; Jabal Al `Urays (1655 m), Jabal Qadam (874 m), and Jabal Khanfar (123 m).

Zinjibar

Zinjibar is the capital of Abyan Governorate, located on the southern coast of Yemen, bordering Aden to the east. The port city and historical trading center of Zinjibar, located 60 km northeast of Aden in southcentral Yemen, is the capital of Zinjibar District and Abyan Governorate, has a total population of 45,239. Long considered a strategic entry point to Aden, Zinjibar is in the Abyan Project Delta, an artificial spate irrigation delta comprising approximately 40,000 hectares of irrigable land, found between Wadi Bana and Wadi Hasan. Following the introduction of cotton in the 1940s, Abyan quickly became the country's biggest agricultural area. Over the course of the conflict in Yemen, the city has seen fierce clashes between warring factions, leading to numerous damaged buildings, crippled infrastructure, and a power and water network left for ruins. City residents frequently warn visitors not to try and approach certain areas within the city because of the overwhelming presence of landmines. During the time of armed clashes, it was estimated 27.5 percent of the urban population had been displaced⁶.

The main livelihoods activity in Zinjibar district are; the government jobs (the military and civilian sectors), private sector jobs, work for daily wages, agricultural crops, and fishing⁷.

⁵ Khanfar District's Agriculture Office Manager, KII, May 21, 2023

⁶ Zinjibar City Profile, UN-Habitat, 2020

⁷ Zinjibar District's Agriculture Office Representative, KII, May, 22, 2023



Sarar district, which is one of the districts located in the areas with mountainous terrain stationed in the north & northwest of Abyan Governorate, where these areas are characterized by the abundance of high mountains in them. The area of Sarar is 746 km², and has a total population of 22,066. Jabal al-Hamr (2044 m) and Jabal Al-Bada (1952 m), Jabal Manwar (1699 m), and Jabal Masud (1288 m) are all in Sarar district. Wadi Hattat also passes through the Sarar district, and it is one of the most important valleys in Abyan Governorate.

The main livelihoods activity in Sarar district are; the government jobs, work for daily wages, livestock, and immigration. The agriculture deteriorated significantly in Sarar district because of, from time to time, many areas and villages of the district are exposed to severe drought, which causes the destruction of crops and animals and the displacement of many people to other places in search of about water, as well as the lack of dams and public rainwater harvesting tanks, and complete absence of support for the agricultural sector and farmers in the district⁸.

1.2. Assessment Objectives

❖ Overall objective

The overall objective is to gain a comprehensive understanding of the humanitarian needs in Abyan governorate and develop sustainable solutions to address them, taking into account geographic location and gender differences. The insights gained will inform key donors, clusters, and the wider humanitarian response in Yemen.

❖ Specific objectives:

- To assess the current humanitarian situation in five districts of Abyan governorate, including identifying gaps in living standards, coping strategies used, and the severity and extent of multi-sectoral needs
- To identify current and expected priority needs in livelihoods, food security, health and nutrition, WASH, education, protection, and shelter.
- To examine how these needs, vary by geographic location (i.e., district) and gender.

1.3. Assessment Scope

1.3.1. Geographical Scope

The MSNA was carried out in five districts (*Ahwar, Jayshan, Khanfar, Zinjibar and Sarar*) of Abyan governorate. Within these locations, efforts were made to reach the all groups of community in more than 60 neighborhoods & villages.

The table in the [Annex \(targeted neighborhoods & villages\)](#) shows the targeted neighborhoods & villages within each district (68 in total).

⁸ Sarar District Manager, KII, May 21, 2023



Photo 1 The Targeted Districts (dark blue highlight)

1.3.2. Time Scope

The following table shows the time scope of preliminary preparations and data collection process

Table 2 Assessment Time Scope

Activity	Period
Data Collectors Training	Jan 28 to 30, 2023
Coordination with Authorities	Jan 31 to Feb 2, 2023
Quantitative Data Collection	Feb 5 to 22, 2023
Qualitative Data Collection	May 21 to 25, 2023

1.3.3. Thematic Scope

Thematically, all active sectors (Livelihoods, Food Security, Water Sanitation and Hygiene WASH, Shelter, Education, Protection, and Health & Nutrition) were covered in the MSNA tool.

II. Methodology

House to house survey has been implemented to collect the required data, and guided by the objectives of the assessment, a quantitative approach had been adopted to obtain the data that serve at achieving the essential objectives of this assessment. The data were electronically collected by using the KoBoToolbox platform. Data collectors were trained and then piloted the tool before they were given access. As well as a qualitative approach (KIIs tools) has been used to synergism the quantitative findings.

2.1. Assessment Tools

2.1.1. Quantitative Tool

A Multisectoral HHs questionnaire was developed by YFCA's Research Unit, which includes; demographic, Livelihoods & Food Security, Water Sanitation and Hygiene WASH, Health & Nutrition, Education, Protection, and Shelter. This tool was electronically prepared on the KoBoToolbox platform.

2.1.2. Qualitative Tools

A number of Key Informant Interviews tools were prepared based on the quantitative data that collected in the first stage of assessment by using the HHs questionnaire. In this way, the gaps in the quantitative data were covered, that appeared during analysis. In the following the five prepared KII tools which used in the second stage of this assessment:

- The District Manager KII Tool
- FSL & Agriculture Sector KII Tool
- Health Sector KII Tool
- WASH Sector KII Tool
- Education Sector KII Tool

2.2. Sampling

2.2.1. Random Sampling

The HHs survey depended on interviewing randomly selection of respondents from targeted communities' households in the targeted districts. A 95% statistical confidence level with 5% margin of error was considered in the sampling calculating process using an international accredited sample size calculator widely used to calculate the targeted sample size⁹. Given that the estimated population of the five districts comes to around 299,533 people, the sample size is calculated as 384 HHs. However, the sample was expanded to 754 respondents to ensure better representation, taking into consideration the IDPs (in Khanfar & Zinjibar districts) and 50% gender representation as much as possible. The table below shows the sample in detail.

Table 3 Detailed Assessment Sample

District	Population	Assessment Sample				Total
		Host Community		IDPs		
		M	F	M	F	
Ahwar	36,228	50	50	-	-	100
Jayshan	21,563	50	50	-	-	100
Khanfar	174,438	103	100	49	52	304
Zinjibar	45,239	49	50	26	25	150
Sarar	22,066	51	49	-	-	100
Total	299,533	303	299	75	77	754

⁹ <http://www.raosoft.com/samplesize.html>

2.2.2. Purposeful Sampling

This technique was used in the selection of key informant interviews (KIIs) respondents related to all sectors that covered by this assessment (District Manager, WASH Office Manager, Education Office Manager, Health Office Manager, and Agriculture & Irrigation Office Manager).

Table 4 Implemented KIIs per Sector

District	FSL & Agriculture	District Manager	Health	WASH	Education
Ahwar	-	-	1	1	1
Jayshan	1	1	-	-	1
Khanfar	1	1	-	-	1
Zinjibar	1	-	1	-	1
Sarar	-	1	-	1	1
Total	3	3	2	2	5



Photo 2 Key Informant Interview with Khanfar District's Manager

2.3. Assessment Team

The data collecting team was formed from 22 data collectors (10 males & 12 females) with experience in the field surveys & KoBo app handling. They were trained on the tool, methodology & indicators of the assessment before starting the data collection process.



Photo 3 Data Collectors During Field Working

2.4. Primary Data Collection & Analysis

754 household surveys were collected in-person from Feb 5th to Feb 22nd 2023 by YFCA enumerators trained on the specificities and handling the MSNA questionnaire tool. Data was collected simultaneously across all districts.

A three-day online training took place from Jan 28th to Jan 30th which was conducted by YFCA research unit representative. In addition to providing a thorough overview of the data collection methodology and indicators included in the questionnaire, the training also included sessions on ethics of the data collection and interview best practices. As part of the training process, each enumerator was asked to complete a minimum of two surveys by the end of training and indicate any issues they encountered with the tool. The tool and training material were prepared by YFCA Research Unit.

The survey was collected using an Open Data Kit (ODK) form on KoBo Toolbox. Any personally identifiable information was removed from the dataset immediately following data cleaning. The clean dataset was reviewed by YFCA Research Unit Manager for final quality control checks before analysis. Data was entered using a designed KoBoToolbox tool & then exported from Kobo into Microsoft Excel Data Sheet which was used for quantitative data analysis by SPSS & pivot tables.

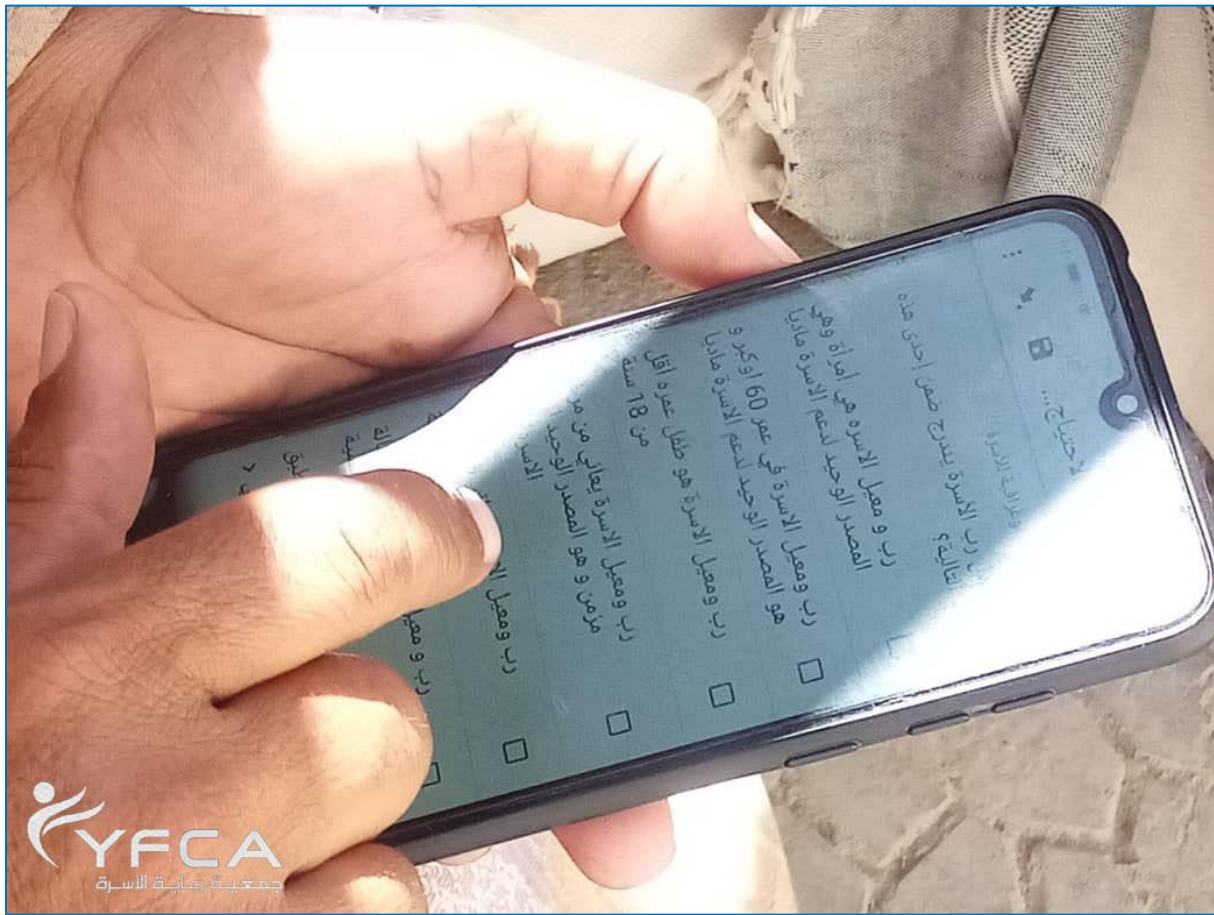


Photo 4 A Data Collector Uses Phone Kobo App in Data Collection

2.5. Secondary Data

A desk review of secondary data was conducted using sources from UN agencies, humanitarian clusters, NGOs, and government sources to supplement and contextualize the findings of the MSNA.

2.6. Challenges & Limitations

1. The weakness of the communication network and the Internet in some districts, such as Ahwar, Jayshan and Sarar, made it difficult to communicate with the field team, during training and during the data collection process. It also led to a delay in the arrival of data sent through the KoBo application, which requires at least a medium-strength internet network.
2. Difficulty accessing some areas and villages in the districts of Khanfar and Sarar, which were identified by the local councils and community committees in the two districts due to the remoteness of some areas in Khanfar district, or the lack of a paved road reaching some villages in Sarar district.

- The scarcity of updated secondary data related to the sectors covered in this assessment of Abyan governorate in general, or some districts such as, Ahwar, Jayshan and Sarar in particular.

III. Demographic Profile

3.1. Respondent & HH's Head by Gender

As shown in the following figure, equally of male & female respondents have been targeted, while as for the head of the households, females represent 36% of the total.



Figure 1 Respondent & HH's Head by Gender

3.2. Age & Marital Status of HH's Head

As for the age, the majority of targeted households' heads are between 31 and 50 years old (61%), and regarding the marital status, the majority of households' heads are married (79%).



Figure 2 HH's Head by Age & Marital Status

3.3. Vulnerability Cases & Disabilities

12% of total respondents indicated that there are disabilities cases within their household members, while 54% of them indicated that the head of the household has vulnerability. The

following chart shows the type of those disabilities in addition it shows the vulnerabilities of the HH's head.

HH's Members Disabilities

%37	Difficulty walking or climbing steps?
%23	Difficulty with self-care
%16	Difficulty seeing, even if wearing glasses
%12	Difficulty remembering or concentrating
%8	Difficulty communicating
%4	Difficulty hearing, even if using a hearing aid

HH's Head by Vulnerability

No Vulnerability	%46
Female HH head	%36
HH head 60 ≤	%15
Chronic Disease	%10
Physical Disability	%5
Psyco. Disability	%4

Figure 3 Vulnerability Cases & Disabilities

3.4. Gendered Age Groups

The total number of surveyed households' individuals is 5177, 51% of them are females, while 49% are males, and the average number of households' members is seven members. The following chart shows the gendered age groups and percentages of each group within the surveyed households.

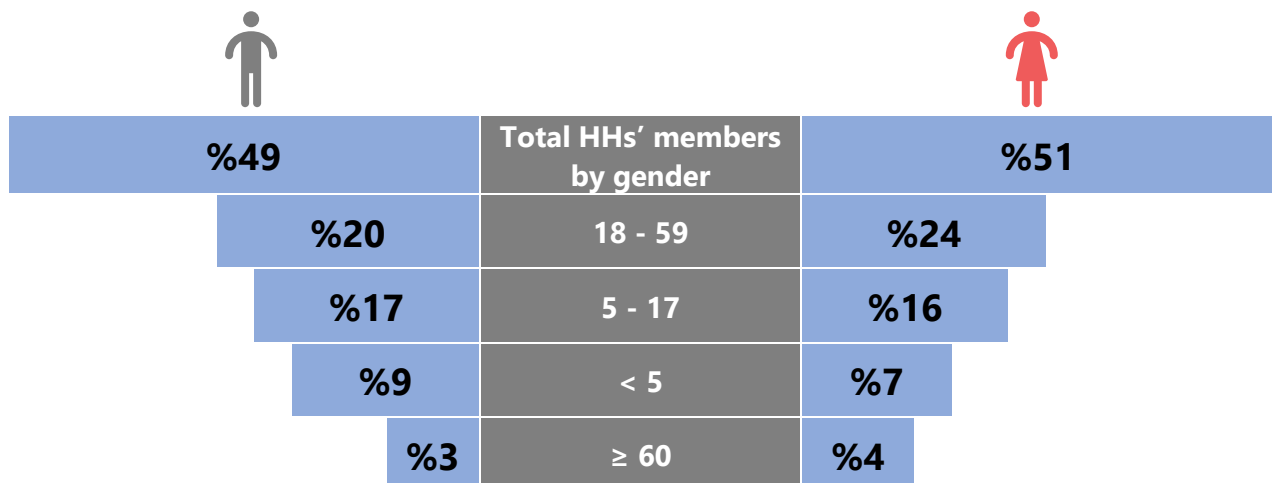


Figure 4 Gendered Age Groups

IV. Livelihoods & Food Security

Since mid-September 2021, the southern governorates of Yemen have been experiencing a surge in public demonstrations that often lead to street violence. These are **Abyan**, Ad Dali', Aden, Hadramawt, Lahj, and Shabwah. The deterioration of living conditions primarily drives the civil unrest in southern governorates. The depreciation of the Yemeni rial and the resulting increase in the prices of commodities have largely affected people's capacity to sustain their basic needs, including food. The continuation of the conflict further affects the economy and it exposes the population to protection risks and higher levels of food insecurity. The depreciation of the Yemeni rial has led to commodity price hikes and further deterioration of public services. In response to worsening living conditions, a new wave of protests started in Yemen's southern governorates in mid-August 2021¹⁰.

The impact of the conflict on the livelihoods for the majority of households in Abyan has been extreme, where the poverty rates increased after conflict in comparison with 2005 – 2006 rates, (Abyan Governorate, in 2005 – 2006, had an urban poverty rate of 31.37% (compared to a national average of 20.7%), and a rural poverty rate of 50.44% (compared to a national average of 40.1%)). In 2015 it was estimated that the Abyan Governorate had an unemployment rate of 7.8%. Out of the total population employed in 2015, 49% was employed in agriculture¹¹.

While the escalation of fighting since 2014 is widely discussed as a driver of acute food insecurity and economic crisis, pre-crisis poverty and social and economic exclusion is likely a more significant factor in 15 of the 45 IPC 5 districts. Areas where food insecurity is highly attributable to pre-crisis poverty and exclusion include governorates such as Amran, Hajjah, Al Mahwit, **Abyan**, and some districts in Al Bayda¹².

4.1. Livelihoods

The main livelihoods activities in Abyan are agriculture (producing around 4.7% of the country's total agricultural products), fisheries, livestock breeding, and beekeeping¹³.

4.1.1. Households Income Sources

Regarding the main source of household income, and according to the data analysis at total level, the daily wage work, a government /retirement salary and the livestock are the most main sources of income with 39%, 24%, and 19% respectively. This ranking is differed from district to another at the district-level analysis, this is shown in the following figure, where in urban districts (Khanfar & Zinjibar) the daily wage work is the main source of income for more than 50% of respondents, while in rural districts the government /retirement salary is the main sources in Sara with 60% & Ahwar with 36%, or the livestock in Jayshan with 80%.

¹⁰ YEMEN, Increased civil unrest and worsening humanitarian situation in southern governorates, ACAPS Yemen Analysis Hub, Nov, 2021

¹¹ Zinjibar City Profile, UN-Habitat, 2020

¹² YEMEN: Drivers of food insecurity, ACAPS Yemen Analysis Hub, Apr 2019

¹³ Yemen: Western Abyan Needs Assessment Report, ACTED, June 2020

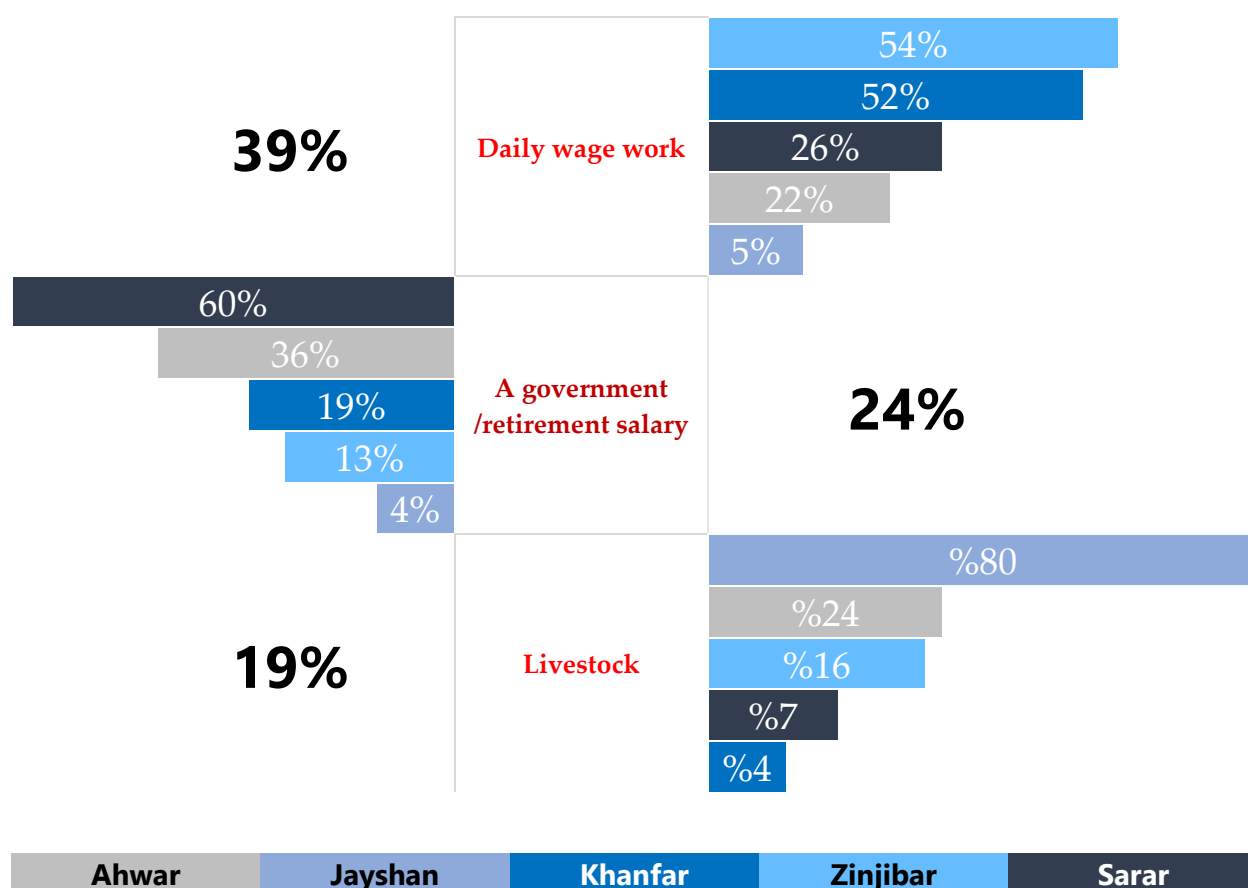


Figure 5 The Main Sources of Household Income

There are other income sources in addition to the above, such as; collecting firewood for sale with 5%, private work / motorcycle / taxi with 4%, agriculture with 2%, handcrafts with 2%, etc. At the gender-level analysis, and as the chart below shown, there are significant differences between males and females in term of the main source of income in each district.



%10	%32	%42	Ahwar	%38	%30	%12
%2	%84		Jayshan	%76		%8
%4	%14	%59	Khanfar	%44		%24
%5	%13	%69	Zinjibar	%39		%27
%4	%31	%63	Sarar	%57		%20

Daily wage work	Government/retirement salary	Livestock
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Figure 6 The Additional Sources of Income

The majority of total surveyed households, 70%, reported that, one person in the family is responsible for the household income (80% in Jayshan, 80% in Zinjibar, 79% in Khanfar, 54% in Sarar, and 32% in Ahwar), 18% of them said that, two members of household are responsible for the income (35% in Sarar, 32% in Ahwar, 14% in Zinjibar, 12% in Khanfar, and 8% in Jayshan), while 10% indicated that, no one in the family is responsible for providing the income (30% in Ahwar, 12% in Jayshan, 10% in Sarar, and 7% in Khanfar).

As for the additional sources of income, 31% of the respondents indicated that they have No any additional source of income, 26% of them indicated that the livestock is the additional source of income, 25% said the daily wage work, 12% said the humanitarian aid/transfers from relatives or friends, 9% said collecting firewood for sale.

4.1.2. Average Monthly Household Income

55% of the total respondents indicated that their average monthly income is less than 50,000 YR, 28% of them indicated that their average monthly income was between 50,000 and 100,000 YR, 14% indicated that it is between 100,000 and 150,000 YR, while only 3% of them indicated that their average monthly income is more than 150,000 YR.

This situation does not differ much at the level of the district, as 93%, 89%, and 71% of the respondents of Jayshan, Zinjibar and Ahwar respectively indicated that their average income is less than 50,000 YR, while 83% of Sarar respondents and 60% of Khanfar respondents reported that their average income ranges from 50,000 to 150,000 YR. As for the analysis at the gender level, here the balance is in favor of males in all districts, as the average income of male respondents is more than that of female respondents according to their responses, with the exception of Jayshan district, where there are no significant differences between the average monthly income of males and females.

4.1.3. Livestock

The majority of the surveyed families in rural districts such as Sarar, Jayshan and Ahwar work in livestock breeding at the district level (97% in Sarar, 94% in Jayshan, and 69% in Ahwar) and at the gender level as well, while in urban districts such as Khanfar and Zinjibar, the percentage of workers in Livestock breeding does not exceed 50% at the district level (41% in Zinjibar and 17% in Khanfar) and at the gender level as well, with the exception of females in the Zinjibar district, where 52% of them indicated that they work in livestock breeding.

The following chart shows the proportions of workers in livestock breeding at the gender level per district. As for the type of livestock that households raise, 100% of the respondents working in livestock breeding indicated that they raise sheep, while the KIs findings reveal that, the livestock in the targeted districts includes sheep (goats & lambs), cows, camels and poultry.

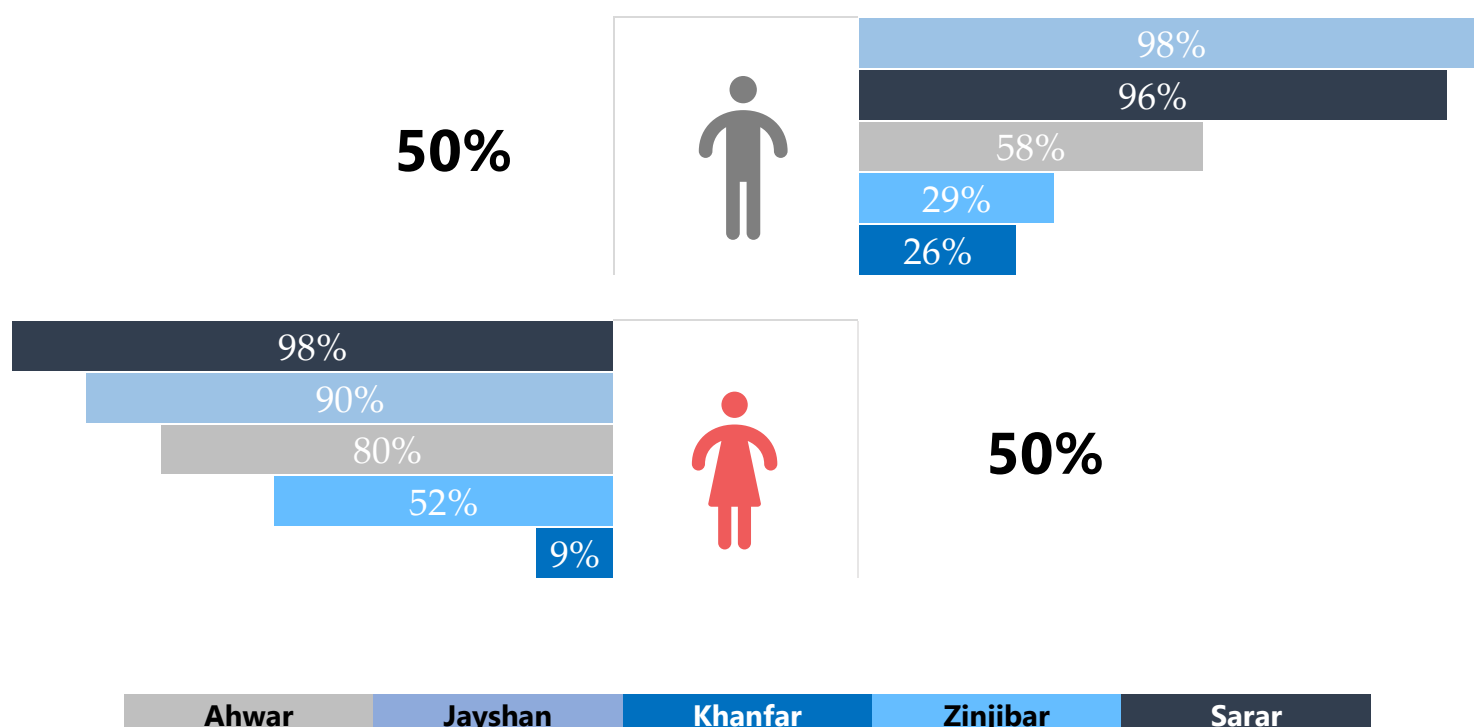


Figure 7 Livestock Practicing

The findings of this survey showed that not all surveyed households raise livestock to benefit from it as a source of income, where many households (33% of total targeted households) raise livestock for their personal consumption (as a source of food).

At the district level, for those who consider livestock breeding as a source of income, Zinjibar district tops the list with 100%, followed by Ahwar district with 83%, Jayshan with 80%, Khanfar with 47%, and finally Sarar with 25%. It is worth noting here that the district that recorded the highest percentage of practicing livestock (Sarar) recorded the lowest percentage of benefiting from it as a source of income. At the gender level, there are no significant differences between males and females who benefit from livestock as a source of income in three districts (Jayshan, Zinjibar & Sarar), but in Ahwar & Khanfar districts the differences are clear, where, 97% males versus 73% females in Ahwar district and 38% males versus 71% females in Khanfar reported that they benefit from raising livestock as a source of income.

With regard to feeding livestock, according to the answers of the respondents, the vast majority in the districts of Jayshan and Sarar depend on natural pastures in the valleys and mountains, whether by grazing their sheep there or by bringing grass from there to their sheep pens located near their homes. As for the districts of Khanfar and Zinjibar, the majority depend on the farms available in these districts, where they bring grass and tree leaves from them to their barns to feed their sheep or graze them on the lands where the grass grows.

A very small percentage of the respondents in these four districts indicated that they buy reeds or fodder for their sheep, in contrast to the Ahwar district, in which the respondents' livestock breeders depend on buying reeds and fodder in addition to the natural pasture in the mountains and valleys, and this was indicated by approximately 60% of the respondents of the Ahwar district.

➤ *Livestock Challenges*

According the agriculture offices representatives KIIs, there are many challenges faced by the households who work in livestock raising such as:

- Livestock farming is very slow, meaning that It takes a long time to get the financial return from it
- The high cost of fodder
- Dryness, which leads to lack of necessary food for livestock
- Animal disease, as some of them die for lack of treatment
- Mortality (death) of young livestock during the winter seasons
- Infection with screwworm disease

On the other hand, they suggested the following interventions that help the livestock breeders to overcome on the challenges:

- ✓ Providing factories for ready-made fodder (food for animals)
- ✓ Helping livestock breeders with white loans without profits
- ✓ Support them with animal fodder
- ✓ Training them on modern livestock methods
- ✓ Conducting training courses for them, especially on the veterinary, in order to identify the disease and how to treat it, so that they know what to do when it encounters any emergency for livestock.
- ✓ Support veterinary treatment campaigns
- ✓ Providing veterinary places, veterinary medicines, veterinary staff to treat livestock



Photo 5 A Sample of Livestock Pens, Sarar (above)& Jayshan (below)



4.1.4. Agriculture

Agriculture is considered one of the most important livelihoods and sources of income in Abyan Governorate in general, and in the targeted districts, according to secondary data and also according to what was mentioned in the implemented KIIs, especially the districts of Khanfar and Zinjibar, which contains the Abyan Delta, which is one of the most fertile agricultural areas in Yemen.

It is worth noting that, this assessment did not target farmers in the household survey, but targeted the most vulnerable households to be more comprehensive, and therefore agriculture was not among the three most important means of livelihood shown by the survey findings. However, through this section, we will shed light on agriculture in the targeted districts, based on the results of KIIs with representatives of the agricultural offices in some of the targeted districts, and on secondary data related to this aspect.

In addition to the fact that agriculture is one of the livelihoods in the targeted districts, it is also one of the most important sources of food, as confirmed by the representatives of the districts who were interviewed, and who also mentioned that, there are many reasons for the deterioration of the agriculture in their districts.

The agriculture deteriorated significantly in Sarar district because of, from time to time, many areas and villages of the district are exposed to severe drought, which causes the destruction of crops and animals and the displacement of many people to other places in search of about water, as well as the lack of dams and public rainwater harvesting tanks, and complete absence of support for the agricultural sector and farmers in the district¹⁴.

In Jayshan district, the main reasons for the decline of agriculture are; high fuel prices, lack of fertilizers, dredging floods of agricultural lands¹⁵. In Khanfar district, the irrigation networks are worn out, absence of modern technologies usage in agriculture, and lack of farmers support, etc.¹⁶

➤ *Agriculture Urgent Needs*

Based on the KIIs findings, and from the point of view of the respondents, the urgent needs of farmers in the targeted districts are:

- Repairing irrigation networks or carrying out maintenance work for the available networks, which mainly need maintenance
- Support by introducing modern technologies for farmers such as greenhouses
- Supporting some agricultural inputs and providing them to farmers
- Cleaning the main irrigation channels and passages of sands & weeds
- Building an irrigation network to accommodate the flood irrigation water

¹⁴ Sarar District Manager, KII, May 21, 2023

¹⁵ Jayshan District's Agriculture Office Manager, May 25, 2023

¹⁶ Khanfar District's Agriculture Office Manager, KII, May 21, 2023

- Providing solar and wind energy for poor farmers
- Providing Gabions barriers
- Providing alternative energy to oil
- Training agricultural extension agents
- Digging wells for irrigation process
- Providing improved seeds for farmers



Photo 6 Agriculture Land in Jayshan District

4.1.5. Income Insufficiency and Coping Mechanisms

In total level analysis, 82% of the respondents indicated that they faced challenges getting enough money to meet their households' needs during the 30 days preceding this survey, with a percentage 87% among males versus 77% among females.

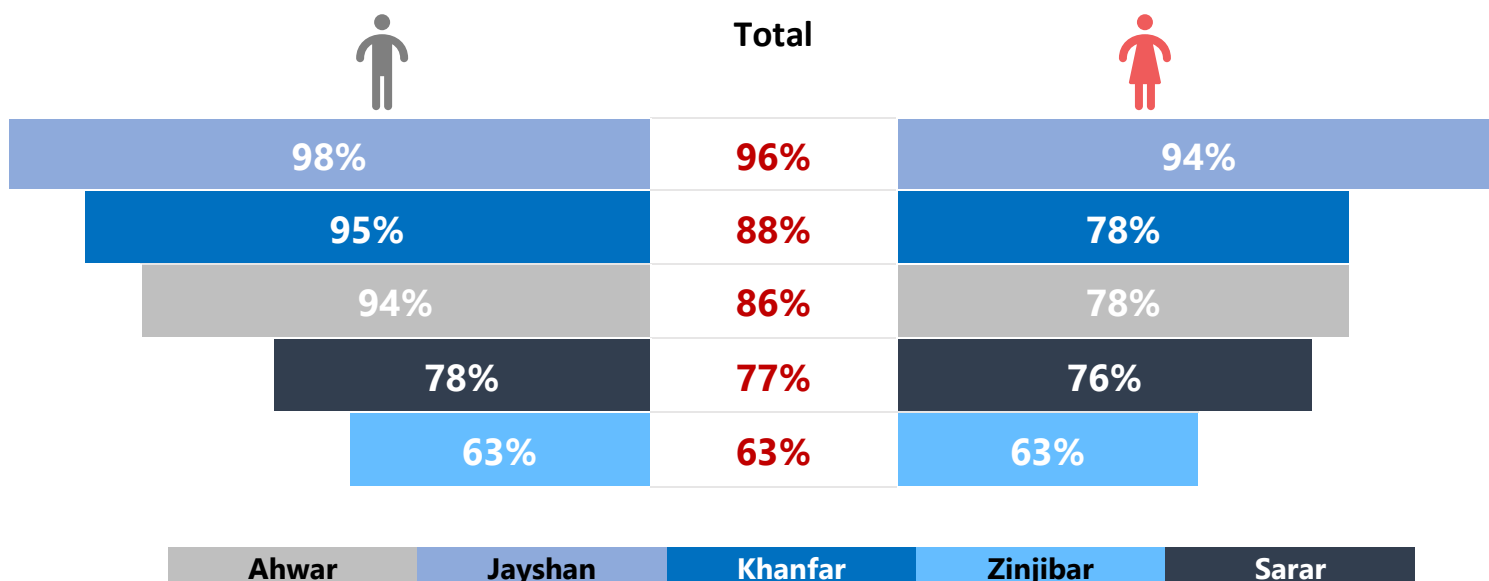


Figure 8 Income Insufficiency

The chart above shows the percentages of the data analysis at the district & gender levels, where Jayshan district recorded a highest percentage of households' income insufficiency, and Zinjibar recorded a lowest one.

Regarding the reasons of these challenges of getting enough income, the most common response across all districts was the lack of job opportunities with 80%, followed by the wages are very minimal with 48%, then the areas that provide jobs are far away 14%, the salaries are not paid regularly with 9%, and finally the high prices with 8%.

In order to coping this income shortage, 64% of the total respondents reported that they reduce the level of health care, medicine and education expenses (72% females & 57% males), 61% of them spend their saved money (67% males & 54% females), 38% sell productive goods/assets such as sewing machine, tools/machinery, furniture, car, livestock, land, house, etc. (44% males & 32% females), and 28% of them sell assets and properties such as television, jewelry, etc. (33% males & 23% females).

4.1.6. Professional Skills

In total, only 13% of respondents reported that, there are members of their households who have a professional skill, with a percentage 15% among males and 11% among females. At the district level; Jayshan 18%, Ahwar 17%, Sara 16%, Khanfar 13% and finally Zinjibar 5%.

Regarding the professional skill types, the following chart shows that, the tillage & farming skills with the highest percentage 39%, and the beekeeping skills with the lowest percentage 7%.

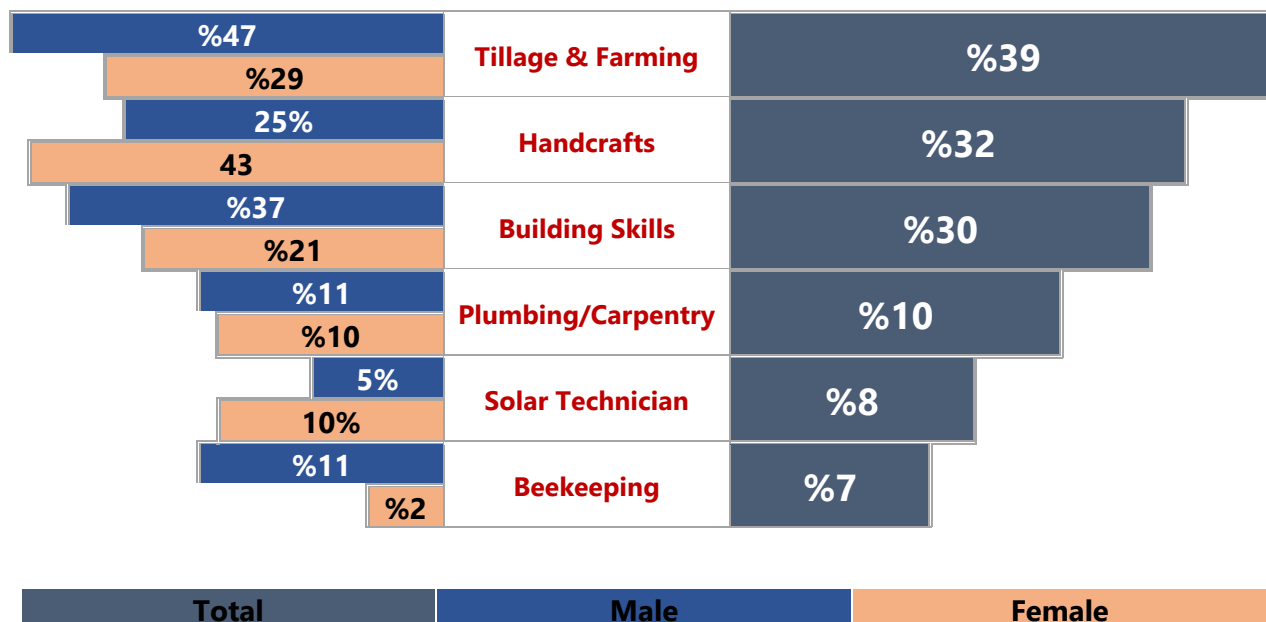


Figure 9 The Professional Skills among Household Members

In term of practicing these skills as the source of income, 100% of those how have plumbing and carpentry skills, 74% of those how have tillage and farming skills, 71% of those who have solar technical skills, 60% of those how have building skills, 43% of those how have beekeeping skills, and 41% of those who have handcraft skills indicated that, they are doing.

➤ Training

As for the vocational training courses that recommended, by KIs respondents, for males are, the agricultural extension, veterinary, plumbing, electrical extensions, motorcycle maintenance, mobile phones maintenance, blacksmithing and carpentry, etc., while the recommended courses for females are, sewing and embroidery, preparing pastries and desserts, hairdressing and beautician, henna hand pattern, rural women development, and veterinary.

4.1.7. Money Borrowing

According to the findings, the majority of the respondents had borrowed money in the month preceding this survey, and this was indicated by 69% of the total respondents. This applies at the district level as well, with the exception of Zinjibar district, in which the percentage of borrowers reached only 35%. As for the rest of the districts, the percentage of borrowers reached 69%, 71%, 78% and 100%, of the respondents of Ahwar, Khanfar, Sarar and Jayshan, respectively. With regard to the borrowing at the level of gender, the figure below showing that.

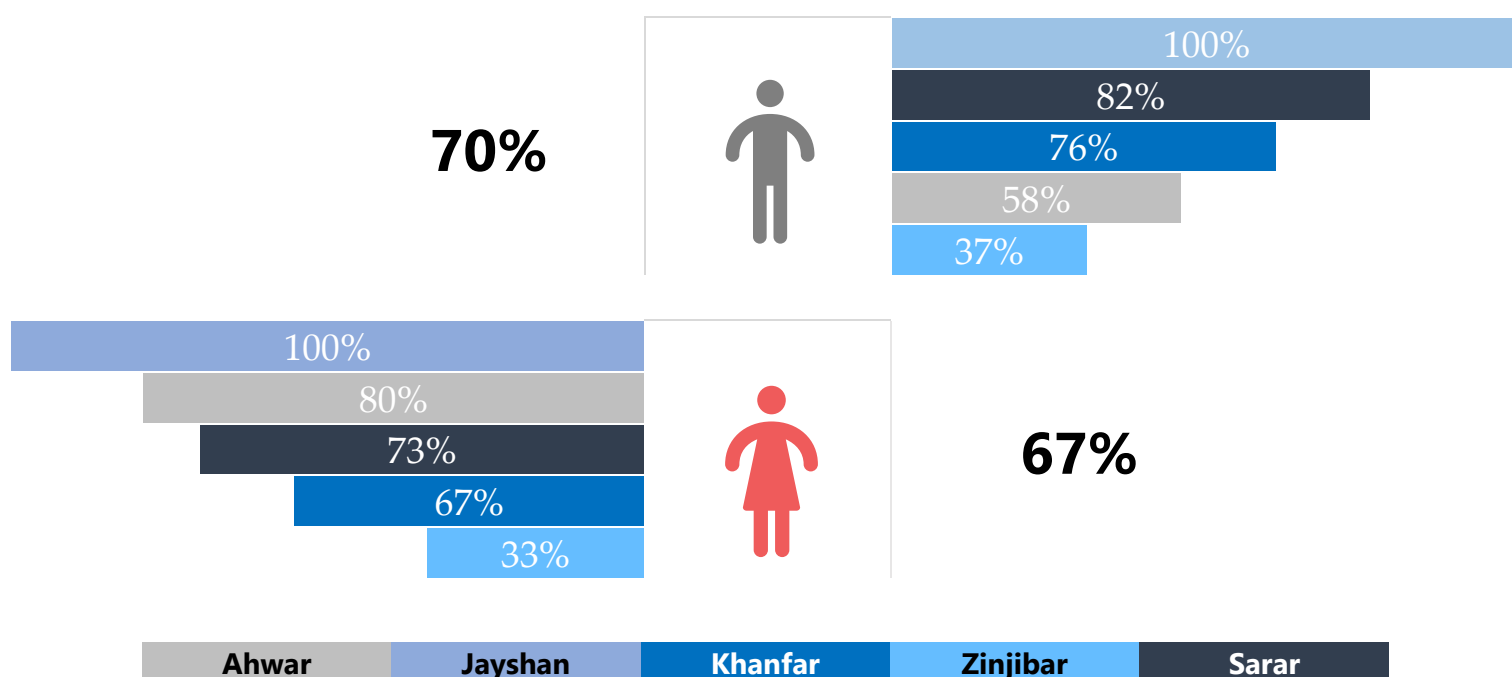


Figure 10 Money Borrowing

Regarding the borrowed amounts, the majority, 67%, of the total respondents indicated that they had borrowed between 10,000 - 100,000 YR, while 33% of them indicated that they had borrowed between 110,000 - 200,000 YR. This applies at the district level as well, with the exception of Jayshan district, where 87% of its respondents indicated that they had borrowed between 110,000 - 200,000 YR, and 13% indicated that they had borrowed between 10,000 - 100,000 YR. At gender level, there are no significant differences between males and females regarding the borrowed amounts in all districts except Ahwar district, where 100% of female respondents indicated that they had borrowed between 10,000 - 100,000 YR, while 62% of male respondents indicated that they had borrowed the same amounts, and 38% of them reported that they had borrowed between 110,000 - 200,000 YR.

4.1.8. Household Unmet Needs

The overall analysis of the data shows that the majority of surveyed households, 78%, they could not provide the all basic needs that meet their families' needs in the 30 days preceding this assessment, with a percentage 81% among males versus 74%% among females.

The district-level analysis of the data shows that the percentage differences across the five targeted districts, where the highest percentage of respondents reporting unmet needs were in Jayshan 96%, followed by Khanfar, Zinjibar, Sarar, and Ahwar with 88%, 78%, 65% and 42%, respectively.

There are no notable differences between males & females as the gender-level analysis shown, with the exception of Ahwar district where the percentage among males was 70% compared to females 14%.

As for the type of the unmet needs in total, the most common response across all districts was the food with a highest percentage followed by the health, as shown in the following figure, however in term of the gender-level analysis there are no significant differences between male & female percentages.

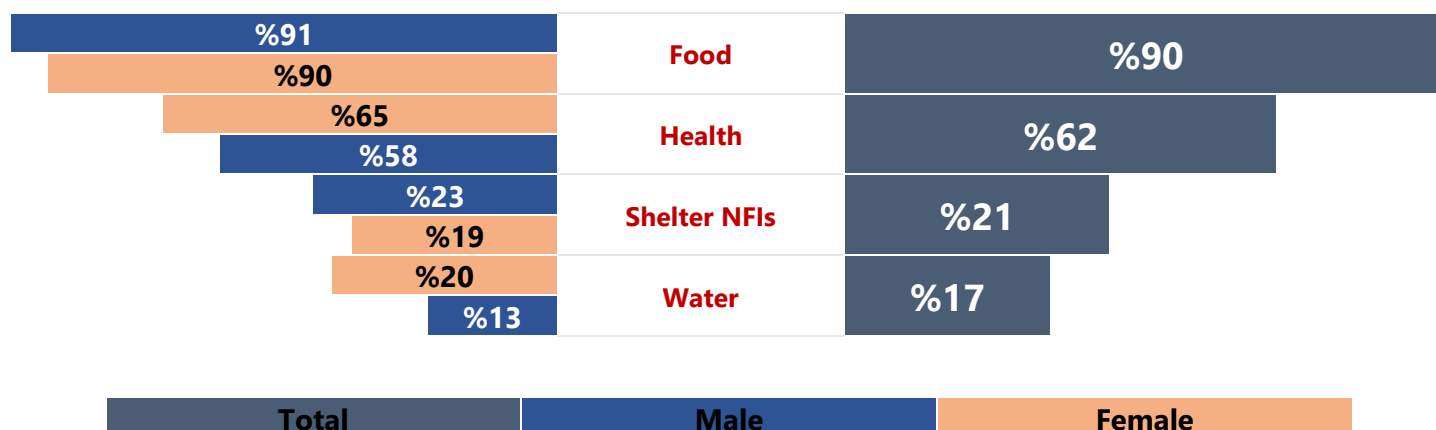


Figure 11 The Household Unmet Needs

4.2. Markets

Jayshan district suffers greatly from the issue of markets, as 100% of the female respondents and 98% of the male respondents indicated that the markets do not operate normally in the district, this is confirmed by the Agriculture Office Manager of Jayshan district who said; *"there are No markets in the district, and people go to the Lawdar district or the nearby markets of Al-Bayda governorate to shopping"*¹⁷. 50% of the female respondents in Ahwar district, 30% of the male respondents and 21% of the female respondents In Khanfar district, they referred to the same problem of markets not working normally in their areas. As for the issue if the markets meeting all the requirements of families, 100% of Jayshan respondents answered no, and this is consistent with what was previously mentioned regarding markets not working in the district. Also, 52% of Ahwar female respondents, 30% of males and 22% of females in Khanfar district, 15 % of males and 7% of females in Zinjibar district indicated that the markets in their areas do not meet all their needs and the needs of their families.

Regarding the market accessibility, 100% males and 98% females in Sarar district, 54% males and 50% females in Ahwar district, 62% males and 24% females in Khanfar district, and 27% males and 15% females in Zinjibar district, indicated that the difficulty accessing markets, especially for women. As for the reasons of the market accessibility difficulties, rugged roads, the means of transportation are few, and if any, they are expensive¹⁸, as well as the remoteness of markets from many of the villages¹⁹.

¹⁷ Jayshan District's Agriculture Office Manager, May 25, 2023

¹⁸ Zinjibar District's Agriculture Office Representative, KII, May, 22, 2023

¹⁹ Sarar District Manager, KII, May 21, 2023

To some extent, these markets provide adequate quantities of basic commodities with acceptable quality, and this was indicated by more than 50% of the respondents in the districts of Ahwar, Khanfar and Zinjibar, while less than 50% of the respondents in Sarar district confirmed this, as 63% are males and 55% of females indicated the opposite. This last statement was also supported by 52% of females in Ahwar district, 32% of males and 20% of females in Khanfar district, and 29% of males and 13% of females in Zinjibar district. However, the Khanfar district representative said *"all commodities are available, but what hinders the people purchase their needs is the money unavailability (due to the current conditions and the deterioration of the YR exchange rate), the lack of job opportunities & income and the low purchasing power"*²⁰.

Table 5 Main Markets in the Targeted Districts

Ahwar	Jayshan	Khanfar	Zinjibar	Sarar	
Ahwar Public Market (for men)	There are no markets in the district	Ja'ar Public Market	Zinjibar Public Market	Sarar Market (held every Wednesday)	
Al-Mustashfa Market (for women)		Shuqra Public Market		Amran Market.	
		Batais Public Market			Hamma Market
		Al-Hisn Public Market			

4.3. Food Security

Food security is, by definition, a multifaceted issue. As such, an analysis of food security requires the consideration of a variety of evidence, including several commonly collected, survey-based, food security outcome indicators²¹.

Due to the reductions to emergency food assistance levels in Yemen, the Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are expected to remain widespread, more severe Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes are now expected to emerge in Hajjah, Marib, Lahj, and **Abyan**. In these governorates, concurrent reductions in household purchasing power, seasonally limited access to food and income in lowland areas, and reductions in food assistance will leave many households with large food consumption gaps or compel them to use emergency coping strategies²².

As mentioned in the background part the selected districts in this assessment have Emergency IPC Phase (Phase 4) according to IPC, Yemen, Dec 2022.

4.3.1. Food Sources

The vast majority of respondents depend on markets as a main source of food, which they buy on credit 87% (92% females and 81% males) or cash 66% (78% females and 54% males) of the total respondents in all districts (it is clear from the sum of the percentages that there are many households who use cash and credit to buy food). Next comes the borrowing of food from relatives or others with 46% (47% females and 45% males), then humanitarian food aid with 26%

²⁰ Khanfar District's Agriculture Office Manager, KII, May 21, 2023

²¹ Integrated analysis of survey-based indicators for classification of acute food insecurity, May, 2021

²² Yemen Food Security Outlook, relief web report, 30 June 2022

(24% females and 28% males), and finally receiving food as gifts from relatives or friends with 18% (12% females and 23% males).

The KII respondents' answers support the above households' responses, where they said that the most important food sources are, the markets, whether purchase the food in cash or debt²³, the agricultural crops²⁴, and sometimes the food aid from NGOs (not for all)²⁵.

4.3.2. Food Security Indicators

Two indicators of food security indicators were assessed in this assessment; **Food Consumption Score (FCS) Indicator & Reduced Coping Strategy Index (RCSI) Indicator**. For more details see [Annex \(Food Security Indicators\)](#).

➤ *Food Consumption Score (FCS)*

Is a more complex indicator of a household's food security status, as it considers not only dietary diversity and food frequency but also the relative nutritional importance of different food groups (on the other hand, its use of relatively long, 7 days' recall period, might make the data less precise)²⁶.

As for the assessment findings, overall, 45% of surveyed households in poor FCS (37% of male respondents & 52% of females), 22% of them between borderline thresholds (25% of male respondents & 19% of females), and 33% in acceptable FCS (38% of male respondents & 29% of females).

At the district level analysis, and as shown in the following figure, the highest percent of poor FCS recorded in Jayshan district with 92% (94% of male respondents & 90% of females), followed by Zinjibar district with 88% (92% of male respondents & 84% of females), then Ahwar district with 41% (36% of male respondents & 41% of females), and finally Khanfar district with 24% (5% of male respondents & 43% of females). 55% of Sarar district households between borderline thresholds (59% of male respondents & 51% of females), and 45% of them in acceptable FCS (41% of male respondents & 49% of females).

²³ Khanfar District's Manager, KII, May 23, 2023

²⁴ Khanfar & Zinjibar District's Agriculture Office Representatives, KIIs, May 21 & 22, 2023

²⁵ Sarar District's Manager, KII, May 21, 2023

²⁶ <https://www.indikit.net/sector/27-food-security>

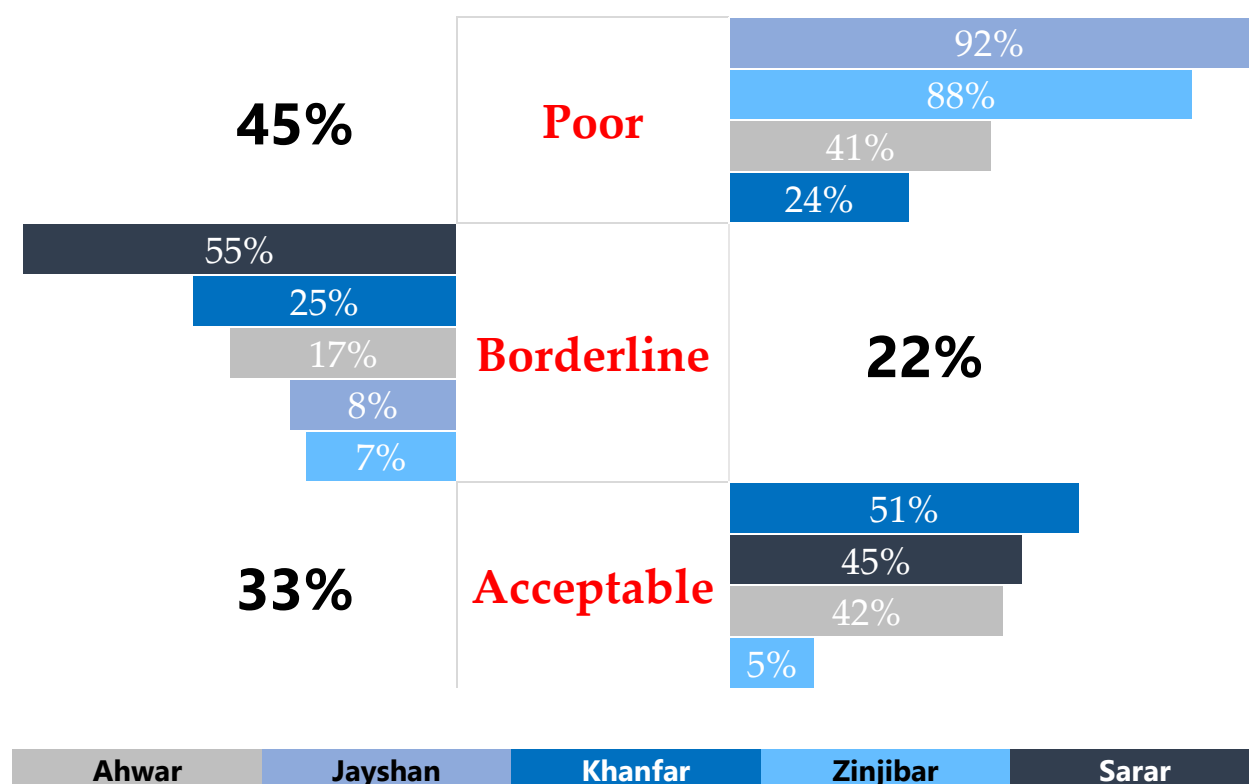


Figure 12 Food Consumption Score

➤ Reduced Coping Strategy Index (RCSI)

Is a proxy indicator of household food insecurity. It considers both the frequency and severity of five pre-selected coping strategies that the household used in the seven days prior to the survey. It is a simplified version of the full Coping Strategies Index indicator²⁷.

Regarding the assessment findings, Overall, the majority of surveyed households have high coping strategy index 76% (74% of male respondents & 77% of females), 16% of them have medium coping strategy index (19% of male respondents & 13% of females), and 8% have no or low coping strategy index (7% of male respondents & 9% of females).

At the district level analysis, and as shown in the chart below, the highest percent of high coping strategy index recorded in Jayshan district also with 100%, followed by Khanfar district with 92% (92% of male respondents & 92% of females), then Zinjibar district with 91% (91% of male respondents & 92% of females), and finally Ahwar district with 55% (46% of male respondents & 64% of females). 49% of Sarar district households have medium coping strategy index (53% of male respondents & 45% of females), and 51% of them have no or low coping strategy index (47% of male respondents & 55% of females).

²⁷ <https://www.indikit.net/sector/27-food-security>

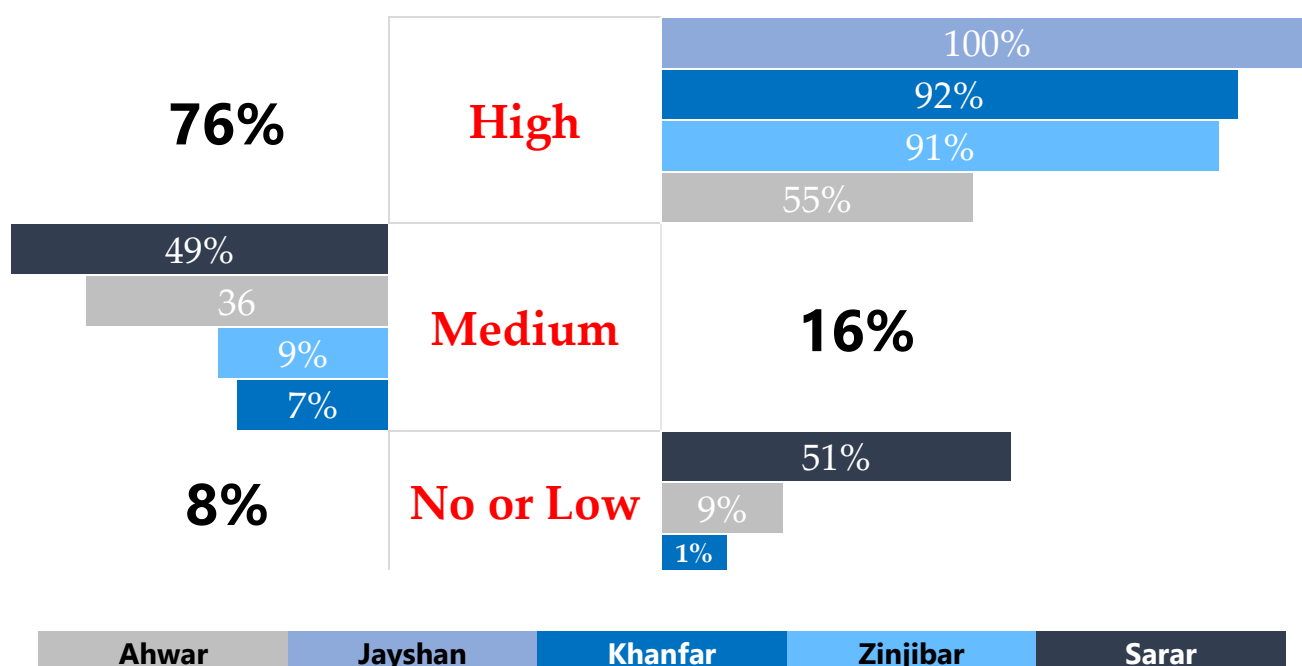


Figure 13 Reduced Coping Strategy Index

4.4. The Community Assets

According to the KIIs findings, there are many community assets that need to rehabilitation, maintenance, & construction and can be targeted by CFW projects in the five districts, these assets summarize in one table, please see [Annex \(Community Assets\)](#).

V. WASH

As for drinking water, almost half (48%) of households in Abyan do not have access to potable water. Water services and sanitation are available in some districts, but not all. Local water services operate with support from international organizations²⁸.

Prior crisis, about 240,300 people had no access to (improved) water sources (sanitation: 250,980). This situation has further worsened. Due to fuel shortages, the urban public water network in Zinjibar is at imminent risk of ceasing operations unless more fuel becomes available. According to UNDP household survey data in the governorate (Rapid Integrated Assessment), in the 30 days prior to the survey, 50.06% lacked safe clean water and 38.5% of residents surveyed spent more than one hour fetching water. Some residents witnessed that the governorate is without public electricity and water for the last few months²⁹.

²⁸ Berghof Foundation (2020) Mapping of Local Governance in Yemeni Governorates

²⁹ Yemen Water Sector, GIZ, 2021



Photo 7 HHs Water Containers, Ahwar (above), & Sarar (below)



5.1. Water

According to the KIIs findings, all targeted districts suffer from the deterioration of the water network and the public enterprise water tanks, and the most of KIIs respondents appeal for urgent maintenance of water networks and tanks.

5.1.1. Water Sources

The overall analysis of the data shows that the main source of water used by households for drinking in the last 30 days was piped water into the compound, with 58% of households reporting its use. The use of unprotected wells was the second most common source of drinking water, with 12% of households reporting its and piped water connected to public tap was reported in the third place (9%). The use of other sources of water for drinking, such as bottled water, water trucks, and rainwater, was relatively low.

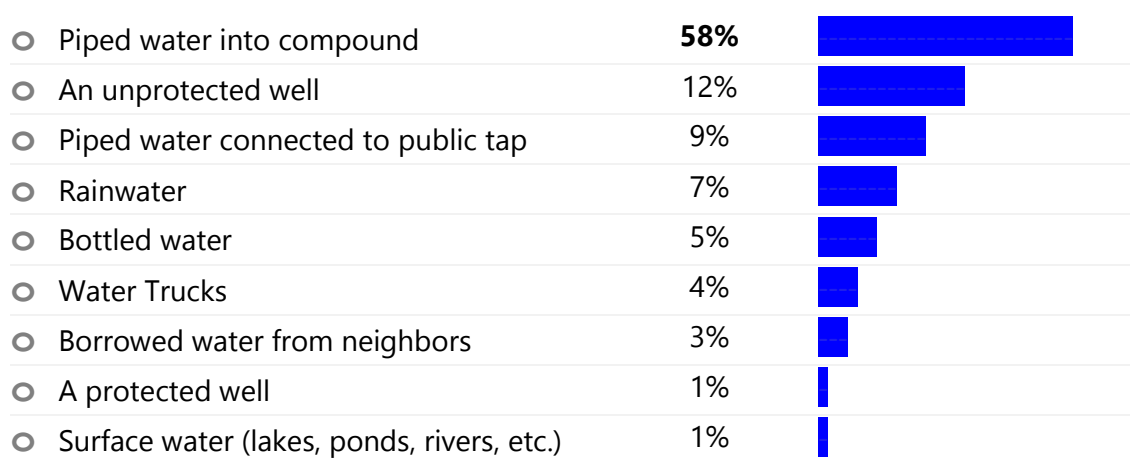


Figure 14 The Main Sources of Drinking Water

For purposes, other than drinking, piped water into the compound was also the most common source of water, with 62% of households reporting its use. The use of unprotected wells was the second most common source of water for non-drinking purposes, with 14% of households reporting its use. Other sources of water for non-drinking purposes, such as piped water connected to public taps, rainwater, and getting water from neighbors' hoses, were also reported but to a lesser extent.

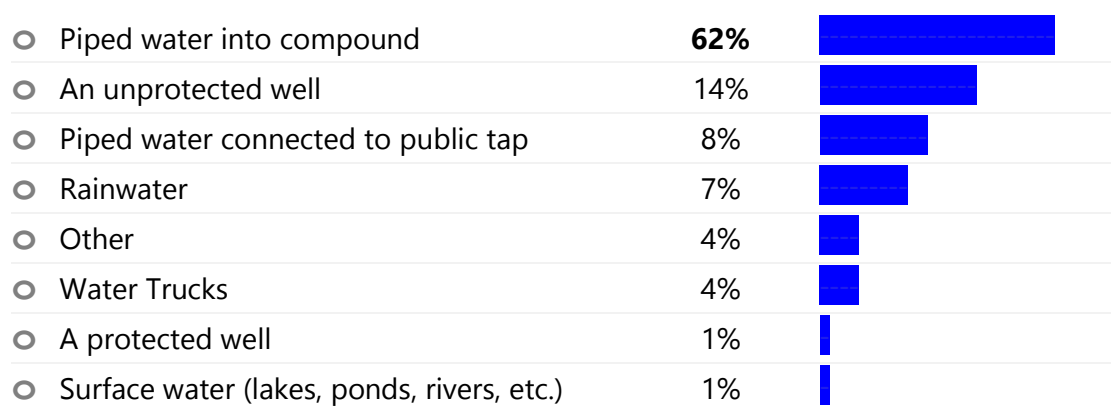


Figure 15 The Main Sources of Cooking, Bathing, and Washing Water



Photo 8 An Unprotected Well _ Jayshan District

The district-level analysis of the data shows that the main source of water used by households for drinking, in the 30 days preceding this assessment, varied across the five targeted districts. Piped water supply into the household compound is the primary source of water for drinking and other purposes in three of the five districts - Ahwar, Khanfar and Zinjibar. In these districts, over 67-90% of households rely on piped water for both drinking and other needs. In contrast, the districts of Jayshan and Sarar have lower access to piped water supply. In Jayshan, unprotected wells are the primary source of water for drinking (73%) and other needs (69%) for households. This represents a major public health concern as unprotected wells are considered unimproved sources that often provide contaminated water. In Sarar, harvested rainwater is the main source of water for nearly half the households for both drinking and other needs. These findings highlight the need to increase piped water access in Jayshan and Sarar. The data also shows that the use of water trucks for both drinking and non-drinking purposes is relatively low across all districts. However, the high usage of unimproved water trucks in Sarar indicates a lack of reliable and sustainable sources of

water in the area. Addressing the underlying causes of water scarcity in Zinjibar should be a priority in efforts to improve access to safe drinking water and sanitation services.

There are minor gender differences in sources of water in Ahwar, where more females rely on piped water into the compound compared to males, for both drinking (88% females versus 56% males) and other needs (86% females versus 48% males). However, in the other districts, there are no major differences between males and females in water sources, suggesting that both genders benefit from improved water infrastructure in those locations.



Photo 9 Opened Water Pond _ Sarar District

5.1.2. Water Insufficiency and Coping Mechanisms

The overall findings show that water scarcity is a significant issue in the targeted districts, with a quarter of households reporting water shortages in the past month.

At the district-level data, it is clear that there is significant variation between the five districts. The highest percentage of respondents reporting water shortages were in Ahwar (56%) followed by Jayshan, Khanfar and Zinjibar with 28%, 28% and 15%, respectively. No respondent from Sarar

district reported water shortage. The district-level data provided suggests that there is significant variation in the availability of water and the adaptation strategies used across the five districts. This indicates that water scarcity is a significant issue in these districts and may require targeted interventions to address.

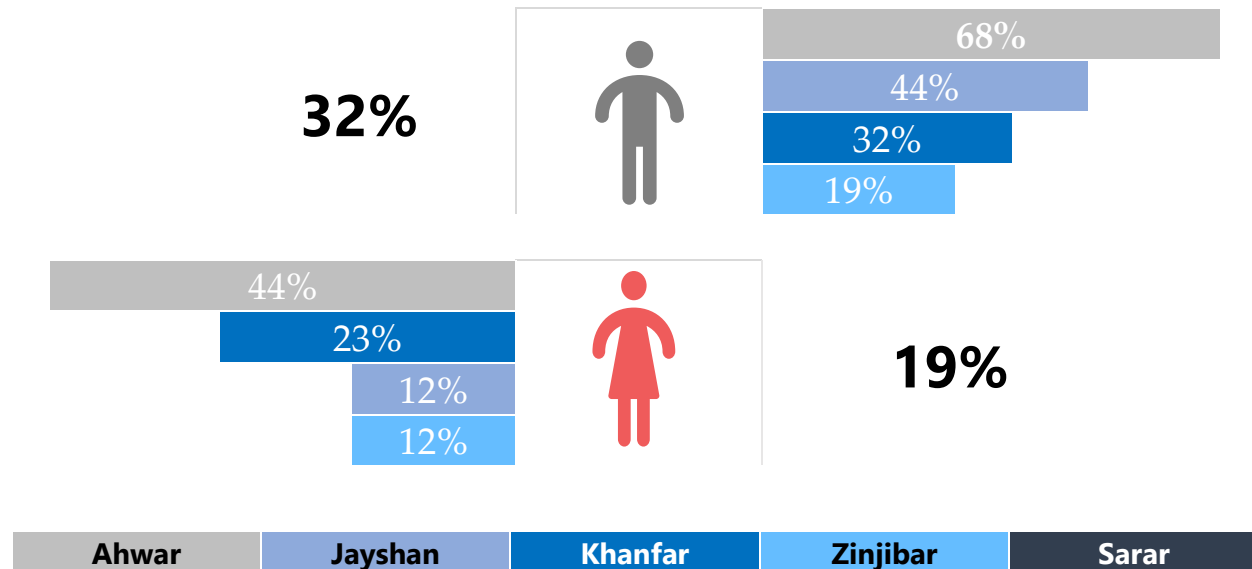


Figure 16 Water Insufficiency Issue

Regarding household adaptations to a lack of water, the most common response across all districts was reducing water consumption, which was reported by 46% of households overall. Borrowing water from neighbors was the second most common response, reported by 31% of households overall. The other responses, including fetching water from distant wells or neighboring villages 8%, fetching water from the mosque 8%, borrowing money to buy water 6%, and spending money on water that should be used for other purposes 4%, were less commonly reported.

At district level, borrowing water from neighbors and reducing water consumption were the most commonly reported strategies across all districts with 100% in Jayshan, 61% in Zinjibar, 38% in Khanfar and 23% in Ahwar. Borrowing water from neighbors was most common in Khanfar at 44% which could indicate a strong sense of community and willingness to help each other in times of need. The district with the highest percentage of households reporting fetching water from distant wells or neighboring villages was Ahwar at 29%, indicating that the water scarcity in this district may be more severe, and households are going to greater lengths to secure water.

There were some notable gender differences as well. For example, in Ahwar, 36% of female respondents reported borrowing water from neighbors, compared to only 21% of male respondents. In Khanfar, 49% of female respondents reported reducing water consumption, compared to only 31% of male respondents. However, in other districts, such as Jayshan and Zinjibar, there were no significant differences between male and female respondents.

In terms of the time, it takes to fetch water, around 32% fetch water and return in less than 15 minutes, 19% in 15-30 minutes, and 11% in 30-45 minutes. However, 29% did not collect water themselves, indicating dependence on external sources such as piped water into compound.

In terms of access to drinking water, there were notable differences between male and female respondents in some districts. In Ahwar, for example, 68% of male respondents reported a lack of drinking water in the past month, compared to 44% of female respondents. Similarly, in Jayshan, 56% of male respondents reported a lack of drinking water, compared to only 12% of female respondents. However, in other districts, such as Khanfar and Zinjibar, there were no significant differences between male and female respondents.

The water enterprise in Ahwar district suffers from several problems, as the amount of water pumped by the project is not enough for people's needs³⁰.

5.1.3. Water Quality

Overall, the majority of households in all districts reported that the water is safe to drink, with the exception of Jayshan. 70% of all respondents assessed the drinking water as safe, 28% said the taste was poor and 2% reported that the water causes health issues such as diarrhea. There are significant disparities in the assessment of drinking water quality across the 5 districts. All respondents in Zinjibar found the water safe to drink whereas only 28% in Jayshan district assessed it as such. This indicates uneven access to safe drinking water in the districts.

The poor taste of water was widely reported in Jayshan (71%), Khanfar (33%) Sarar (28%), and Ahwar (14%) districts. This suggests issues with proper filtration, softening or chemical treatment of the water in these districts.

The water pollution threatens the live of households, where the most households in the district depends on open ponds or open rainwater harvesting tanks to get the drinking water³¹.

Though small percentages, reports of health issues like diarrhea point to potential contamination of drinking water in some districts. This could be due to lack of or inadequate water treatment, broken or malfunctioning water pipes or poor sanitation. Worth to mention that Ahwar was the highest district that reported health issues like diarrhea with 7% (male 14% and female 0%).

Gender differences in the assessment were only significantly observed in Ahwar and in Jayshan. In Ahwar district where 98% females found the water safe compared to 60% males. This could be due to different water sources or access between males and females in the districts. The opposite is true for Jayshan where more males (38%) compared to females (12%) found the water safe.

³⁰ Ahwar District's Water & Sanitation Office Manager, KII, May 23, 2023

³¹ Sarar District's Water & Sanitation Office Manager, KII, May 22, 2023



Photo 10 Contaminated Water Pond _ Sarar District

5.2. Sanitation

There is no sewage network in Ahwar district, and the district suffers from sewage problems, as sewage water overflows into most of the district's streets³².

5.2.1. Type of Sanitation Facility

Overall, non-flush toilets are the most common type of sanitation facility used by households in the targeted districts (63%), followed by pit without a lid (15%) and open defecation (11%). The percentage of households using non-flush toilets is slightly higher among males (67%) than females (59%). The data suggests that access to and availability of sanitation facilities are significant challenges in the targeted districts. The most commonly used facilities, non-flush toilets and pits without lids, are often inadequate, and open defecation is still practiced by a significant portion of the population.

³² Ahwar District's Water & Sanitation Office Manager, KII, May 23, 2023

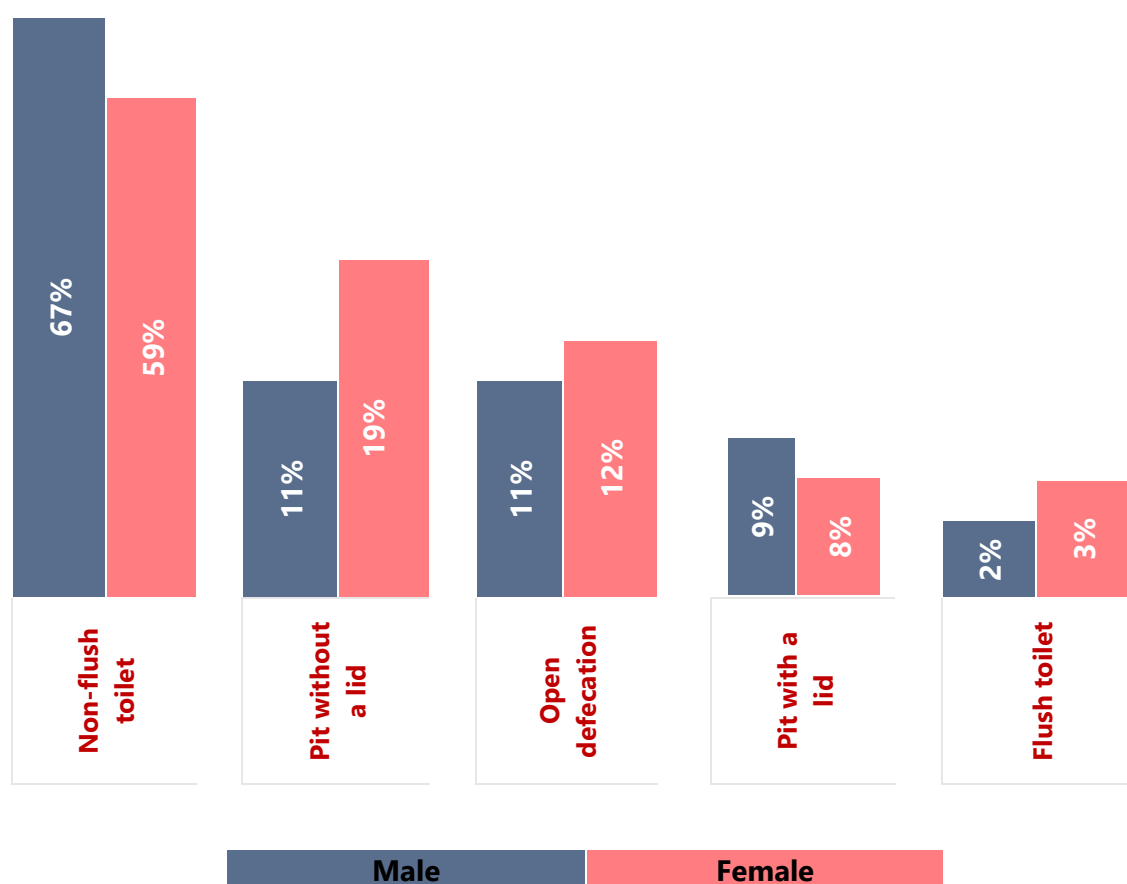


Figure 17 Type of Toilet

At the district level, the most common type of sanitation facilities used by households in the last 30 days vary. In Ahwar, the most common type of sanitation facility is by pit without a lid (61%), followed by pit non-flush toilets (27%), and open defecation (10%). In Jayshan, the majority of households practice open defecation (75%), followed by non-flush toilets (22%). In Khanfar, non-flush toilets are the most common type of sanitation facility (88%). In Zinjibar, non-flush toilets are also the most common type of sanitation facility (47%), followed by pit without a lid (17%) and pit with a lid (35%). In Sarar, non-flush toilets are the most common type of sanitation facility (88%).

When analyzed by gender, the results show that in all districts, non-flush toilets are the most common type of sanitation facility used by both males (67%) and females (59%). However, the percentage of households using non-flush toilets is higher among males in Ahwar (38%) and Zinjibar (51%). In Jayshan, the majority of female respondents reported practice open defecation (88%) as compared to male (62%), while in Khanfar, the percentage of females using non-flush toilets is the same as males (88%).



Photo 11 One Type of HH Latrine _ Khanfar District

Further analysis of the data reveals some interesting patterns and insights. For instance, the high prevalence of pit without a lid as a sanitation facility in some districts such as Ahwar (61%), and Zinjibar (17%) indicates a need for interventions to promote the use of improved latrines with lids. The absence of a lid on pit latrines exposes the fecal matter to flies, animals, and other disease vectors, increasing the risk of disease transmission. Encouraging the use of latrines with lids can help reduce these risks and promote better hygiene and sanitation practices.

Another interesting finding is the high prevalence of open defecation in Jayshan (75%). Open defecation is a major public health concern as it increases the risk of fecal-oral disease transmission and contributes to environmental pollution. Interventions such as the provision of community latrines and behavior change campaigns can help reduce open defecation and promote the use of improved sanitation facilities.

In terms of gender, the data highlights some disparities in sanitation practices between males and females. For example, in Jayshan, the majority of females practice open defecation (88%) compared to males (62%). This could be due to cultural factors that limit women's access to latrines or a lack of appropriate sanitation facilities that cater to the needs of women. Addressing these disparities requires a gender-sensitive approach that takes into account the specific needs and preferences of both men and women.

Table 6 Type of Latrine per District

Type of latrine	Ahwar		Jayshan		Khanfar		Zinjibar		Sarar	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Non-flush toilet	38%	16%	36%	8%	88%	88%	51%	43%	88%	88%
Pit without a lid	44%	78%	0%	2%	5%	7%	16%	17%	2%	8%
Open defecation	18%	2%	62%	88%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Pit with a lid	0%	2%	2%	0%	1%	0%	33%	37%	10%	4%
Flush toilet	0%	2%	0%	2%	6%	5%	0%	3%	0%	0%

5.2.2. Sanitation Issues

Overall, the data showed that, a total of 35% of respondents report no sanitation issues (Jayshan 90%, Ahwar 35%, Sarar 34%, Zinjibar 28% & Khanfar 20%), while 65% of them report the opposite (56% of them report the trash in the streets as the main sanitation issue, 8% report the sewage flowing into the streets as a main problem, and 35% report the both issues). These results suggest that trash in the streets is the most widespread sanitation issue in the five targeted districts. Generally, trash in the streets and sewage issues were problems in 4 out of 5 districts. Only Jayshan reported good sanitation with 90% indicating no issues.

In fact, there is a clear crisis and an unusual deterioration in sanitation that threatens the lives of households and community, with the spread of diseases resulting the lack of specified places for draining waste water and the spread of garbage in the streets, all of which threaten the lives of people in Sarar district³³.

At the district level, the main sanitation issues reported by respondents vary. In Jayshan, Ahwar, Khanfar the most common sanitation issues are both issues (trash & sewage in the streets) with 50%, 49% & 45%, respectively, while in Sarar & Zinjibar districts the most common sanitation issue is the trash in the streets with 98% & 73%, respectively. The following chart shows more details about this. In terms of gender, trash in the streets is a more significant issue among females (63%) than females (49%). Conversely, both issues are a more prevalent issue among males (41%) than males (30%).

³³ Sarar District's Water & Sanitation Office Manager, KII, May 22, 2023

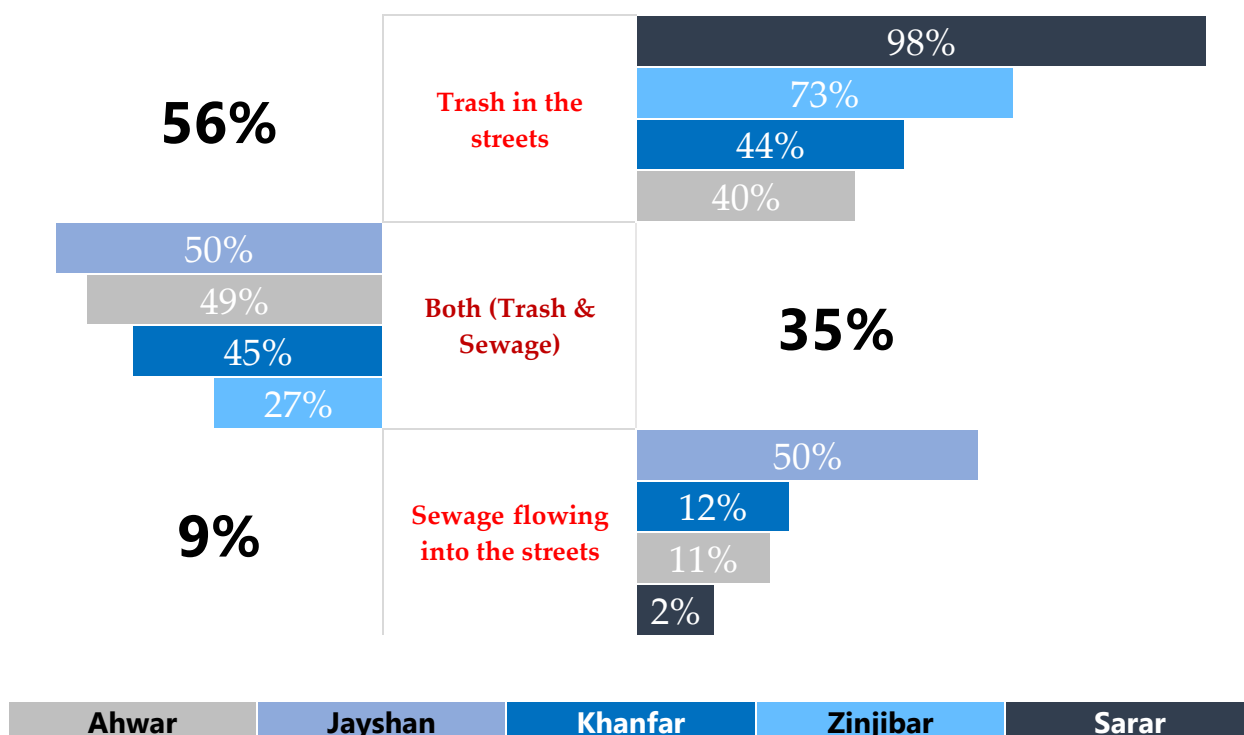


Figure I 8 The Common Sanitation Issues



Photo I 2 Trash in the Streets _ Ahwar District

The high percentage of respondents reporting trash in the streets as a problem in all five districts suggests that waste management is a significant challenge in these areas. The presence of trash in the streets can lead to environmental pollution, health hazards, and unsanitary living conditions. Therefore, interventions that focus on waste collection, segregation, and disposal are crucial in addressing this issue.

The high percentage of respondents reporting sewage flowing into the streets as a problem in four out of five districts indicates that there are significant challenges with the sewage systems in these areas. This issue can lead to environmental pollution, health hazards, and unpleasant living conditions. It can also contribute to the spread of diseases, especially waterborne diseases. Therefore, interventions that focus on improving the sewage systems, including treatment and disposal, are necessary in addressing this issue.



Photo 13 Sewage Flowing into the Streets, Zinjibar District

5.3. Hygiene

5.3.1. Access to Hygiene Items

The data provided shows that the majority of respondents across all districts and genders have reported difficulty obtaining hygiene items, with 71%. However, there are some variations in the responses across districts and genders. The data also shows that when respondents reported difficulty obtaining hygiene items, the main reason cited was the inability to afford them. This answer was consistent across all districts and genders, with 100% of respondents who reported

difficulty in obtaining hygiene items stating that affordability was the primary issue. This suggests that poverty is a significant barrier to accessing hygiene items in the targeted districts, and interventions aimed at addressing affordability must be prioritized to improve access to these items. At the district level, the highest percentage of respondents reporting difficulty obtaining hygiene items is in Ahwar and Jayshan with 81% and 97%, respectively. Khanfar and Zinjibar have reported similar levels of difficulty at 65% and 62%, respectively, while Sarar has the lowest percentage at 68%. This suggests that access to hygiene items is a widespread issue in the targeted districts, with some districts experiencing more difficulties than others. When the data is disaggregated by gender, generally no significant differences found between male and female respondents across all districts except for Ahwar were males (98%) more likely to report difficulty obtaining hygiene items than females (64%).

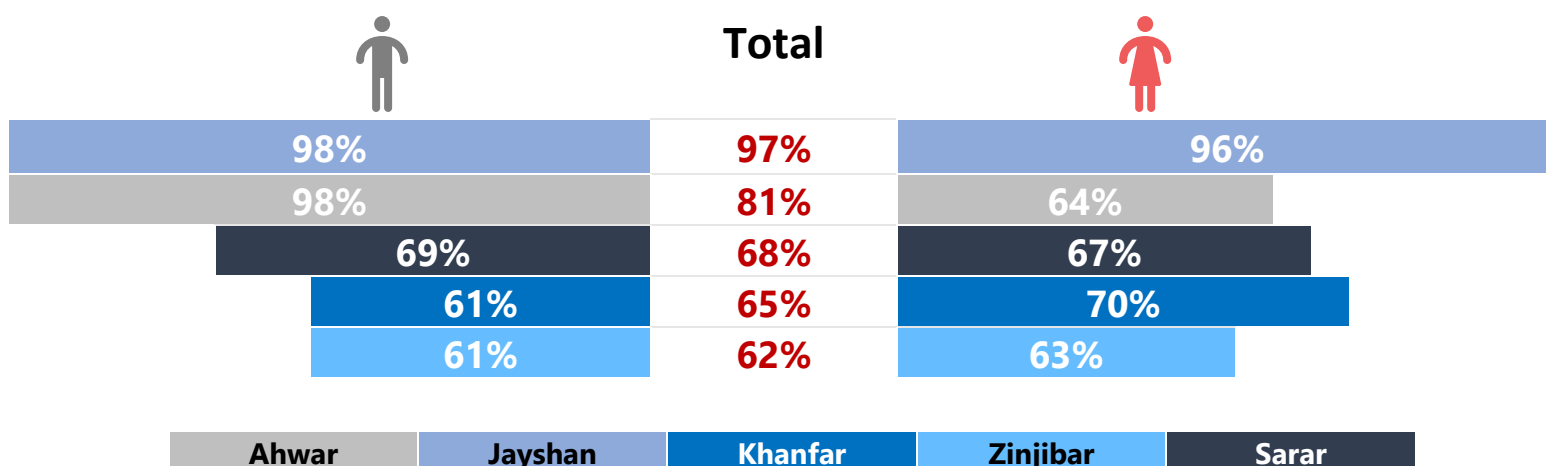


Figure 19 Hygiene Items Accessibility



Photo 14 Sewage Flowing into the Streets, Khanfar District

VI. Health & Nutrition

Health services in the governorate are available through hospitals and healthcare facilities that rely mainly on support from international organizations. The services provided are very limited and insufficient to meet the needs of the population³⁴.

6.1. General Overview

Ahwar District

The health situation is deteriorating in Ahwar district, and it suffers from scarcity of resources. Ahwar General Hospital (there is only one hospital in the district) suffers from a shortage of medical staff and employees, a shortage of medical equipment and devices, as well as a shortage of medicines. As for the health units in the district (11 health units), they are in a worse condition, as they are not furnished and suffer from a shortage of medical equipment, medical staff and medicines. The most common disease in the district are, watery diarrhea, fevers, dengue fever, respiratory diseases, while the blood pressure & diabetes are the most common chronic disease among the people³⁵.

Jayshan District

The health situation is deteriorating in Jayshan district, where the health units in the district suffer from a shortage of medical equipment, medical staff and medicines. The district needs constructing, furnishing and equipping a rural hospital to serve all areas & villages of the district³⁶.

Zinjibar District

The lack of readiness of the health facilities, however the health facilities provide services according to available resources. Some equipment are available, such as beds, but there are many of unavailable equipment such as an anesthesia machine, x-ray device, in addition to unavailability of laboratory solutions as their very high price. Health facilities also suffer from a shortage of medical staff & a severe shortage of medicines, where the available medicines are insufficient, especially with the influx of IDPs to this district. The most common disease in the district are, fevers, while the heart disease, renal failure, blood pressure & diabetes are the most common chronic disease among the people³⁷.

Sarar District

The health situation is degraded in Sarar district, where there is no a hospital in the district, and the health units suffer from a shortage of medical equipment, medical staff and medicines. The

³⁴ Berghof Foundation (2020) Mapping of Local Governance in Yemeni Governorates

³⁵ Ahwar District's Health Office Manager, KII, May 25, 2023

³⁶ Jayshan District's Secretary-General of the Local Council, KII, May 25, 2023

³⁷ Zinjibar District's Health Office Manager, KII, May 25, 2023

district needs constructing, furnishing and equipping a rural hospital to serve all areas & villages of the district³⁸.

6.2. Health

Conflict had resulted in closure of medical facilities and reduced health care operations throughout Yemen. In addition, increasing IDP populations are straining already limited health care resources in host areas of Abyan governorate, and are increasing health risks among vulnerable populations, such as displaced children and pregnant women. According to UNFPA, women in Abyan are without access to the medical and mental health services, and according to (ICRC, 2021), displaced women and girls suffer from additional economic and social vulnerability resulting in limited access to basic services, including to adequate healthcare to treat chronic disease.

6.2.1. Health Facilities Accessibility

There are number of challenges faced by many of the respondents that hinder their access to health facilities, and these difficulties increase in rural districts such as Jayshan, Sarar, Ahwar, and rural areas that targeted in Khanfar district. In the districts of Jayshan and Ahwar, there are no significant differences between the percentages of males and females who indicated that they face these challenges, as in the district of Ahwar it was 52% for females and 50% for males, while in Jayshan it was 66% for both. The situation is different in Sarar district, where the percentages were 71% for females and 57% for males. It is worth noting that in the Khanfar district, the findings showed that 67% of the male respondents and 30% of the female respondents indicated that they face challenges in accessing health facilities. Zinjibar district was the least of the districts in which the respondents face challenges in accessing health facilities, where the percentages were 16% for females and 7% for males. With regard to what are the challenges faced by the respondents, this is shown in the following figure.



Ahwar	Jayshan	Khanfar	Zinjibar	Sarar
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Figure 20 Health Facilities Accessibility

³⁸ Sarar District's Manager, KII, May 21, 2023

6.2.2. Common Disease

When the surveyed households were asked about if there any of their family members has been suffered from common diseases such as diarrhea or fever during the past two weeks, their answers varied as shown in the following figure, as the district of Jayshan was the most vulnerable to health problems during the two weeks preceding the field survey, followed by the district of Ahwar, Zinjibar, Khanfar, and finally Sarar.

It is also clear from the figure that the percentage of households' members who exposed to diseases among male respondents is greater than among female respondents, except in Khanfar & Sarar districts, where the opposite was the case.

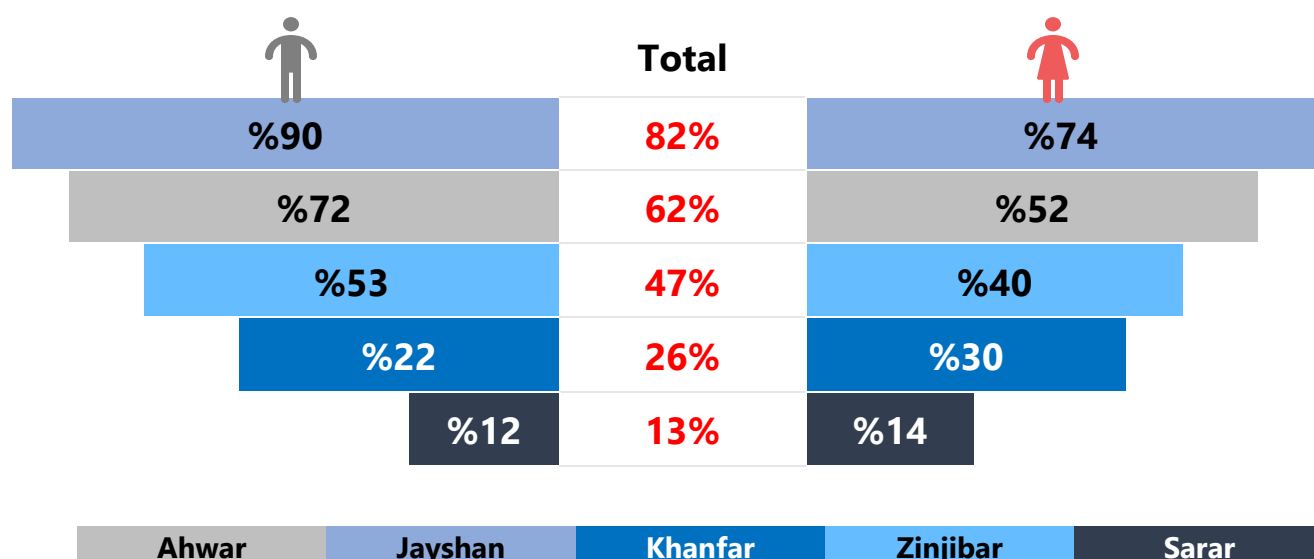


Figure 21 Common Disease During the Last Month

6.2.3. Chronic Diseases

In varying proportions from one district to another, there are many households who some of their members suffer from chronic diseases, this disparity is evident in the graph below, where the district of Ahwar shows the highest incidence of chronic diseases, followed by the district of Zinjibar, Khanfar, Jayshan & Sarar respectively.

In contrast to the common diseases mentioned above, the percentage of chronic diseases was higher among the female respondents than among the male respondents at the level of gender, except in Sarar district.

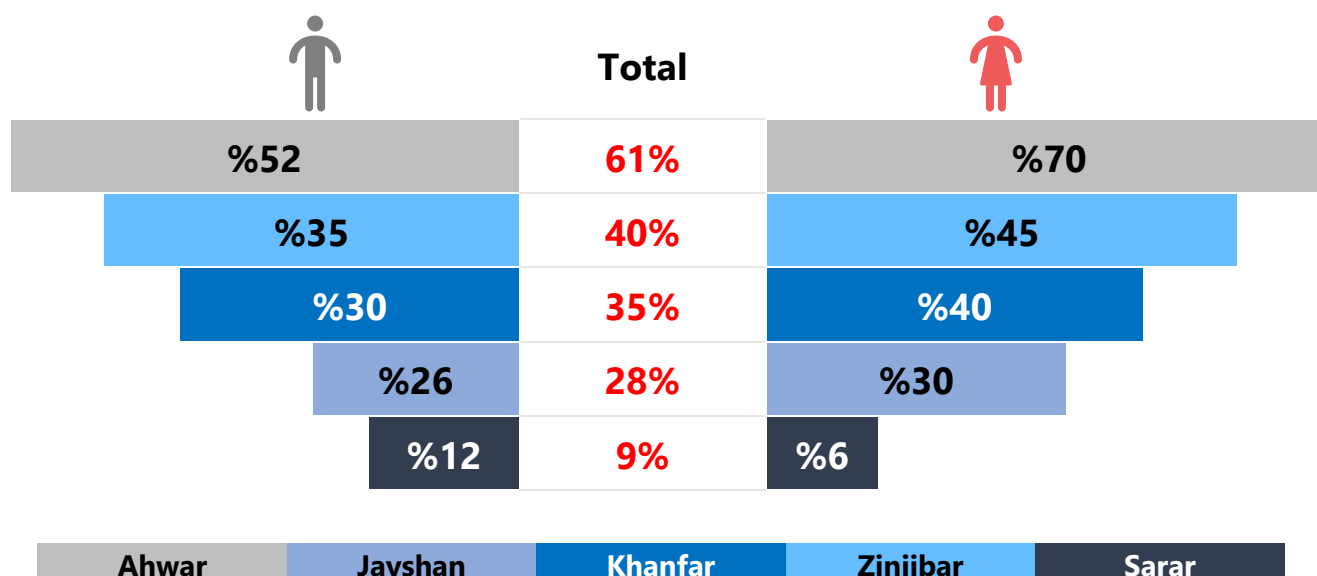


Figure 22 Chronic Disease Among Household Members

In terms of the type of chronic diseases referred to by the respondents, blood pressure was the most mentioned at the district & gender levels, (except Ahwar district where the percent of arthritis disease among female respondents was bigger than the percent of blood pressure). In total percentages, the blood pressure followed by the arthritis disease, diabetes, heart diseases and finally asthma disease.



Photo 15 Al Masani Health Unit _ Ahwar District

6.3. Nutrition

High acute and chronic malnutrition rates were identified among sick children seeking care in health facilities in Lahj and Abyan governorates in Yemen. These higher malnutrition rates exceeded the SPHERE indicators of malnutrition. Boys are more exposed than girls to acute and chronic malnutrition. Gender (male) and type of health facility (Hospital) are predictors to acute malnutrition (wasting) while gender, type of health facility (Hospital) and residency (Non-resident) are predictors to chronic malnutrition (stunting). Authors advised that early detection of malnutrition in children at outpatient clinics should not be neglected. To avoid this ignorance to treat appropriately and to reduce mortality, authors recommended every sick child observed in outpatient or in-patients pediatric departments should be screening for malnutrition.

The prevalence of acute malnutrition (wasting) among the studied sick children in Abyan is 19.3%, where the prevalence of MAM is 12.6%, while the prevalence of SAM is 6.7%. The prevalence of acute malnutrition among male children (25.2%) is significantly higher than among female children (17.5%). The prevalence of the chronic malnutrition (Stunting) in the studied sick children in Abyan is 41.7%³⁹.

6.3.1. Malnutrition Cases

Jayshan district recorded the highest percentage of malnutrition cases among children according to the answers of the respondents, 86% for females and 74% for males, while the respondents of Sarar district indicated that there are no cases of malnutrition in the district as far as they know. Ahwar district comes in second rank after Jayshan district in cases of malnutrition, with 62% of female respondents and 42% of male respondents, followed by Khanfar district, with 39% of females and 43% of males, and finally Zinjibar district, with 32% of females and 45% of male respondents. Also, the vast majority of respondents indicated that malnutrition cases are treated in health centers in the districts.

A very small percentage of respondents in all districts have children under two years old who have been diagnosed with malnutrition. Jayshan district recorded the highest percentage, 11%, followed by Ahwar district 8%, Zinjibar district 6%, and finally Khanfar 4%. With regard to the treatment of the surveyed families for their children diagnosed with malnutrition, the findings showed that the surveyed families in the Jayshan district have the lowest rates of treatment for their children 55%, 75% for the families from Ahwar district, 83% for the families from Khanfar district, and 89% for the families from the Zinjibar district. As for the reasons, why these families did not treat their children who suffer from malnutrition, the most mentioned reason was the lack of money for their treatment. The second reason was the lack of nutritional services provided by health centers in the targeted areas. With regard to the improvement of malnutrition cases that

³⁹ Malnutrition among hospitalized children 12–59 months of age in Abyan and Lahj Governorates / Yemen, Aug 2022, (Authors; Ali Ahmed Al-Waleedi and Abdulla Salem Bin-Ghouth)

are treated, the majority in all districts indicated that cases are improving significantly, 100%, 75%, 67% and 60% in Jayshan, Zinjibar, Ahwar and Khanfar, respectively.

VII. Education

In Abyan, especially, educational indicators have been deteriorating since 2011, at least partially or temporarily, as a consequence of the political crisis. However, these setbacks have only occurred during the last eighteen months, i.e. after the programme had shown positive impacts for several years⁴⁰. 69 schools have been damaged in the war in Abyan. However, teachers were being paid regularly, as Abyan was one of the governorates receiving regular salary payments. Overall, education in Abyan appears to be stable and continues to function, with funding from local authorities and a number of donors⁴¹.

7.1. General Overview

Ahwar District

The students suffer from the study irregularity due to the lack of teachers in schools, where the district needs 207 male and female teachers. The second educational problem in Ahwar district is the textbooks severe shortage for all educational levels. In addition to closing some schools due to conflict or/and lack of staff.

The upper classes students drop out due to economic conditions, which causes students to resort to militarization. All Schools in district need for laboratories, furniture, and solar energy systems⁴².

Jayshan District

Study regularity in Jayshan district is acceptable to some extent, but there is a significant shortage in the textbook from the fifth grade to the second grade of secondary school, as well as, severe shortage in educational staff⁴³.

Khanfar District

In terms of teachers & students' regularity, they are regular in their attendance. The unavailability of textbooks is one of the biggest problems that face in the district, as well as there is a shortage of teachers, which covered to some extent after UNICEF intervened in 2022/2023 educational year. A shortage of classrooms, as the most of schools are only basic schools, and the children in many areas cannot complete their secondary education due to the lack of secondary schools & classrooms, noting that in some areas study only up to the fourth grade, where the schools consist of four classes.

⁴⁰ Yemen: Expansion and Rehabilitation of Elementary Schools in Ibb and Abyan, Phase II

⁴¹ Berghof Foundation (2020) Mapping of Local Governance in Yemeni Governorates

⁴² Ahwar District's Education Office Manager, KII, May 23, 2023

⁴³ Jayshan District's Education Office Manager, KII, May 25, 2023

The overcrowding of students especially in secondary schools, as it is assumed that there will be 35 students in the class, but due to the lack of classes, there are 65 students in one class, which is not enough for them⁴⁴.

Zinjibar District

The irregularity of the student and the teacher due to the strike that took place by many teachers at the beginning of the academic year 2022-2023, and the reason for that was their demand for annual bonuses and settlements. Textbooks are completely non-existent in all schools of the district. Once the teachers strike was finished, the study started to be regular and the students & teachers were attended in regular pattern.

As for the readiness of the schools, there is no school that has all the necessities of study, as some of them need to be furnished, some need to be rehabilitated, some need to add classrooms, the lack of specialized staff for all educational levels in all schools of the district. The challenges that schools face are represented in the lack of textbooks, the lack of specialized staff, the lack of school furniture, and the lack of laboratories⁴⁵.

Sarar District

In general, the study is somewhat regular in all the schools of the district, students and teachers go to their schools on a daily basis, and this is thanks to the parents because they pay the dues of teachers who were employed as contractors by the education office of Sarar district.

Lack of an official teachers (due to death, retirement, and illness of a large number of them), lack of textbooks, lack of readiness of many schools, which need to rehabilitation or add some classrooms, and the inability of parents to pay the teachers dues, all these will lead to the closure of schools in the next year, and the consequences will be disastrous for the future of male and female students in the absence of the government at the time current⁴⁶.

⁴⁴ Khanfar District's Education Office Manager, KII, May 25, 2023

⁴⁵ Zinjibar District's Education Office Representative, KII, May 21, 2023

⁴⁶ Sarar District's Education Office Manager, KII, May 25, 2023



Photo 16 Marhoum Zara'a School, Jayshan District

7.2. School-Age Children

According to assessment results, 72% of respondents in the five targeted districts have school-age children. Of those, 89% send them to school, pointing to barriers in access for 11% of children. Among the respondents with children, 90% of females and 89% of males send their children to school. The data suggests that the majority of the respondents have children of school age, and most of them send their children to school. This is a positive indication of the importance of education in the targeted districts. However, the percentage of respondents who do not send their children to school is still significant, ranging from 14% in Ahwar to 29% in Zinjibar. This indicates that there are still barriers that prevent some children from accessing education.

Looking at the responses at the district level, we can see that the percentage of respondents who have school-aged children varies across the five targeted districts ranges from 61% in Khanfar to 85% in Jayshan, while Ahwar, Zinjibar & Sarar districts are located between the previous percentages, with 76%, 80% & 81% respectively.

Looking at the percentage of parents with school-aged children in each district, we can see that there is a significant difference between the highest and lowest percentages. This suggests that there may be differences in the population demographics between these districts that could be contributing to these variations. For example, districts with a higher percentage of parents with school-aged children may have a younger population, while districts with a lower percentage may have an older population or fewer families with young children.

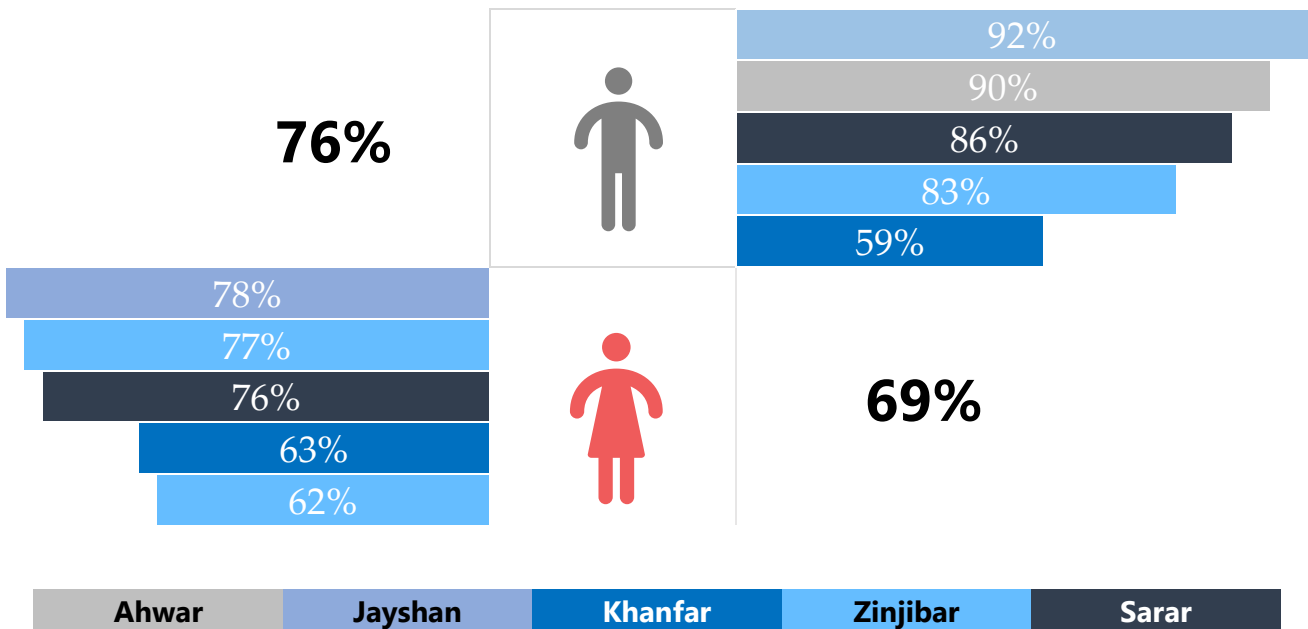


Figure 23 Parents who have School-Aged Children

According to the findings, the percentage of parents who do not send their children to school, we can see that this is generally a small proportion (11%) of the total number of parents with school-aged children. However, there are some districts, such as Ahwar and Zinjibar, where the percentage is relatively high as compared to other districts. For example, in Zinjibar, 80% of respondents have school-age children, of those with children, 71% send them to school, while 29% do not.

While the proportion of respondents reported sending their children to school is 96% in Jayshan, 96% in Khanfar and 98% in Sarar, it is about 86% in Ahwar, and 71% in Zinjibar. This indicates the most substantial obstacles are in Zinjibar, followed by Ahwar, while children in Jayshan, Khanfar and Sarar have the fewest difficulties. This suggests that there may be specific challenges or barriers to education in these districts that need to be addressed.

Considering results by gender, 69% of females and 76% of males have school-age children, 90% of females and 89% of males send their children to school, indicating remaining difficulties for both genders in accessing education.



Photo 17 Two Closed Schools in Ahwar District, Al Ja'sh School (above) & Al Naeem School (below)



Further analysis by gender shows that the percentage of male respondents who reported having school-aged children is generally higher than that of female across all districts. However, in terms of sending children to school the pattern is relatively consistent, equal percentage among males and females except for Ahwar. In Ahwar, respondents with school-aged children have children attending school, with a higher percentage among females (97%) compared to males (78%).

7.3. Reasons for The Children Not Going to School

When examining the three top most common reasons for children not attending school in the past three months, the following trends emerge across the districts:

- Can't afford school: Overall, 83% of respondents listed this as a reason, with a higher percentage among males (89%) compared to females (78%).
- School supplies shortage: Overall, 42% of respondents listed this as a reason, with a higher percentage among females (63%) compared to males (19%).
- Children work to help their parents instead of studying: Overall, 24% of respondents listed this as a reason, with a higher percentage among males (30%) compared to females (19%).

At the district level, show the figure below

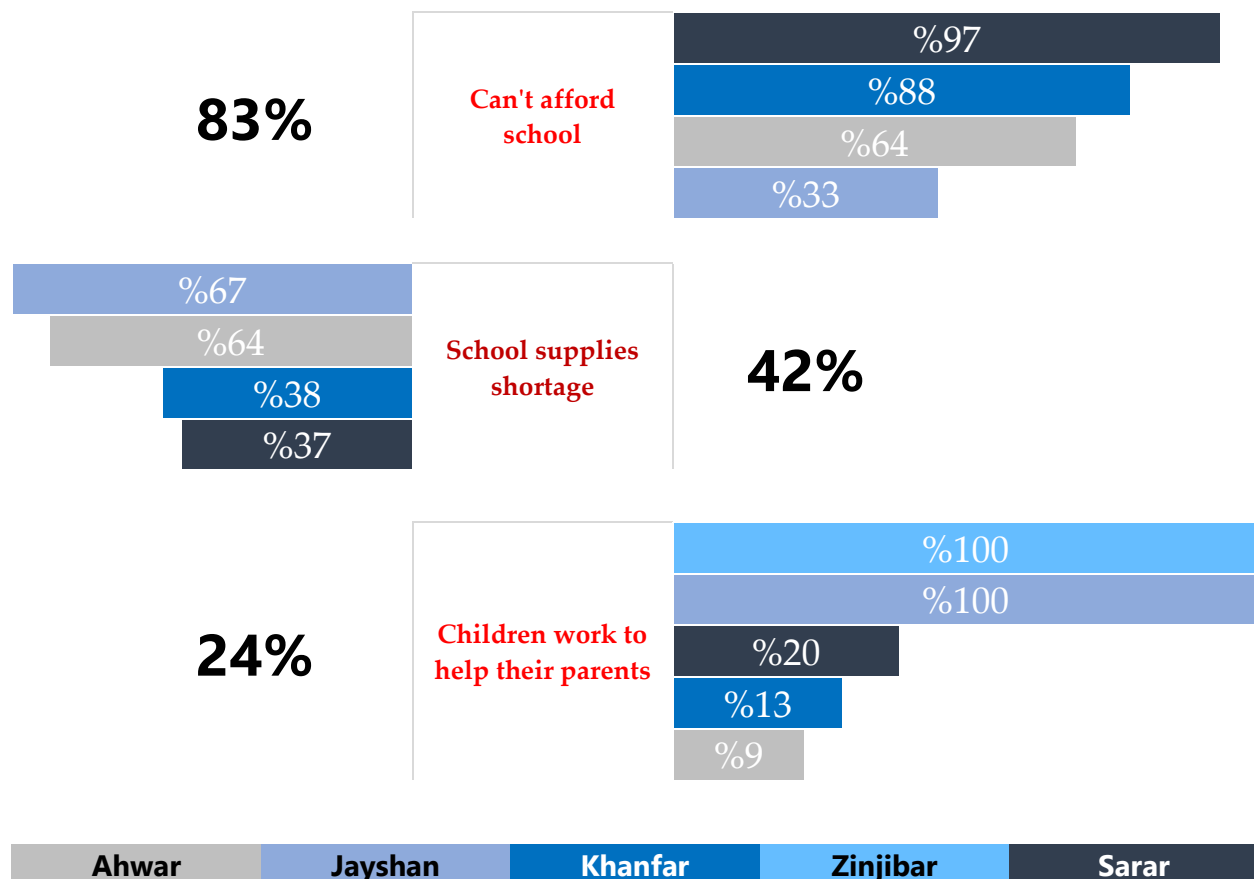


Figure 24 The Common Reasons for the Children Not Going to School

From the view point of the representatives of education offices interviewed the main reasons of school dropout are:

- Difficult financial conditions of the most households and their inability to afford schools, transportation, bags, notebooks, & pens, etc. *(all districts)*
- The lack of textbooks and teaching staff. *(all districts)*
- The remoteness of the schools from some areas & villages, as well as the rugged roads and lack of transportation or its high cost if any. *(all districts)*
- The lack of motivation for students due to the absence of scientific laboratories, as the study depends completely on a theoretical methods & indoctrination which causes boredom for the students. *(Khanfar district)*
- The security situation, where the phenomenon of child abduction has recently spread. *(Zinjibar district)*



Photo 18 Al Majza'a School _ Sarar District

7.4. Urgent Education Needs

The data shows that the most urgent education needs are related to providing financial assistance to families and students, as well as ensuring that students have access to textbooks and other school materials. Children's cash assistance, which includes support for transportation and school

fees, is the highest priority need at 80%. This suggests that many families in the region may struggle to afford the costs associated with sending their children to school, and that targeted financial assistance is needed to ensure that all children can access education.

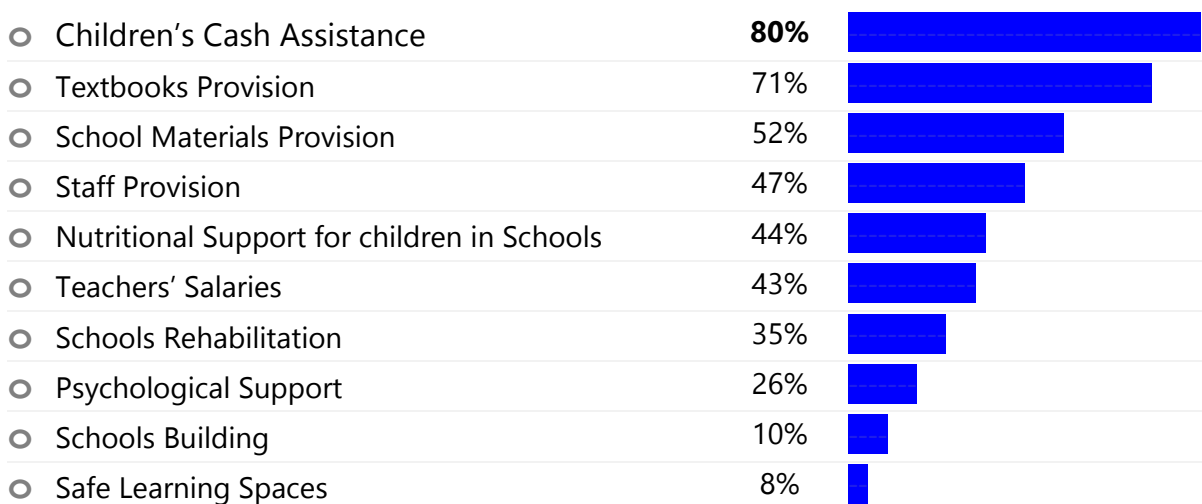


Figure 25 Urgent Education Needs

The need for textbooks and other school materials is also urgent, with 71% of respondents identifying this as a priority need. This indicates that many students may lack access to the materials they need to succeed in school, which can have a negative impact on their learning outcomes. Efforts should be made to ensure that all students have access to high-quality textbooks and other materials, regardless of their family's financial situation.

In addition to financial and material support, the data also highlights the need for staff provision and support. 47% of respondents identified this as an urgent need, suggesting that there may be a shortage of trained educators in the region. Efforts should be made to attract and retain qualified staff, as well as to provide ongoing training and professional development opportunities to support their work.

The data also indicates that nutritional support for children in schools is an urgent need, with 44% of respondents identifying this as a priority. Providing nutritious meals to students can improve their well-being and ability to learn, which can have a positive impact on their long-term educational outcomes. Efforts should be made to ensure that all students have access to healthy, balanced meals while they are in school.

Other urgent education needs identified in the data include teachers' salaries (43%), rehabilitation of schools (35%), psychosocial support (26%), and safe learning spaces (8%). These needs highlight the importance of providing a supportive, safe, and nurturing learning environment for all students, as well as ensuring that educators have the resources and support, they need to provide high-quality instruction.

At the district level, the key education needs vary in scope and priority across districts. The costs of attending school, availability of teachers and learning materials, and provision of adequate staff are the most prominent issues, but differ in importance across locations.

Children's cash assistance for transportation, school fees, and other costs is a top 3 need in all districts except Khanfar, ranging from 64-93%. This suggests that the cost of attending school, is a major barrier for many children to access education. In addition,

Teachers' salaries are a top need only in Khanfar at 92%. This points to a shortage of qualified teachers in that district, which undermines education quality and access.

Nutritional support for children in schools is only listed as a top 3 need in Zinjibar at 53%. While important for child development and learning outcomes, nutritional support does not appear to be a primary need according to respondents in most districts. It may be a lower priority relative to other needs.

School materials, including textbooks, are listed as top needs in 3 out of 5 districts, ranging from 53-96%. Lack of essential learning materials is likely hindering education quality and participation in those areas.

Staff provision is a top need only in Ahwar (87%) and Khanfar (70%). This may indicate a lack of non-teaching staff, or administrators, creating difficulties operating schools.

Table 7 Top Three Education Needs

Top three education needs	Ahwar	Jayshan	Khanfar	Sarar	Zinjibar
Children's cash assistance (transportation, school fees, etc.)	73%	87%	64%	93%	90%
Teachers' salaries	-	-	-	92%	-
Nutritional support for children in schools	-	-	-	-	53%
Providing school materials	55%	-	-	-	-
Staff provision	-	87%	70%	-	-
Providing textbooks	70%	73%	90%	96%	53%

Looking at the above table, a question comes to the mind regarding teachers' salaries point, why only in Sarar district this issue was mentioned as an urgent need at a rate of 92%, while in the rest of the districts were not chosen within the needs. This question was answered by the director of the education office in the Sarar district, where he said that the directorate relies on 250 contracted teachers (non-official teachers, but they were contracted by the education office to cover the

shortage in the educational staff), and whom the parents pay their dues, in order to ensure that the continuing education of their children⁴⁷.

As for the educational urgent needs according to the KII findings, all representatives of education offices interviewed agreed on the following needs:

- Providing an educational staff males & females through hiring or contracting
- Providing the textbooks
- Providing the educational laboratories, equipment and teaching aids
- Providing solar energy systems
- Furnishing the schools
- Rehabilitating the schools
- Add new classrooms for schools which in need to that
- Building schools for remote areas & villages
- Cash and food aid for children & teachers



Photo 19 A Yard Fenced with Zinc Sheets Used as a School for Children _ Zinjibar District

⁴⁷ Sarar District's Education Office Manager, May 25, 2023

VIII. Protection

Yemen, including Abyan, is facing the world's largest protection crisis, with potential widespread violations, forced displacement, and weak rule of law. Latest available HNO data estimates the current population in Abyan governorate at 615,154 out of which 127,825 (21%) are in acute need and 144,150 (23 %) are in moderate need in terms of protection assistance. Comparison between 2018 and 2019 HNO data indicates that the caseload of people in acute need has significantly increased in the protection cluster area (up by 26 %). In Abyan Governorate specifically, those most in need of protection assistance are women (83,199 – 16%), followed by men (78,940 – 13%), girls (56,117 – 9%), and then boys (53,719 – 9%). Limited access to protection leads to negative coping mechanisms, including child recruitment into armed groups, increased child labor, and early marriage⁴⁸.

8.1. Civil Documents

In total, 10% of respondents reported that they face difficulties in obtaining civil documents such as identity cards, birth and/or marriage certificates. At district-level, Jayshan district with 29% was the top (24% males & 34% females), followed by Ahwar district with 20% (30% males & 10% females), then Zinjibar district with 9% (8% males & 9% females), Sarar district with 4% (2% males & 6% females), and finally Khanfar district with 3% (2% males & 5% females). It is noted from the previous percentages that females suffer more than males with regard to obtaining civil documents in all targeted districts except for Ahwar district, where the percentage of males (30%) was more than the percentage of females (10%). As for the reasons of that difficulties, the most common reasons that reported by respondents are represented in the figure below.

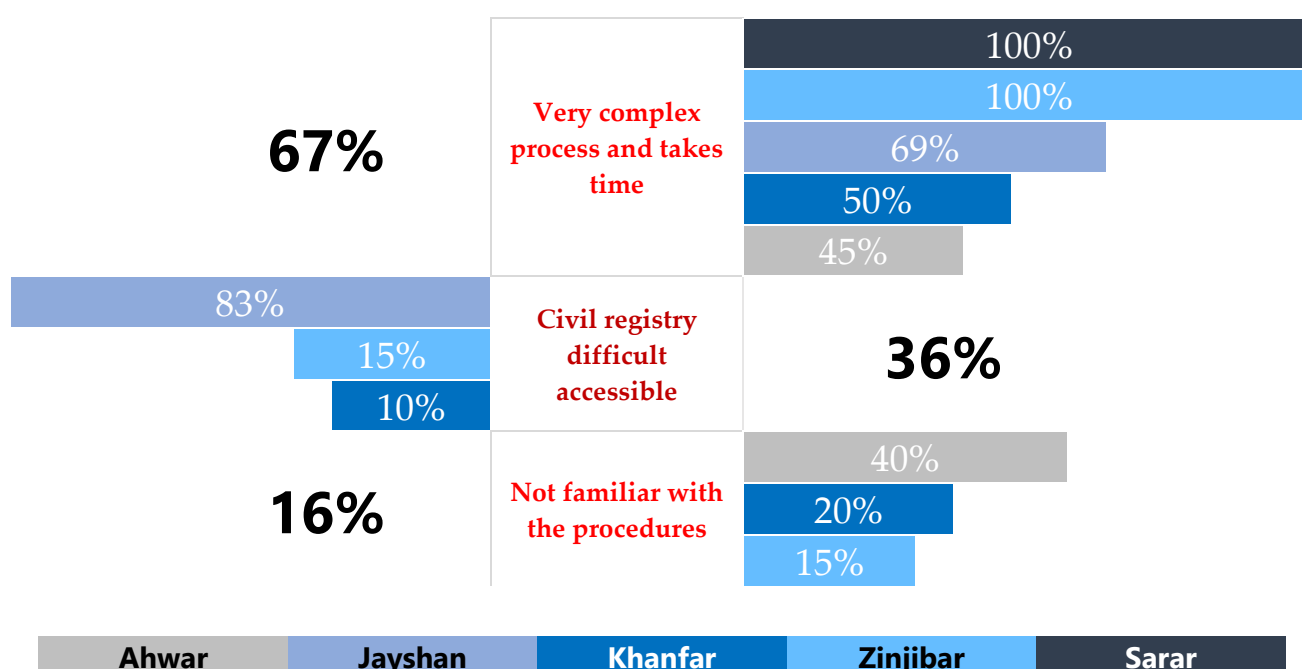


Figure 26 The Difficulties in Obtaining the Civil Documents

⁴⁸ Zinjibar City Profile, UN-Habitat, 2020

It should also be noted here that other reasons were mentioned by some districts exceptionally, where 30% of Khanfar respondents indicated that they face difficulties in obtaining civil documents because they are IDPs, while 25% of Ahwar district respondents reported that they do not have the costs of obtaining civil documents.

The second protection related issue that has been assessed in this assessment was a matter of sponsor of unaccompanied children by the surveyed households, where 2%, only, of the total households reported doing so, (Jayshan 6%, Ahwar 2%, and equally in Khanfar & Zinjibar 1%).

8.2. Protection KIIs Findings

As for the civil documents, for the residents of the Khanfar district, there is no problem with obtaining such documents, but it is forbidden to issuing these documents to the IDPs or those coming from outside the district, so that each person obtains his civil documents from his origin to avoid any problems. There are no protection issues in Khanfar district related to women & children⁴⁹.

One of the reasons of school dropout is the security situation in the district, where the phenomenon of child abduction has recently spread⁵⁰.

In general, there is no civil registry office in Sarar district for issuing the civil documents, so the district needs building three rooms as a civil registry office to issue civil documents, and provide required equipment & supplies to facilitate the issuance process, so people do not have to go to distant places or other districts to obtain such documents.

The customs, traditions and early marriage, all of these stood in the way of providing what is necessary towards women and to not including them in many life and functional tasks which lead to many complications in the community.

Providing support for the girl's basic and secondary education in terms of food and cash is necessary to avoid early marriage and increase the level of girl enrollment in education⁵¹.

There is no civil registry office in Jayshan district for issuing the civil documents, so the district needs construction of civil registry office.

Supporting girls' education, is necessary to enhance the role of women in the community, through cash assistance and providing the female teachers in the district's schools⁵².

IX. Shelter

This part of the assessment targeted the IDPs in the districts of Khanfar and Zinjibar only because they are considered among the most districts in Abyan in particular and in Yemen in general in

⁴⁹ Khanfar District's Manager, KII, May 23, 2023

⁵⁰ Zinjibar District's Education Office Representative, KII, May 21, 2023

⁵¹ Sarar District's Manager, KII, May 21, 2023

⁵² Jayshan District's Secretary-General of the Local Council, KII, May 25, 2023

hosting the displaced since the beginning of the crisis in Yemen, where the total IDPs in Khanfar is 20,013 individuals, and in Zinjibar 12,284⁵³. As mentioned above in a sampling part ([2.1. Sampling](#)) the targeted numbers of IDPs households was 152 households (101 HHs in Khanfar & 51 HHs in Zinjibar, that represented 33% of the targeted households of Khanfar & Zinjibar districts and 20% of the overall surveyed households).

9.1. Accommodation Type

Based on the findings, 30% of overall surveyed IDPs households accommodated in an unofficial and unplanned camp (males respondents with 44% & females with 16%), 26% in a damaged rented house (males respondents with 20% & females with 31%), 25% in an undamaged rented house (males respondents with 20% & females with 30%), 11% in an official and planned camp (males respondents with 9% & females with 12%). At the district level analysis there are a notable difference between the two districts regarding these main four of accommodation types (mentioned above) as shown in the chart below.

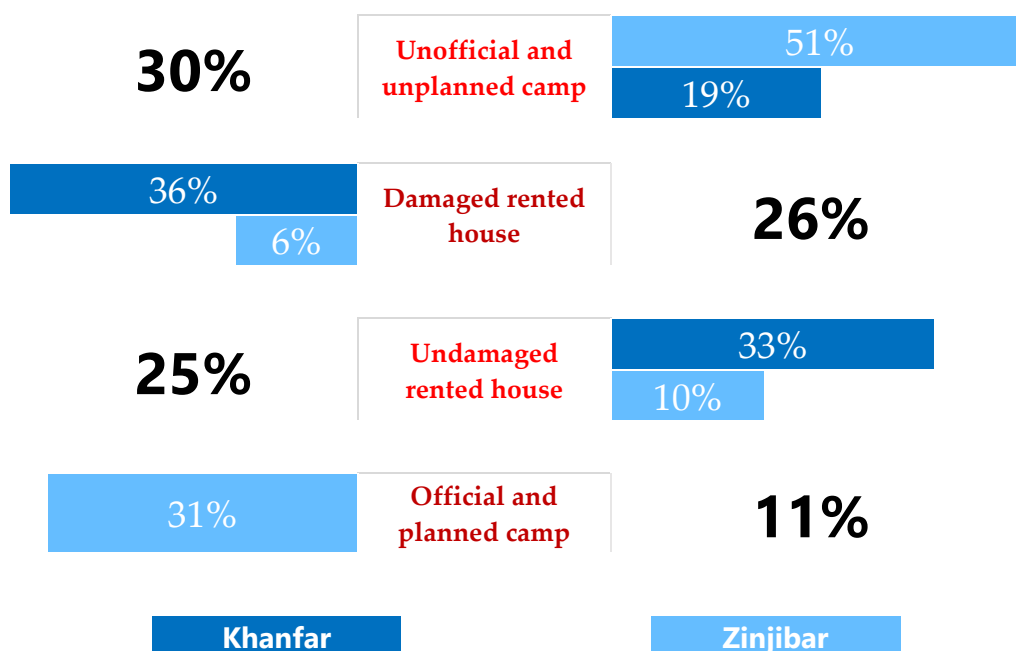


Figure 27 The Accommodation Type

In addition to the main types of accommodation, 5% of IDPs households live in a shared house (rented), and 3% with a host family.

At the gender level of analysis, looking the differences between males & females' percentages in the following chart, as shown the significant differences are more between Khanfar males & females' respondents.

⁵³ UN Final Population Projection Dataset, Yemen 2023



Khanfar

Zinjibar

Figure 28 The Accommodation Type by Gender

As for the IDPs households those live in an official/unofficial and planned/unplanned camps, 67% of them indicated that their shelter type is a tent; 93% of Zinjibar IDPs (100% of males respondents & 86% of females) & 11% of Khanfar IDPs (all of them of males respondents), 21% their shelter type is a random temporary shelter; made of tarpaulin, carton boxes, sacks, or/and reused materials (all of them of males respondents of Khanfar IDPs with 68%), and 12% their shelter type is an ushah; made of reeds & fronds (all of them of males respondents of Khanfar & females respondents of Zinjibar with 21% and 14% respectively).

47% of the total targeted IDPs have one room in their shelters (34% of Khanfar respondents & 73% of Zinjibar respondents), 45% of them have two rooms (53% of Khanfar respondents & 27% of Zinjibar respondents), and 8% have three rooms (13% of Khanfar respondents).

Regarding the home in the origin, 60% of the surveyed IDPs reported that their home in the origin was damaged due to the conflict; 71% of them in Khanfar district (76% of male respondents & 67% of females), and 37% in Zinjibar district (42% of male respondents & 32% of females). As well as, 78% of those who their home in origin was damaged indicated that their home is no longer livable (83% of male respondents & 73% of females), where 48% of them said that their home was partially damaged (58% of male respondents & 37% of females), while 37% said that their home was completely destroyed (31% of male respondents & 44% of females).

As for the IDPs households who live in rented house or with host families, 94% of them reported that they pay monthly rent for housing (97% of male respondents & 93% of females). At district level analysis, 95% of Khanfar respondents (96% of male respondents & 94% of females), and 89% of Zinjibar respondents (100% of male respondents & 75% of females) pay monthly rent. 100% of Zinjibar IDPs and 44% of Khanfar pay 10,000 – 30,000 YR per month as a rent for housing, while 56% of Khanfar IDPs pay 31,000 – 60,000 YR.



Photo 20 Samples of Shelter Types, Khanfar (above) & Zinjibar (below)



9.2. Shelter Quality

As for the general structural shelter condition, 68% of total targeted IDPs shelters in a poor condition, and 32% in an acceptable condition. Regarding the other criteria the following figure shows that in detail, where there is a big percent of the targeted IDPs have no some of shelter basic requirements at all, while the available requirements in a poor condition as shown in the figure.

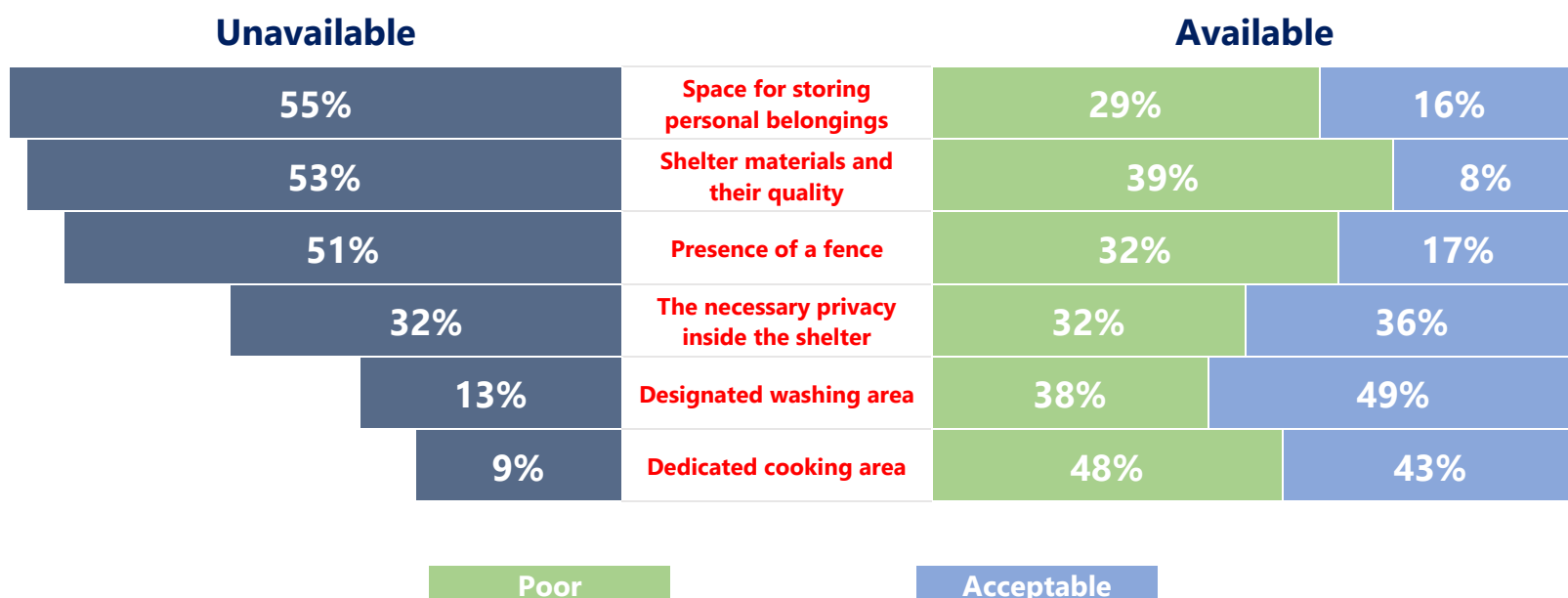


Figure 29 The Shelter Quality Criteria

9.3. Electricity & Cooking Fuel

91% of Khanfar IDPs have electricity in their shelter (86% of male respondents & 96% of females), while 82% of Zinjibar IDPs have no (81% of male respondents & 84% of females). The source of electricity is a public network (governmental), as indicated by 100% of respondents who have electricity in their shelter.

Regarding the cooking fuel, the firewood is the most fuel used by the targeted IDPs with 62% (75% of male respondents & 48% of females), followed by the gas with 19% (7% of male respondents & 31% of females), then the kerosene with 15% (16% of male respondents & 14% of females), and finally the coal with 4%.

At the district level analysis, 55% of Khanfar IDPs (76% of male respondents & 37% of females), and 75% of Zinjibar IDPs (73% of male respondents & 76% of females) use the firewood as a cooking fuel, while 21% of Khanfar IDPs (2% of male respondents & 38% of females), and 16% of Zinjibar IDPs (15% of male respondents & 16% of females) use the gas as a cooking fuel. 22% of Khanfar IDPs and 2% of Zinjibar IDPs use the kerosene as a cooking fuel.

74% of total surveyed IDPs reported that they have no enough cooking fuel in usual (72% of male respondents & 77% of females), where the Khanfar IDPs suffer in cooking fuel insufficiency with 85% more than Zinjibar IDPs with 53%.



Photo 2 | A Firewood in the Kitchens of IDPs _ Khanfar (above), & Zinjibar (below)



9.4. Non-Food Items NFIs

The chart below presents the percentages of IDPs who have No the basic NFIs at total & district levels analysis, and it is clear that, the majority of the surveyed IDPs live in a poor & hard situation with their lack of the of the simplest non-food items that mentioned in the chart. As for gender level analysis, the items unavailability percentages among female respondents bigger than the percentages among male respondents in each item (mentioned in the chart) with exceptional of the solar lamp where the unavailability percentage among males is 100% & among females is 96%.

Khanfar	Total	Zinjibar
93%	98%	100%
93%	94%	96%
57%	60%	65%
52%	57%	67%
49%	55%	67%
57%	53%	45%
43%	44%	47%

Solar Lamp	Mats	Buckets	Blankets	Mattresses	Cooking Stove	Kitchen Utensils
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Figure 30 NFIs Unavailability

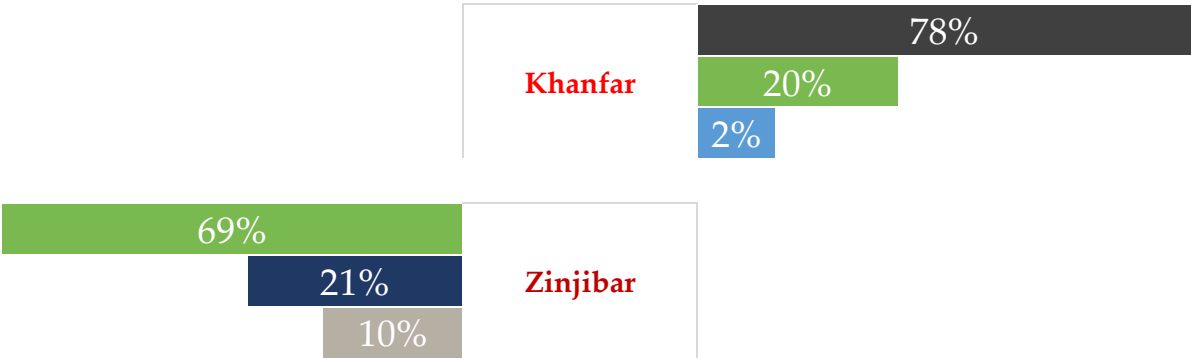


Photo 22 Kitchen Utensils _ Khanfar District

9.5. Shelter Urgent Needs

77% of the targeted IDPs reported that they have shelter urgent needs, 87% in Khanfar (96% of male respondents & 79% of females) and 57% in Zinjibar (54% of male respondents & 60% of females).

As for the type of shelter needs, at total level analysis 58% of surveyed IDPs indicated that they need a rent subsidy (48% of male respondents & 70% of females), 31% of them need shelter maintenance/rehabilitation (43% of male respondents & 20% of females), 6% need transitional shelter, 3% need shelter expansion & NFIs, and 2% need emergency shelter. These needs significantly different between the two districts as shown in the following chart, where the rent subsidy is the top need for Khanfar district IDPs with 78% (62% of male respondents & 95% of females), while for the Zinjibar district IDPs is the shelter maintenance/rehabilitation (64% of male respondents & 74% of females).



Rent subsidy Shelter maintenance/rehabilitation Transitional shelter Shelter expansion & NFIs Emergency shelter

Figure 3 | Shelter Urgent Needs

X. Humanitarian Aid

10.1. Aid Receiving

According to respondents' answers about receiving humanitarian assistance during the six months preceding this assessment, the highest percentage was in Jayshan district, where 100% of female respondents and 96% of male respondents indicated that they had not received any aid, followed by Zinjibar district, where 91% of female respondents & 83% of males reported that they did not receive assistance during the six months preceding this assessment. 88% of females and 83% of males in Khanfar district, as well as 28% of females and 86% of males in Ahwar also indicated that they did not receive any assistance, and finally, Sarar district, which recorded the highest

percentage in terms of receiving aid, as the percentage of those who did not receive assistance from Sarar respondents was 22% of females and 24% of males only.

As for the type of assistance that the respondents received, it was 100% in-kind assistance, with the exception of the assistance received by the female respondents in Ahwar district, where 47% of them received in-kind assistance and 53% received cash assistance. As well as the assistance received by the respondents in Khanfar district, where 62% of the males received In-kind assistance, 19% cash assistance, and 19% both types of assistance, while 78% of females received in-kind assistance, 17% cash assistance and 6% both types.

10.2. Urgent Needed Aid

When the respondents asked what kind of assistance does their families urgently need, the majority said the cash assistance, followed by food assistance, then nutrition assistance, after that the health assistance and finally shelter materials assistance. The following chart shows the percent of each choice at gender level.

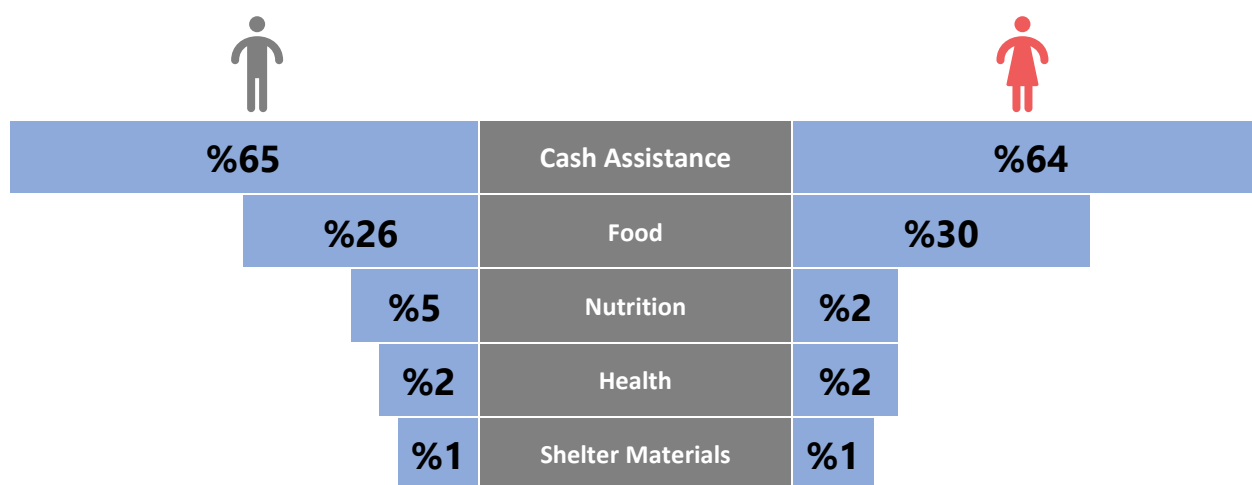


Figure 32 Urgent Needed Assistance

XI. Recommendations

11.1. Livelihoods & Food Security

❖ Implementing Cash-for-Work projects to;

- ✓ Providing job opportunities for males & females who are unable to find other sources of income
- ✓ Help to reduce poverty of communities, reduce food insecurity risks, and improve the overall quality of life for them
- ✓ Provide skills training and work experience that can be used to find job in the future
- ✓ Protecting the targeted community assets from total destruction, re-operating and using them again
- ✓ Contributing to the development of infrastructure capital, such as roads, rain water harvesting tanks, dams, and public buildings, which can improve agriculture, livestock, access to markets and services
- ✓ Increasing the amount of money circulating in the community, stimulate local economies, markets rebound, provision of goods and services by merchants, etc.

❖ Supporting Livestock

- ✓ Sheep distribution, especially to the households that headed by females & those have no stable income source
- ✓ Providing sheep fodder, especially for households for whom this matter constitutes a major obstacle in developing their livestock and benefiting from it as an appropriate source of income (who live in urban areas)
- ✓ Training courses in modern livestock methods, where the livestock play an important role, providing food and income for families, especially in districts of Ahwar, Jayshan, Sarar, and to some extent in Zinjibar. However, without proper management, livestock can be a drain on resources and the environment. Courses could be offered to households (men & housewives) covering topics such as animal health, feed management, breeding, and housing.

❖ Support and Encourage Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs)

- ✓ Targeting the households in which members who have professional skills and handcrafts
- ✓ Professional training, for men & women, on skills that needed in community
- ✓ Cash assistance support as a SME capital
- ✓ Projects planning & framework
- ✓ Training courses in SMEs management, financial skills, marketing, etc.

❖ Support & Encourage the Agriculture

- ✓ Targeting the small-scale farmers
- ✓ Cash assistance support as a quick response to relieve the farmers suffering
- ✓ Providing them with essential items such as high-quality seeds, and tools to improve their yield and the quality of their crops
- ✓ Providing drip irrigation network if there is a nearby water source to their lands

- ✓ Modern agricultural methods, it is essential that farmers learn about good techniques to improve crop yields, reduce crop loss, and improve soil quality. Such courses could cover areas such as soil fertility, crop rotation, pest management, and irrigation systems

❖ **Urgent Cash or Food Basket Assistance to**

- ✓ Improve the households' food consumption scores
- ✓ Reduce the risks of high coping strategies that used by households
- ✓ Increase the food security levels in the targeted districts

11.2. WASH

- ❖ Efforts should be made to improve piped water access as unprotected wells and harvested rainwater are not safe sources of drinking water.
- ❖ Maintenance the public water network & tanks
- ❖ Addressing the underlying causes of water scarcity is also crucial (construction of rainwater harvesting tanks, dams, etc.)
- ❖ Proper filtration or chemical treatment (chlorination) of the water should be ensured to improve the quality of water.
- ❖ The affordability of hygiene items must be addressed to improve access to these items (interventions such as financial assistance can be implemented to address affordability).
- ❖ Targeted interventions to address gender disparities in access to safe drinking water and hygiene items.
- ❖ Additionally, efforts should be made to increase awareness of safe drinking water practices and promote proper hygiene practices.
- ❖ Knowledge, Attitude, & Practice (KAP) activities, should be included in any WASH projects
 - ✓ To promote the use of improved latrines with lids instead of pits without lids
 - ✓ To reduce open defecation, through behavior change awareness sessions.
- ❖ Constructing the sanitation network in the districts which have no such network
- ❖ Interventions should focus on waste collection, and disposal, as well as improving the sewage systems, including treatment and disposal, to address the widespread sanitation issues of trash and sewage flowing into the streets (hygiene & waste management campaigns)

11.3. Health & Nutrition

- ❖ Constructing, furnishing, and equipping the rural hospital Jayshan & Sarar Districts
- ❖ Providing mobile clinics providing health services for free, in villages far from health facilities
- ❖ Supporting health facilities with medical devices, supplies, and medicines needed by the community, provided that the health facility provides its services for free
- ❖ Developing the skills of the medical staff in health facilities through training in all fields, especially the field of therapeutic nutrition
- ❖ Implementation of a nutrition project in the targeted districts, with the aim of
 - ✓ Counting malnourished children
 - ✓ Targeting them with activities designed to contain and treat such cases of all kinds
 - ✓ Providing the nutritional supplements & distribution to malnourished children

- ✓ Conducting monthly educational sessions for mothers about good nutritional practices
- ❖ Inventory and registration of cases of chronic diseases, and the provision of periodic examinations and medicines necessary for these cases in the nearby health facilities so that they are disbursed monthly to patients free of charge

11.4. Education

- ❖ Efforts should be made to provide targeted financial assistance to families and students
- ❖ Ensure access to textbooks and other school materials
- ❖ Attract and retain qualified staff
- ❖ Providing laboratories, educational aids, & solar systems to schools
- ❖ Provide nutritional support for children in schools.
- ❖ Rehabilitation of the dilapidated & reoperation of the closed schools
- ❖ Construction the additional classrooms in schools in need to expansion especially the secondary schools
- ❖ The education needs vary in scope and priority across districts; hence, tailored solutions are needed for each district

11.5. Protection

- ❖ Simplify the procedures of obtaining official civil documents
- ❖ Opening the civil registry office in Jayshan & Sarar Districts
- ❖ Opening service points affiliated with the civil registry in rural areas far from district centers
- ❖ Providing services with free or nominal fees, so that all citizens can obtain the important civil documents, as the high fees imposed on these documents constitute an obstacle for many of them
- ❖ Finding effective solutions regarding IDPs' access to such important civil documents
- ❖ Reoperation of closed civil registry offices, if there are, in targeted districts
- ❖ Accurate and documented enumeration of cases of unaccompanied children by the district administration, so that organizations active in this aspect can take the necessary measures to deal with such cases and provide support for them.
- ❖ Supporting the girl's basic and secondary education in terms of food and cash to avoid early marriage

11.6. Shelter

- ❖ Rent subsidy & shelter rehabilitation for IDPs live in rented house
- ❖ Shelter maintenance for IDPs live in camps
- ❖ Distribution of NFIs for all IDPs in Khanfar & Zinjibar
- ❖ Monthly distribution for cooking fuel

XII. Annex

12.1. The Targeted Neighborhoods & Villages

Table 8 The Targeted Neighborhoods & Villages

Sarar	Khanfar	Jayshan	Ahwar	Zinjibar							
Almajza’	Kadamat Lazboud	Marhum	Ambusti	Basheharah							
Adhman	Almuthalath	Zara'a	Jawl mahdi	Bajdar							
Almaharis Ala’ala	Almehraq	Amutom	Alnaeem	Tomaisi							
Almaqdah	Hafat Qaddar Allah	Amigharibiih	Alhisn	Alfalujah							
Alsafa’h	Ja’ar	Amatfah	Alshaqah	Zinjibar City							
Almusoh	Kadamat Alsayid Qasim	Qaradh	Alhufrah	5							
Alsayla	Alrumaylah (Sakin Abdulkhaliq)	shaqah	Alja’ash								
Alqaud	Alsintiral	Rahab	Alhajnah								
Jaradah	Alluhum	Dulamah	Alkadamah								
Amran	Sakin 'Amin	Rafwan	Almasani								
Amhablah	Alathar	Jabirah	10	13							
Amsfahah	Halamah	Sa’adah									
Alfara’h	Alhabil	Heeb									
Alhajaishah	Kabath	13	10								
Thuman	Habil Barq										
Mathabah	Sakin Tabiq										
Rahwat falahah	Hafat Alhukumah										
Hawj	Daby										
Aal Dawood	18				22						
Aal Badil											
Am’aqabah											
Almaharis Al'asfal											

12.2. Food Security Indicators

12.2.1. The Food Consumption Score (FCS)

The following table includes the food groups & items that were asked about in this assessment, and how the FC final score is calculated⁵⁴.

Table 9 Food Groups and Weightings

Food Item	Frequency	Food Group	Weight	Weighted Score Frequency * Weight
Maize	2	Main staples	2	14
Rice	2			
Bread/wheat	6			
Tubers	1			
Total & Recode	11 >>> 7			
Groundnuts & Pulses	1	Pulses	3	3
Fish (eaten as a main food)	0	Meat & Fish	4	0
Fish powder (used for flavor only) ⁵⁵	3			
Red meat (sheep/goat/beef)	0			
White meat (poultry)	0			
Eggs	0			
Total & Recode	0			
Milk and dairy products (main food)	0	Milk	4	0
Milk in tea in small amounts ⁵⁶	2			
Total & Recode	0			
Vegetables (including leaves)	2	Vegetables	1	2
Fruits	0	Fruit	1	0
Vegetable oil, fats, butter	4	Oil	0.5	2
Sweets, sugar	5	Sugar	0.5	2.5
FCS				23.5

Table 10 FCS Thresholds

Acceptable food consumption	> 35
Borderline food consumption	35 ≥ FCS ≥ 21.5
Poor food consumption	≤ 21

⁵⁴ <http://foodsecuritycluster.net/document/wfp-food-consumption-score-technical-guidance-sheet>

⁵⁵ Not calculated

⁵⁶ Not calculated

12.2.2. The Reduced Coping Strategies Index (RCSI)

The following table includes the coping strategies that were asked about in this assessment, and how the RCSI final score is calculated.

Table 11 Coping Strategies and Severity Weighting

Coping Strategy	Raw Score (Frequency)	Severity Weight	Weighted Score = Frequency * Severity Weight
Rely on less preferred and less expensive food	N	1	$N * 1$
Borrow food or rely on help from friends or relatives	N	2	$N * 2$
Limit portion size at mealtimes	N	1	$N * 1$
Purchase food on credit	N	2	$N * 2$
Reduce the number of meals eaten in a day	N	1	$N * 1$
Total Reduced CSI	Sum down the total for each individual strategy		<u>Score</u>

Table 12 RCSI Thresholds

No or low coping	0 – 3
Medium Coping	4 – 9
High Coping	≥ 10

12.3. The Community Assets that can be targeted by CFW Projects

District	Agriculture Assets	WASH Assets	Schools	Health Facilities	Others
Ahwar	Reclaiming Agricultural Lands	- Maintenance of water & sewage networks - Digging pumping lines to deliver water to the new deprived areas	Rehabilitation of all schools in the district	Rehabilitation of the following health units: Al-Yahawiyah HU, Al-Ruwaad HU, Hisn Baleed HU, Wadi Al-Barik HU, & Al Rasras HU	-
Jayshan	- Reclaiming Agricultural Lands - Rehabilitation of the water barriers	Rehabilitation of some water wells	Rehabilitation of the schools of "Rehab Sufa, Salih Sawad, Misrrat, Wasr, Al-Zahraa for Girls, Zholama, Al-Af"	-	Paving the main roads in the district
Khanfar	Rehabilitation of irrigation canals & some wells	Maintenance of water & sewage networks	Rehabilitation of all schools in the district except that targeted by CARE & YHF	-	-
Zinjibar	- Maintenance of irrigation canals - Removing sediment and trees from irrigation canals	Maintenance of water & sewage networks	- Al-Wahda Primary School for Boys, located in Sawahel (The building is completely dilapidated) - Sawahel Secondary School, boys, as it needs finishes such as cladding, tiles, and maintenance of the water and sewage networks.	- Rehabilitation of latrines, water & sewage networks of Zinjibar General Hospital - Change the tile, and doors of Covid-19 center in Zinjibar General Hospital	-
Sarar	- Reclaiming Agricultural Lands - Construction of the water barriers & dams	- Restore the water network - Constructing individual rainwater harvesting tanks and covering prefabricated ones	- Rehabilitation of all schools in the district - Construction of the schools' internal section for students of remote areas	Construction of rural hospital in the district	- Paving the unpaved part of Sarar market - Paving the main roads in the district