

PRESS RELEASE

UNDP and Japan Invest in Yemeni Women to Build Resilience During Crisis

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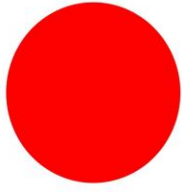
UNDP and the Government of Japan are launching a Women Economic Empowerment programme geared to economically empower Yemeni women of Taiz and Ibb governorates. Mostly absent from the labour market, women possess an untapped potential for value chains and local economic activity which has become even more vital within the current crisis as livelihoods are directly and durably affected by the war, insecurity and the economic blockade.

The project is three-fold and includes emergency community-based cash-for-work for fast employment and rapid cash injection in the economy to stabilize livelihoods with the Social Fund for Development, developing the dairy sector into a value chain for increased food security, and support midwifery micro-enterprises as social business.



“Women are the invisible economic agents of Yemen. Supporting women to build resilience against shocks from the war and to keep household and community livelihoods active is a path to recovery and peace,” says Mikiko Tanaka, UNDP Country Director.

The targeted women in Taiz and Ibb will develop their entrepreneurial aptitudes to launch dairy and midwifery businesses, creating linkages with local private sector actors, in partnership with Spark and the National Midwifery Association.



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"I was extremely encouraged by the firm determination of all who have engaged in ground works to implement this programme under these adverse circumstances. I believe women have a variety of potential to invigorate economic activities and generate household incomes," says H.E. Katsuyoshi Hayashi, Ambassador of Japan to Yemen. "Since the humanitarian crisis aggravated, Japan has supported the United Nations and other international organizations to assist the Yemeni population with a package amounting to approximately USD 40 million."

Japan's contribution to Yemen through UNDP has reached USD 14.64 million since 2012.

For more information:

Please contact: Farah Abdessamad, Programme Specialist

Mobile: (+967) 712221959

E-mail: farah.abdessamad@undp.org