



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



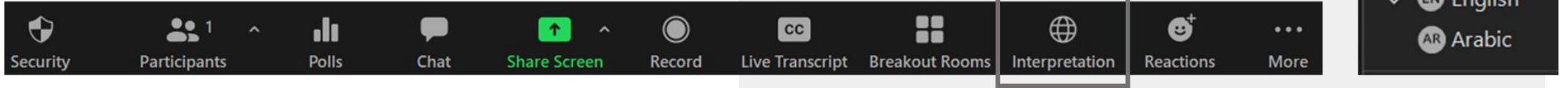
Sharing to Survive: The Role of Social Networks during the Yemen Crisis

Feb. 10, 2022 | 8:00 - 9:00 AM ET

Welcome & Important Instructions

الترحيب وتعليمات هامّة

- Select English or Arabic: Everyone must select a language!



• اختار اللغة العربية أو الانجليزية: يجب على الجميع اختيار لغة!

- Fill out the poll on your screen
- Introduce yourself in the chat

Remember:

- Mute yourself when not speaking
- Reach out to Corena or Emily in the chat for any tech support

• املاً الاستطلاع الظاهر على الشاشة أمامك

• عرّف عن نفسك باستخدام أداة الدردشة "chat"

ملاحظات تذكيرية:

- يرجى كتم صوت الميكروفون إن لم تكن تتكلم
- يرجى التواصل مع سوزان (Corena) أو أميلي (Emily) باستخدام الدردشة إذا واجهت أي مشاكل تقنية

Today's Panel



Dr. Jeeyon Kim
Senior Researcher, Mercy Corps

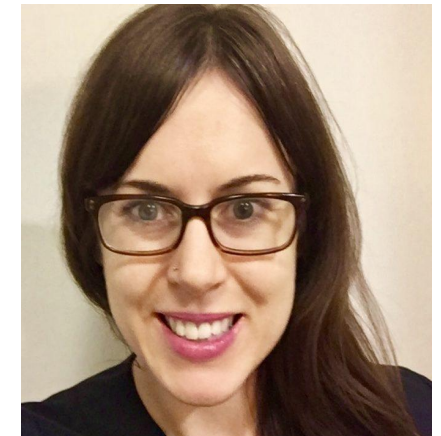


Emily Henderson
Humanitarian Adviser, FCDO



Yazeed al-Jeddawy
Fellow, Yemen Peace Forum and
Independent Research Consultant

Moderator



Dr. Jessica Anderson Senior
Conflict Advisor, USAID's
Center for Resilience

AGENDA

- **Welcome**
- **Presentation**
 - Sharing to Survive: Investigating the Role of Social Networks during the Yemen Crisis
- **Panel discussion**
 - Lessons for Yemen, aid community and push to localize response
- **Audience Q&A**

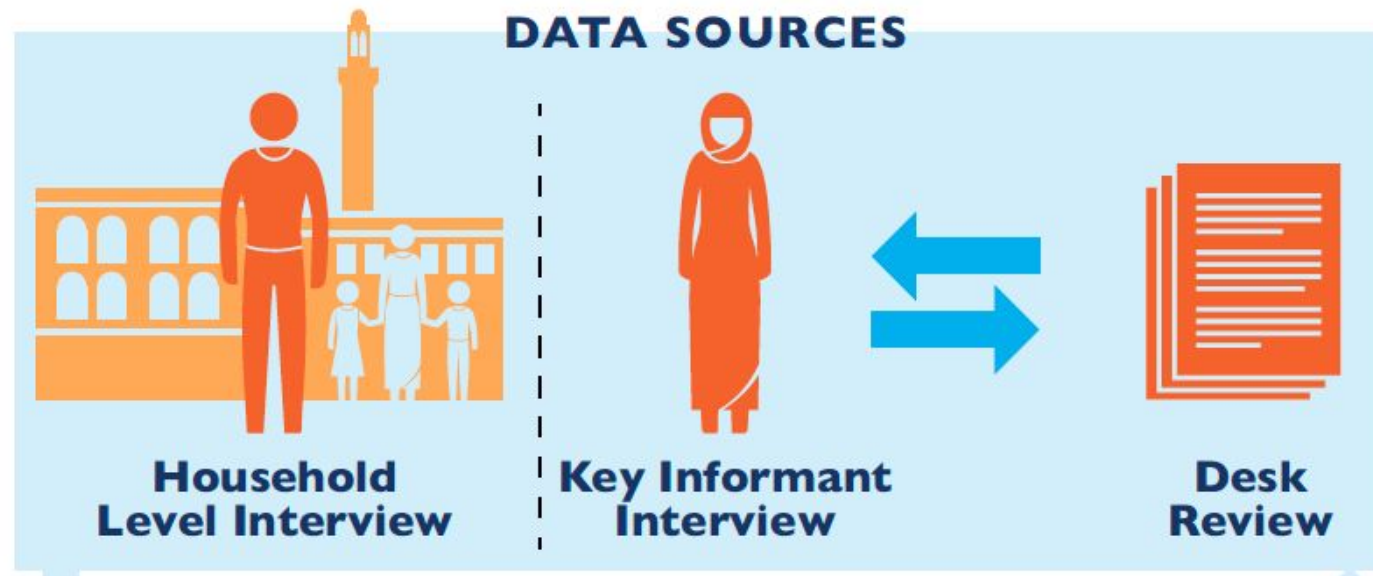


Sharing to Survive: Investigating the Role of Social Networks during the Yemen Crisis

Data and methods

Research Questions:

- How are households relying on informal social protection networks to cope and survive in the protracted crisis?
- How has the experience of conflict, resource depletion, and the COVID-19 pandemic affected these networks?
- How is external assistance affecting informal social protection networks?



During the humanitarian crisis, informal support networks are key to people's ability to cope and survive...

People have learned to survive on the bare minimum...

The social support system is the only thing that is holding [the] people together.

— Female NGO worker, Taiz

- Informal social protection long predates current crisis and aid actors' arrival.
- A variety of resources are mobilized through informal support networks critical in crisis -- remittances from diaspora is key.
- *Intangible* forms of support are also significant for households' resilience in the crisis.
- The degree to which households and individuals are socially connected mediated by number of factors including age, gender, social class, livelihood.

However, these networks are under immense pressure given new and recurring challenges.

- At outset of conflict, material resources liberally shared in absence of external assistance
- The war, accompanying economic disruptions, a cascade of shocks and stresses, and an unprecedented scale of humanitarian need have all strained the extent to which households are able to mobilize support through their networks
- COVID-19 pandemic and accompanying public health measures further strained households and their resources

I do not ask anything even from my own brothers...Everyone is barely able to take care of their own needs. Even if you ask for help from relatives, they can only give you a small amount of money that does not cover your needs. Therefore, it is better if you rely on yourself and God will assist you.

— Female government employee, Taiz

External assistance can (inadvertently) strain informal support networks.

The international community does not know about the social puzzle that we live in. Therefore, they have a picture that Yemenis are simple and care about each other. They think that people will voluntarily help each other and that they will not discriminate against each other.

— Female Humanitarian Worker, Taiz

- Aid helps to reduce demand on household resources and facilitate resource-sharing
- Aid community is missing the opportunity to better integrate social networks into programming, due to:
 - 1) limited contextual understanding;
 - 2) narrow and opaque selection criteria;
 - 3) unclear parameters on aid sharing.

So what can the aid community do differently?

1. Measure and monitor informal social protection networks
2. Design programs and community engagement strategies in ways that support, and at the very least do not undermine, informal social protection networks
3. Seek out and invest in opportunities to meaningfully partner with informal social protection efforts

A vertical yellow bar is located on the left side of the slide, extending from the top to the bottom.

PANEL DISCUSSION

Q & A

REAL EVENTS: Resilience in Protracted Crises

This series explores key elements of resilience in protracted crises. Recent discussions focused on these concepts:

- continuous context analysis,
- strengthening violence prevention,
- supporting local market and social systems, and
- the role of social networks.

These discussions focus on how USAID investments can be better designed and delivered to protect current and future well-being in recurrent and protracted crises.

[Discussion series info page](#) - link in chat box
Stay tuned for more discussions in this series in 2022!

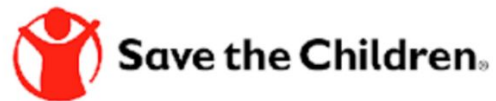


Thank You!

شكرًا!



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



This presentation is made possible by the generous support and contribution of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents of the materials produced through the REAL Award do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.