

*“Empowering Women is key to building a future we want”*  
*-Amartya sen*

A work submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Master’s in  
International Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid.

Final Assignment:

**The impact of women economic empowerment on  
entrepreneurship (case study -Yemen)**

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## **CONTENTS**

<b><u>LICENSE AND DECLARATIONS</u></b>	
<b>LICENSE</b>	3
<b>DECLARATION BY AUTHOR</b>	3
<b>STATEMENT OF PARTS OF THE THESIS SUBMITTED TO QUALIFY FOR THE AWARD OF ANOTHER</b>	
<b>DEGREE</b>	3
<b>OWN PUBLICATIONS INCLUDED IN THIS THESIS</b>	3
<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS</b>	4
<b>DEDICATION</b>	4
<b><u>ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT</u></b>	<b>5</b>
<b>CATEGORIES</b>	5
<b>AUTHOR</b>	5
<b>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</b>	5
<b>NOTE OF THE READER</b>	
5	
<b><u>CHAPTER 1 -INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY</u></b>	<b>6</b>
1.1 INTRODUCTION	6
1.2 BACKGROUND	6
1.3 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM	8
1.4 RESEARCH GOAL & RESEARCH QUESTIONS	8
1.5 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY	9
1.6 SCOPE OF THE STUDY / ADDED VALUE	10
1.7 DESCRIPTION OF THE STUDY AREA	10
<b><u>CHAPTER 2-LIERATURE REVIEW</u></b>	<b>12</b>
2.1 HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE AND INTERVENTION	12
2.2:HUMANITARIAN PRINCIPLES AND ACTIONS	13
2.3: HELTH CARE	13
2.4RELIEF IN YEMEN	14
2.5 EDUCATION IN YEMEN	15
2.6WOMEN EMPOWERMENT	15
2.7THEROTICAL FRAMEWORK	16
2.8CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK	17
<b><u>CHAPTER 3-METHODOGY</u></b>	<b>19</b>
3.1 :METHODS	19
3.2:STUDY TOOL	19
3.3:VALIDITY AND RELIABILITY	20
3.4SAMPLE SELECTION	21
<b><u>CHAPTER 4: DATA ANALYSIS AND RESULTS</u></b>	<b>25</b>
4.1 : QUANTITATIVE DATA ANALYSIS	25
4.2: DESCRIPTIVE ANALYSIS	28
4.3:INTERPRETATION OF THE RESULTS RELATED TO THE QUESTIONS	31
4.4 INTERPRETATION OF THE RESULTS RELATED TO THE HYPOTHESES	33
<b><u>CHAPTER 5:CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS (OR MAIN MESSAGE)</u></b>	<b>34</b>
5.1 RESEARCH RESULT	34
5.2RECOMMENDATIONS	36
5.3 SUGGETIONS	37
5.4 SUMMARY	37
6 REFERENCES	38
7 APPENDICES	41
7.1 INTERVIEWS QUESTIONS	41
7.2 QUESTIONNAIRE	42

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Nil

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Nil



## ***Own publications included in this thesis***

None

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## **Dedication**

Special dedication of this thesis goes to those who contributed all kinds of support to get this whether financial and constructive ideas, this is for you

## **List of Acronyms:**

- UNSCR** United Nation Security Council Resolution.
- NGOs** Non-Governmental Organizations.
- INGOs** International Non-Governmental Organizations.
- UNIFEM** United Nations Development Fund for Women.
- NDC** National Dialogue Conference.
- WPS** Women, Peace and Security.
- USAID** United States Agency for International Development.
- OFDA** Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance.
- FFP** Food for Peace.
- UNDP** United Nations Development Programme
- MDG** Millennium Development Goals.
- SDG** Sustainable Development Goals.
- IFRC** International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.
- State/PRM** State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration.
- ICRC** International Committee of Red Cross.

## **Abbreviations:**

- Emp.un** Empowered Women Uninvolved With Political Regime.
- Emp.in** Empowered Women involved With Political Regime.



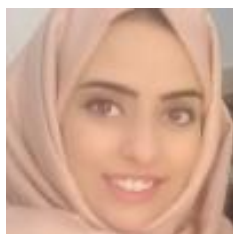
**Humanitarian**      **Humanitarian Participation.**  
**Health**            **Healthcare Initiatives.**  
**Relief**             **Relief Projects.**  
**Education**        **Education Programs.**  
**Social Co.**        **Social Cohesions.**

## About this document

### Categories

Countries	Document Type	Subject	Institutions	Language	
Yemen	Case study	Empowerment	Humanitarian	Kalu	English

### Author



Rahma AL-Hady .she is dedicated and enthusiastic individual, creative, leader and have good communication skills. She has a good experience since 2008 in Economic growth and project cycles' managements at some initiatives, RGP –USAID, at CLP-USAID. Her Economic experience was focused in creating job opportunities, entrepreneurship, Cash for work, livelihoods. At Handicap International, experience was focused in Cash grants and livelihoods, at Stars Orbit experience was focused in monitoring and evaluation and at Global Communities her Economic experience was focused in vocational training, creating job opportunities, entrepreneurship, Cash for work, livelihoods and micro finance. Short-term Assignment: Consultancy Project Final Evaluation with ICRC

### Executive Summary

Women are the one-half of the body society, and no life can be ever imagined without women. Since the beginning of human race, Woman was a basic demand for continuing life. Therefore, they share everything with men. In case of any catastrophe, women are facing the double suffering than men, especially in wars and conflicts, so Many of projects and programs implemented by national and international organizations aimed to enhance women's role in peace and security in Yemen. This is how foreign-donor-funded development projects in Yemen depend on the discursive connections between security, gender and development, in fact the projects found that women have 'taken on the role of first responders and humanitarian workers therefore we need to empower women to contribute to economic development as their inherent right and to invest their energy in general especially in war and disasters)

**Key Terms Definition:** Humanitarian participation, social cohesion, women's empowerment, UNSCR 1325



## **CHAPTER 1.Introduction and Background of the study**

### **1.1 Introduction**

Yemeni women have become more effective and play an important role in all aspects of life, especially in terms of humanitarian response, they have reported their involvement in carrying out rescue missions for those who are in conflict areas in spite women and girls have been more severely affected by this situation than men and boys, searching for and providing medical for patients, housing, and supplying or/and searching for food resources for those in hanger, they also improved their ways in mobilizing charity by using technology such a social media and creating hotlines to report wrong doing, providing psychological support, documenting crimes, and more.

This research aims to examine the relationship between humanitarian response and women empowerment; letting other empowerment's factors and shedding light on how or to what extent humanitarian response participation is one of the factors that enhance Yemeni women empowerment to be leaders and decision-maker. To that effect, and through a careful examination and critical analysis. Finally, interviews shall be also conducted in order to help reaching the ultimate objective of this research

### **1.2 Background of the study**

Women are the one half of the body society, and no life can be ever imagined without women. Since the beginning of human race, Woman was a basic demand for continuing life. Therefore, they share everything with men. In case of any catastrophe, women are facing the double suffering than men, especially in wars and conflicts (Zabara 2018)Till the end of 2015, 65.3 million people forcibly displaced globally Women and girls represent 50% of thispopulation2016).Any war must cause big damages on every aspects of life. The current conflict in Yemen, which began in 2015, has resulted in a humanitarian catastrophe. As of March 2017, 18.8 million people are in need of humanitarian support, and 10.3 million are in a pressing need, However; All people have been affected in different forms due to that conflict.

War affects men and women differently, and this is perhaps most glaringly felt in the loss of livelihoods (Cagoco-Guiam 2013 p. 18). Women are having the big share in suffering during the conflict time which obligate them to take role in humanitarian response especially for the ones who escaped from conflict territory " Internal Displaced People" (hereinafter referred as IDP)

More than three years since the ongoing political crisis erupted, Yemen is torn apart by an interlinked series of conflicts, These conflicts have exacerbated a decades-old humanitarian and the crisis that has rapidly grown into one of the worst in the world.

The Inter-Agency Standing Committee declared a Level 3 emergency in Yemen in July 2015; around two-thirds of the population is in need of aid, with almost 40 percent in acute need. Women, children, ethnic and religious minorities, and internally displaced persons are particularly vulnerable(COPPI JANUARY 2018 p.1).According to some reports, not only over 3 million people are displaced and 52 per cent of the internally displaced persons (IDP) population in Yemen are women, but also many of them are leading their displaced households, which makes it difficult for them to access to humanitarian aid since they are stifled by social restrictions by many means for instance; domestic restriction of movement, fear of abuse at militia-held checkpoints and the rising costs of transportation.



Besides, the lack of official identifications also makes it difficult for women and children to register for assistance.

The recent reports and studies shows that Women and girls are often stay invisible to humanitarian actors and miss being targeted with aid assistance due to humanitarian assistance is mostly gathered by male adults (88 per cent in urban and 74 per cent in rural areas), as a result, women become less targeted in these assistances with a lesser extent by female adults (9 per cent in urban and 14 per cent in rural areas). (Rohwerder 2017 p.7) One of the studies have been conducted tackling such issues since the beginning of the war, for instance; focus group discussions conducted by Oxfam, CARE and GenCap, IDP women are most vulnerable, however, many of them have lost their property and find difficulties to access to their livelihoods. This is because of the ongoing conflict. Vulnerability increases on IDPs sittings, and that when women live in makeshift shelters which is most common in Taiz and Hajjah governorates, and that is because access to basic needs and services are insufficient especially in governorates like Abyan and Hajjah. It is also worse vulnerability of women IDPs in areas which are controlled by fanatic and fundamental Islamic groups like in Abyan governorate (Gressmann 2016, Moodley 2016 p.11). This critical situation of women during wars and conflicts, obliged the international community to adopt laws and resolutions to protect women. 1325 United Nation Security Council Resolution, CEDAW are great examples of that. In order to reach a good response, UN go to drop this issue on the round table of the Security Council as a responsible department for the UN members. In Sequence, Security Cancel adopted the resolutions No (1325), (1888), (2122) and (2016) which concerned with women participation in peace and security (Hill 2004-2005 p.1). Eighteen years after the adoption of UNSCR 1325, many countries did not apply it, and in case of applying it, there are many aspects of its vision that remains vastly unfulfilled aspects of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda. Yemen is one of the countries which did not apply 1325 UNSCR. One point of this resolution is participation of women in humanitarian response. This humanitarian response which will be studied in this paper is the access to healthcare.

Many projects and programs implemented by national and international organizations aimed to enhance women's role in peace and security in Yemen. This is how foreign-donor-funded development projects in Yemen depend on the discursive connections between security, gender and development (Christiansen 2018 p.1-19).

These projects and programs found that women have 'taken on the role of first responders and humanitarian workers, contributing to the alleviation of their communities' suffering' as a result of the absence of men in their communities due to the war (Gressmann 2016). A study implemented by AWAM demonstrate that women participation level in political , social, and economic participation has decreased due to the war, Security situation, customs and traditions, and economic situation, On the other hand, the level of women's participation in the community-related activities, especially activities related to humanitarian assistance has increased(Ahmed Noor Addin 2017).As a result, Women become more empowered and more effective, However, according to a research conducted by Oxfam, CARE and GenCap's, eachof which clearly stated that women are, in fact, leaders and not only victims, the papers give examples of women's resilience during the conflict that challenge the predominant portrayal of Yemeni women as passive victims, with women having increasing roles in distributing community-level humanitarian assistance, hygiene promotion, and leading on gender based violence protection projects and facilitating women's access to services





This research aims to examine the relationship between humanitarian response and women empowerment; letting other empowerment's factors and shedding light on how or to what extent humanitarian response participation is one of the factors that enhance Yemeni women empowerment to be leaders and decision-maker. To that effect, and through a careful examination and critical analysis, this research also seeks to evaluate the existing studies and relevant principles related thereto. Finally, interviews shall be also conducted in order to help reaching the ultimate objective of this research.

### **1.3 Statement of the Problem**

The problem is to focused on the absence role of Yemeni Women leaderships Indecision -making and the absence role of participation in humanitarian initiatives. Yemen is in a critical need for these humanitarian initiatives since it's suffering from Continuous conflicts for a long period. Women are always the victims resulting from any conflict. They are not allowed to participate in decision-making and they are marginalized from having their rights, which prevented them to play their significant role regarding humanitarian response issues, especially in making humanitarian initiatives. It is also noticed that there is a lack of understanding of the concept of women leaderships by the Yemeni society, which led to absence role for Yemeni women in humanitarian response. In spite of initiatives from civil society entities and many traditional civil organizations trying to empower women in Yemen by adopting humanitarian initiatives and projects.

Humanitarian initiatives do not implement its right role according to the international standard among the civil society organizations, which led civil organizations to wear a mask of humanitarian initiatives, but in fact, they are doing weak role. It has been noticed that masculine, traditional leaders dominate civil society organizations, which are headed by women. As a result, humanitarian initiatives in Yemenis weak and due to the weak role of humanitarian initiatives in Yemen women participation in humanitarian response becomes weak, too.

### **1.4 Research goal & Research questions**

The purpose of this research is to examine to what extent humanitarian participation can make women leaderships and empowerment to be a decision maker and pioneer of change, get a deeper understanding for the reasons behind the weak role of Yemeni women participation in humanitarian works. In addition, to figure out what are the challenges that are facing Yemeni women in humanitarian participation, and the opportunities that can be used to strengthen women role in decision-making participation. The study aims to provide gathered information for the past situation and the current situation in order to find the means that can be used to strengthen the role of women in





decision making. Also, shed light on what are the solutions to overcome this shortcomings. This research have specific objectives as below:

- ✓ Identify and analyze the role of Yemeni women participation in humanitarian response.
- ✓ Examine the women's empowerment through humanitarian participation.

### **Research questions**

The research aims to answer the main question; to what extent women's economic activities and humanitarian works participation can empower them to be pioneers of change and decision-makers?

The main question of the study is answered by responding to the following main and sub questions:

The first main question: Do Women participate in economic empowerment work?

From this question, there are four sub-questions:

Sub-question 1: Do Yemeni women participate in economic activities and initiatives?

Sub-question 2: Is There an active role for Yemeni women in relief projects?

Sub-question 3: Do Yemeni women have a contribution to the continuation of the entrepreneurship process?

Sub-question 4: Do Yemeni women have an active presence in social cohesion?

The second main question: Do Women's participation in humanitarian work and economic activities make them pioneers of change or decision makers?

And from this main question, there are two other sub-questions:

Sub-question 1: Are Women uninvolved to the political regime that participate in humanitarian initiatives and economic activities can be pioneers of change in society?

Sub-question 2: Are Women involved to the political regime that participate in humanitarian initiatives and economic activities can be decision-makers in society?

The Third main question: Are There any statistically significant differences for the demographic variables (Gender, Age, Education) according to the main questions 1 and 2?

## **1.5 Significance of the Study**

The importance of the study comes from the need to give a clear vision of the absence role of women leadership, and their absence in decision making and trying to demonstrate the strong points by shedding lights in their participation in humanitarian response in Yemen. The findings of knowing how humanitarian initiatives can make women leaderships and lead to women empowerment is very important since it will influence the Yemeni women leaders to use it in appropriate way so that they can participate in every social, political, economic decision making, or at least participating in any decision making process, either at the level of the family or at the level of the society. The results will lead to influence the UN and any Yemeni organizations or identities' practices and policies and



help to adopt new strategies in the Yemeni context that will encourage women in participating effectively and strongly in every decision-making that will save their rights and helping in making a sustainable development. It is important since the research will study a social problem by using literature review, quantitative and Qualitative approach which are the most appropriate methods for this study. This research will highlight the opportunities and the challenges facing Yemeni women in term of humanitarian response participation

### 1.6 Scope and Limitations of the Study / Added value

**Time Scope:** The time period of this study covers 2011-2022 since it's the appropriate time because the Yemeni society is in need for humanitarian initiatives and in need for women leaders due to war and internal conflict. This date will give a recent and new study for the situation in Yemen regarding women empowerment and their participation in humanitarian response initiatives. everything mentioned in this study is focusing in the timing related to the above period.

**Location:** Republic Of Yemen since it suffer from continual conflicts and ongoing war. It is also the homeland of the researcher which the researcher wants to study it very well from the side of women participation in humanitarian Yemen is the best country to study such issue since it is pregnant with many empowered and leaders women which they appear gradually to the surface especially during war time using humanitarian initiatives as a tool to be empowered and to be an active members in the society.

**Samples:** the researcher used a purposive sample of 20 individuals for interviews and questionnaires for 400 individuals in the Republic Of Yemen. Selecting these samples were studied carefully since this number is enough to answer the research question and approving or denying the research hypothesis as well. the samples are women leaders, women working in civil society, INGOs and NGOs employees, Academic women, and governmental workers which can cover every corner in this research to reach to the best answer ever

### 1.7 Description of the Study Area

**Abstract:** The study examined the women's empowerment and humanitarian participation. It studied a range of related and relevant issues. It pointed out that the participation of women in humanitarian work with its four the axes (health initiatives, relief projects, educational programs and Social cohesion) considering them to be the most important issues carried out by women in Yemeni society and through which they participate in humanitarian work. This study is based on a series of main and sub questions that show the extent of their participation according to these axes. The study also assumes that there is a relationship between women's participation in humanitarian work and their empowerment in society. A quantitative, qualitative methodology was used.

Questionnaires distributed to a sample of 375 individuals and in-depth interviews were conducted with 20 of Yemeni women leaders. The study revealed that there is an increase in the participation of women in humanitarian work in its four axes according to the demographics criterion. This participation greatly helps to empower women to be either pioneers of change if they are uninvolved with the political regime, or as decision makers in case They are involved with political regime. According to UNSC resolution 1325, the study found that the Yemeni society has the eligibility to apply it since the study found that the society is primarily accepting women's participation in peace and humanitarian issues. The study set out a set of recommendations that were supposed to enhance the



participation of women in humanitarian work and to ensure their empowerment, and pointed out that the implementation of resolution 1325 required government authorities to work out a national plan for its implementation.

Empowering processes are ones in which attempts to gain control, obtain needed resources, and critically understand one's social environment are fundamental. The process is empowering if it helps people develop skills so they can become independent problem-solvers and decision-makers.

Empowering processes will vary across levels of analysis. For example, empowering processes for individuals might include organizational or community involvement;

empowering processes at the organizational level might include shared leadership and decision-making; and empowering processes at the community level might include accessible government, media, and other community resources. Empowered outcomes refer to operationalization of empowerment so we can study the consequences of citizens' attempts to gain greater control in their community, or the effects of interventions designed to empower participants. Empowered outcomes also differ across levels of analysis. When we are concerned with individuals, outcomes might

include situation specific perceived control, skills, and proactive behaviors. When we are studying organizations, outcomes might include organizational networks, effective resource acquisition, and policy advantage. When we are concerned with community level empowerment, outcomes might include evidence of pluralism, the existence of organizational coalitions, and accessible community resources. A thorough development of empowerment theory requires exploration and description at multiple levels of analysis.



## **2 .CHAPTER TWO. Literature Review**

### ***2.1 Humanitarian Response and Interventions***

Many countries are in need for humanitarian interventions, especially the ones which there is a conflict on their territories like country of Middle east who witnessed revolutions like Libya, Syria and Yemen, or countries who witnessed post-independence conflict like South Sudan. An unprecedented number of humanitarian emergencies of large magnitude and duration are taking place on these countries. People of these countries are suffering from bad and Protracted situations, often with additional acute emergencies, are becoming the new norm. Refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) are at their highest numbers in a generation. yet the majority of their populations are affected by conflict, they are not displaced but rather entrapped in conflict settings, such as those in Syria and Yemen (Spiegel 2017) In a country like Yemen with population of approximately 27.4 million people with chronic natural resource and food shortfalls, Yemen is facing an unprecedented humanitarian crisis due to the war and the internal conflict. This war and internal conflict is the reason behind the lack of access for the basic healthcare, Public health figures and statistics below indicate the degree of human suffering. According to the World Health Organization, 14.8 million people lack access to basic healthcare. Since March 2015; which is the date of erupting war and conflict, there were 10,000 children under the age of five have perished from preventable diseases such as diarrhea and pneumonia. Many reports showed the critical situation in Yemen and its need to humanitarian aids. Many aid agencies consider Yemen as one of the current “four famines” (in or near famine -the others being South Sudan, Somalia, and northeastern Nigeria). In March 2017, the World Food Program reported that while Yemen is not yet a full-blown famine, 60% of Yemenis, or 17 million people, are in “crisis” or “emergency” food situations. These statistics explain that healthcare bad situation is enhanced since there is a relationship between health and food(Sharp 2015 p. 19). Since March 2015, Yemen has received many aids from different agencies and organizations from different countries. The United States has been the largest contributor of humanitarian aid to Yemen. Funds were provided to international aid organizations from USAID’s Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), USAID’s Food for Peace (FFP), and the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM) (Sharp 2015 p. 20) For those who provide humanitarian interventions, especially in situations of urban violence, they require in-depth understanding of the context (Savage, 2012). For a humanitarian organisation, being able to operate in such an environment depends on understanding who the important actors are and what each actor’s position. Also, it needs to know the interests and needs of these actors. They should take further considerations of some elements while implementing humanitarian intervention since violence can take a wide range of forms, including social and political uprisings, hunger riots, turf wars between gangs, violence against foreigners or members of different ethnic or religious groups, and criminal violence associated with drug trafficking, arms smuggling, human trafficking, and terrorism (Lucchi 2014) Since 1966, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has been partnering with people at all levels of society in order to build nations that can withstand crises, and drive and sustain the kind of growth that improves the quality of life for everyone. UNDP is heavily engaged in linking and coordinating global and national efforts to reach the Millennium Development Goals (MDG)



## 2.2:Humanitarian principles and Actions:

Humanitarian action finds its essential motivation in the principle of humanity, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) definition is: ‘the desire to prevent and alleviate human suffering wherever it may be found .to protect life and health and to ensure respect for the human being’((IFRC) 2002 p. 1). However, natural hazards or situations of conflict are the main factors for human suffering which must be addressed by Humanitarian action. In war situations, Humanitarian principles which guide the assistance provided, such as the principles of impartiality and neutrality, find their rationale in international humanitarian law. Henry Dunant was the first person who initiated the formal regulation of warfare, and that was after the Battle of Solferino in 1859. The reason behind this initiative was because wars in those days were typically between competing nation-state armies, and the idea of reducing suffering was appealing as a means of legitimizing warfare in increasingly democratizing societies. After that, Humanitarianism as an accepted idea started with the Geneva Convention of 1864 and the recognition of the ICRC, which was given space to operate on the condition of neutrality and impartiality, however, Geneva Conventions elaborated four more rules of war. It is important to note that the term ‘humanitarian principles’ refers to moral principles to mitigate the war destructive impact, yet, it is used to refer to principles of humanitarian action, as well. In the last two decades, extensive debate and undergone change have been generated and developed by humanitarian principles. And that because of several factors. First, nations that inspired international humanitarian law moved away from the wars and the nature of conflict, increasingly. Today’s conflicts are mostly intra state in nature. They occur in societies where there is a fragile state. Civilians are often the direct targets of violence and account for 90 per cent of all victims. Warfare is spread over a large area and fragmented in nature. In some conflicts, common techniques including methods such as rape, ‘ethnic cleansing’, and starvation, which are specifically directed against the civilian population where International conventions and rules for warfare. So, humanitarian organisations have had likewise to reconsider their working principles. In particular, the principle of neutrality has come to be renegotiated in humanitarian politics, varying across both situations and organisations. War affects all members of the families; men, women, girls and boys differently affected due to deep-rooted socio-cultural and economic inequalities, either this inequalities showed clearly at home or/and in their wider community. As a result, Men and boys make up the vast majority of direct victims of armed conflict, forced recruitment and arbitrary detention, while women and girls become more vulnerable, especially if it comes to gender based violence, during emergencies. Conflict has, in many cases, exacerbated the pre-existing limitations experienced by women and girls

## 2.3 Healthcare

Healthcare is an important issue for every community, which it's the responsible for saving people life simultaneously with other life basic needs like food and water. According to Yemen, as other developing countries, the society is suffering from the lack of access to healthcare which become worse since it has been impacted by the conflict and war. During war time, health system is operating on less



than half of its previous capacity beside the lack of medicines, equipment and staff Women's access to maternal healthcare has been especially affected. Yemen has one of the highest maternal death rates in the Arab region, a situation compounded by the lack of food, poor nutrition and eroding healthcare as a result of the war and internal conflict. Women are suffering by taking care of Men who are at particular risk of injuries and often in need of specialist services to address disabilities or to provide rehabilitation or psychosocial support. Women (and men) with disabilities have been identified in studies as being among the most vulnerable population groups IDPs in Yemen suffering from many diseases and lack of healthcare due to the war and conflict. This is because all humanitarian interventions are focusing on water, food, and shelter, but don't give an importance cite for healthcare interventions and projects despite its importance. There are a lack of healthcare access and healthcare projects and programs. Besides, healthcare workers are in need for intensive programs on various aspects of standard precautions and infection control programs and policies Relief in Yemen is highly problematic.

War affects all members of the families; men, women, girls and boys differently affected due to deep-rooted socio-cultural and economic inequalities, either this inequalities showed clearly at home or/and in their wider community. As a result, Men and boys make up the vast majority of direct victims of armed conflict, forced recruitment and arbitrary detention, while women and girls become more vulnerable, especially if it comes to gender based violence, during emergencies. Conflict has, in many cases, exacerbated the pre-existing limitations experienced by women and girls

## 2.4Relief In Yemen

The conflict has led to an increase in men's participation in household tasks but on average, women still spend 8.7 hours on household tasks compared to 2.8 hours for male household members. Household tasks such as collecting water and firewood and child care are taking longer during the conflict. Men and boys are increasingly carrying out tasks such as collecting water and grazing livestock as they have become more dangerous due to the conflict and the presence of armed groups<sup>3</sup>. Regarding Nutrition, The conflict and rising food shortages has resulted in about 3.3 million acutely malnourished children and pregnant or lactating women. The targeting of health facilities, the closure of nutrition treatment facilities as a result of air strikes, fighting on the ground, and health workers leaving mean that children and pregnant and lactating mothers are not receiving appropriate nutrition services<sup>4</sup>. There are some obstacles faces relief projects' implementation. for instance; Relief convoys and their workers are subjected to attacks by the conflict parties ranging from detention to payment of royalties and stealing relief supplies to sell them on the black market.





## 2.5 Education in Yemen

As with several other sectors in Yemen, education is facing numerous difficulties. Teachers have not been paid for a year. It may seem a minor issue to those leading the war on either side. It does not move them to know that 4.5 million children will not miss out on an education while teachers cannot eke out a living. Many classrooms continued operating as usual. As time went by, teachers in Yemen grew disappointed and frustrated. They could not help them put food on the family table. The scale of the crisis has grown by several magnitudes, and teachers will not be found in their classrooms this year. Many will go elsewhere where they can find paying jobs to feed themselves and their families

## 2.6 Women Empowerment

Empowerment, just like the term "liberation" is a complex and relative notion that implies a scale of power, and a linear progression from one end of that scale to another. Some argue that the term "empowerment" is used to give impression of empowerment which is the purpose of social welfare policies which supposed to empower citizens, women among them, and not legitimizing nation-states, international organizations or other actors. in the direction of empowerment, it is clear that women have not yet achieve or realize many of the ideal stages of empowerment. Hence it is certainly more rational to define empowerment as a process rather than an end-point.(Zuhur 2003 p.p 17-38)

Empowerment and opportunities to experience power and control in one's life contribute to health and wellness. there is a few studies which assessing the relationship between the empowerment of women with the overall health of a community despite they have showed specific factors related to women's empowerment and their influence on health outcomes. many factors that may affects women empowerment, especially when it comes to gender inequality which harms women's health directly through sexual exploitation, domestic violence, genital mutilation, dowry deaths, sex-selective abortions, and forced marriages. It also indirectly harms women's health through inequalities in education, healthcare, safety, employment, inheritance, leadership, mobility, sexual rights, and customs. unequal status in society leads to jeopardized women's health and well-being, whereas women empowerment leads to enrich women's health and the health of their communities. The results suggested in many studies that the empowerment of women is associated with improvement in several health indicators. (Varkey et al. 2010 p.p71- 76) Women's empowerment is increasingly seen as a crosscutting issue in development programming: women's empowerment also is perceived as a means to achieve development goals, and not only as a matter of motivated concern for gender equality. Indeed, many program designs and development outcomes have been shown to depend on women's ability to negotiate favorable allocations of resources and expenses within the household (Peterman et al. 2015 p. 1)

Women empowerment has become an important term and get a universal concerns by all international organizations. Empowering women come closely with promoting gender equality in the third goal of Millennium Development Goals(MDGs) which adopted by The U.N. Millennium Summit, held in September 2000, which produced a set of eight covering a range of development issues, including reducing child mortality, fighting various infectious diseases, eradicating illiteracy, and empowering women. Goal 3: Promote





gender equality and empower women.(Roudi-Fahimi and Moghadam 2006 p.p 4-11) Some researches, according to Mason and Smith, says that empowering women ultimately involves changing the gender stratification system and its normative underpinnings.

These speeches are consistent with recent work on gender and development that suggests that changing institutions is a key element for empowering women and girls(Mason and Smith 2003 p. 19) Gender equality and women's empowerment is the third of eight MDGs. It is an intrinsic rather than an instrumental goal, explicitly valued as an end in itself rather than as an instrument for achieving other goals. One way of thinking about power is in terms of the ability to make choices. To be disempowered means to be denied choice, while empowerment refers to the processes by which those who have been denied the ability to make choices acquire such an ability.(Kabeer 2005 p.p 13-24) Global health indicators is improved by connecting policies for disarmament and maintenance of peaceful societies with goals. Declaration like The Alma Ata from the International Conference on Primary Health Care provided a foundation for governments and health professionals for improving these global health indicators. a clear priority for the respect for human rights of women and children should be respected and to be in a clear priority so that it can guide concrete efforts which will improves and provides health policies and services in the context of complex humanitarian emergencies.

Care providers for women and infants, besides midwives, all can use the educational resources which is available for the workers of humanitarian health to build on their existing skills to play a key role in these efforts.(Gasseer et al. 2004 p.p 7-13) It was clear that Wealthier women are more likely to be involved in decisionmaking on their own health care, which may have a positive intergenerational spillover effect. This means that continuing of diverse programs should be a necessity economically empower women, since their health is an important matter to their wellbeing. Also, Alleviating poverty is another important to making this a possibility. Employed women, especially married ones are also more likely to have autonomy in all areas of household decision-making. This may give a conclusion which is, the implementation of income generating activities in the poorer regions for women will, therefore, enhance their autonomy.(Boateng et al. 2014 p.p 137-158)

## 2.7 Theoretical framework

Taking the empowerment theory and UNSCR 1325 as a theoretical framework is very important for the study since it shows the international intervention response for the call of women's right led by UN and is concern with women peace and security, which represent the main concept of this study.

### EMPOWERMENT AS THEORY

A theory of empowerment includes both processes and outcomes (Swift & Levine, 1987). The theory suggests that actions, activities, or structures may be empowering, and that the outcome of such processes result in a level of being empowered. Both empowerment processes and outcomes vary in their outward form because no single standard can fully capture its meaning for all people in all contexts (Rappaport, 1984; Zimmerman, 1995). The behaviors necessary for a 16-year-old mother to become empowered are different from the behaviors for a recently widowed middle-aged man. Similarly, what it means to be empowered for these two individuals is not the same. Thus, empowerment is context and population specific. It takes on different forms for different people in different contexts.



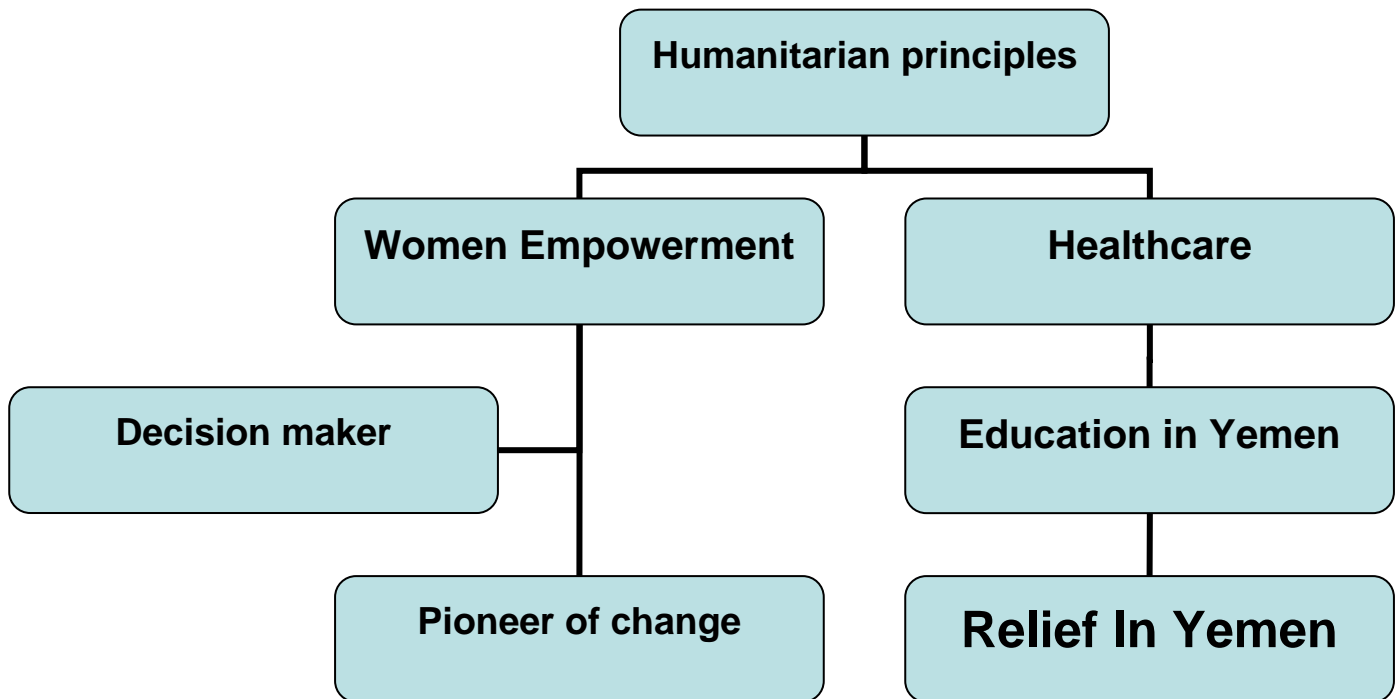
A distinction between empowering processes and outcomes is critical in order to clearly define empowerment theory. Empowering processes are ones in which attempts to gain control, obtain needed resources, and critically understand one's social environment are fundamental. The process is empowering if it helps people develop skills so they can become independent problem-solvers and decision-makers. Empowering processes will vary across levels of analysis. For example, empowering processes for individuals might include organizational or community involvement; empowering processes at the organizational level might include shared leadership and decision-making; and empowering processes at the community level might include accessible government, media, and other community resources. Empowered outcomes refer to operationalization of empowerment so we can study the consequences of citizens' attempts to gain greater control in their community, or the effects of interventions designed to empower participants. Empowered outcomes also differ across levels of analysis.

When we are concerned with individuals, outcomes might include situation specific perceived control, skills, and proactive behaviors. When we are studying organizations, outcomes might include organizational networks, effective resource acquisition, and policy leverage. When we are concerned with community level empowerment, outcomes might include evidence of pluralism, the existence of organizational coalitions, and accessible community resources. A thorough development of empowerment theory requires exploration and description at multiple levels of analysis.

## 2.8 Conceptual framework

Conceptual Framework The field study conducted is shown in this conceptual framework which shows the connection concepts of the study starting by the humanitarian participation which divided into three aspects, participation in health care initiatives, Relief projects, Education programs, and strengthen Society cohesions. All these humanitarian aspects participation will lead to women empowerment. Women empowerment leads to either to be decision maker, or pioneer of change





A Comparison of Empowering Processes and Empowered Outcomes across Levels of Analysis

Levels of analysis	Process ("empowering")	Outcome ("empowered")
<b>Individual</b>	Learning decision-making skills Managing resources Working with others	Sense of control Critical awareness Participatory behaviors
<b>Organizational</b>	Opportunities to participate in decisionmaking Shared responsibilities Shared leadership	Effectively compete for resources Networking with other organizations Policy influence
<b>Community</b>	Access to resources Open government structure Tolerance for diversity	Organizational coalitions Pluralistic leadership Residents' participatory skills



### **3.CHAPTER THREE: Methodology**

#### **3.1. Methods**

The researcher utilized questionnaires, literature reviews and semi-structured interviews with 20 women who participated in any humanitarian initiatives in Yemen. Also people working in civil society, freelancers who write about women empowerment, Academic PHD women, and governmental employees, activists who defend women rights and NGOs personnel who made humanitarian initiatives projects. I have selected my samples based on the criteria which involved all stakeholders which are the women who worked in INGOs, NGOs, Governmental and Private sector, Political and women elite and leaders, academic women and informal women from lower society to get deeper understanding and solid knowledge of the research question. As long as the study is social, it is essentially that social reality is constructed in different ways and different contexts(Silverman 2002) therefore, the researcher conducted 20 interviews with women employed in international organization and women employed in local organizations, which implemented humanitarian response projects. Choosing International and National organization helped to show the varieties of answers so the researcher got the accurate answer for the study question. These international organization were (GIZ, UNDP, and USAID) since they have implemented humanitarian response projects and empowering women projects.

These INGOs objectives are international so they must apply international standards in everything like humanitarian, development, peace-building areas. Besides, these international organizations have been implementing humanitarian response and women empowerment projects. The interviews done with the employers concerned with humanitarian initiatives and UNSCR 1325 issues who have implemented or participated in any humanitarian response projects. Also, national organization included in the interviews to show the local level understanding and absorption for the UNSCR 1325 and the role of women in humanitarian response and their participation. The national organizations objective was to accept and adopt the international standards in implementing projects. These organization such as (AWAM, YWU, YLU, ...ETC). Other interviews have been done with three people who are working in the academic fields, three activists, two freelancers, and two governmental employees. The governmental employees are people who work in governmental sector. There have been interviews with private sectors and heads of humanitarian initiatives. All interviews have been done by writing notes and recording by handy recorder then filled out later on at home. Due to limitations posed both by security and financial restrictions, speaking to some people directly wouldn't be possible since many activist are affiliated to political parties and they are abroad because of the war. So, the researcher made interviews – by email, and sometimes with follow up telephone conversations for the ones who are out of the country or in other governorates. The interviews enriched the researcher with extensive information, These information used to analyze and structure the data presented in the findings.

#### **3.2. First: How to determine and prepare the study tool**

**3.2.1 Study tool** (questionnaire) The study tool was prepared by reference to literature and previous studies, and then the design of an open question directed to a selected sample of the society to identify the most important points that can be discussed in the questionnaire after considering the previous studies and literature as the governing criteria of the tool.



### 3.3. Second: Procedures of validity and reliability:

#### 3.3.1. Logical validity

The questionnaire was divided in to axis which can measure the studied phenomena by asking an open question to Targeted samples from the population.

#### 3.3.2. Face validity

Ebel indicates that any questionnaire should be presented to face validity by specialist of know-how arbitrators. This is what was done.

This validity was analyzed by using the Chi-square equation. The result was as follows

Items No	Frequency		Chi-square(x2 )	Significant
	Agree	Disagree		
31	8	0	8	Sig.
6	6	1	6.142	Sig.
3	7	2	4.666	Sig.
1	1	4	0	inSig.

Since the frequency table is likely to be agree and disagree, if the degree of freedom is  $2-1 = 1$ , and back to the Chi2 score table at the confidence level of this study 0,05 which was 3,841, so, there was one statement which was less than 0.05 so that it was deleted.

**3.3.3 Test of experimental validity:** Of a randomly selected sample using the SPSS statistical program, size 100. The total score of the scale ranged from 121 to 197 with a mean of 162.9, a standard deviation of 14.6, and a positive-twisting coefficient of +041 with a standard error of 0.241

Scale	N	range		Mean	Std. Deviation	Skewness	
Total score	100	121	197	162.9	14.6	+041	.241

**3.3.4 Test of the construct validity:** After deleting the four terms of the validity cognitive, The total score is then recalculated. Then construct validity is tested, Using Pearson correlation coefficient between the terms of the scale and the total score after the deletion, it is found that all the statements are statistically significant.

**3.3.5. Reliability test:** The final sample size was 100. Thus, the total number of statements in the final sample was 35, which can be analyzed statistically out of the 40 statements contained in the questionnaire. After using Cronbach's Alpha The coefficient of reliability of the humanitarian participation scale was 0.890 for 22 statements. The reliability coefficient of the empowered women uninvolved with political regime was 0.761 for 5 statements. and the empowered women involved with political

regime was 0.861 for 8 statements, which Demonstrates the validity of the three measures in measuring what they were set for.

### Reliability test

Scales	Number of statements	reliability coefficient Cronbach's Alpha	intrinsic validity reliability
humanitarian	22	.890	0.943
emp.un	5	.761	0.872
emp.in	8	.861	0.927

**3.3.6 Test of the intrinsic validity:** After the researcher has tested the reliability, he has tested the coefficient of intrinsic validity (standard reliability) coefficient, which was high as it is shown in the previous table.

**Third:** The final sample After the researcher has conducted the methodological procedures that were applied to the study tool according to the procedures of validity and reliability (logical validity, arbitrators, "face" validity, experimental validity, construct validity, intrinsic validity) through which the questionnaire was corrected and insignificant phrases were deleted, the researcher distributed the questionnaire to the final sample.

### 3.4. Sample Selection Method:

**3.4.1 Sampling Technique:** Due to the heterogeneity of the sample population, which is characterized by different age groups and social, economic and educational levels for all its members, the sampling method was done using the random sample with consideration to demographic variables existence. The sampling method was used as following:

- A preliminary sample was applied in a simple random way. 100 initial questionnaires were distributed, containing a number of questions open to females and males, which were distributed in a manner that represented all districts to verify the response of the research community to the questions of the research tool, and show how the questions are clear, also the relevance of the paragraphs to each question.
- Selection of the final sample of the study representing the targeted community (the capital's secretariat). The following equation was guided by the selection process:

N

$$n = \frac{N}{(N-1) (B)^2 + 1}$$

- Where n represent the samples
- N represent the population
- B2 represent Confidence factor "level of significance" of the research



The "confidence" level of the research was (0.05), this level is usually used by most researchers, as well as the American Accounting Office (GAO), which contributes to the American decision-making process.

It should be noted that the size of the large sample may itself be a problem, because it makes the researcher inclined to fall into sampling errors, such that the researcher will have to accept assumptions that should in fact be rejected, and therefore, the weak relationship will be statistically significant. The large sample is also not very useful, however, Roscoe1975 suggests for the size of the sample appropriate for most research to be more than 30 and less than 500, Uma Sekaran points out in one of his statistical calculations that the sample size drawn from a community of 1,000,000 or more is equal to 384 people, so a total of 400 forms have been calculated of males and females.

According to the sample withdrawal equation and the correction equation (1). The equations are as follows:

$$S_x = s / \sqrt{n}$$

The correction equation to obtain a specified level of accuracy and confidence:

$$S_x = (s / \sqrt{n}) \times (\sqrt{N-n} / \sqrt{N-1})$$

Where  $s_x$  refers to the standard error of the average being estimated.

- And  $s$  indicate the deviation of the sample mean.
- And  $n$  indicates the size of the sample that needs to be estimated.
- And  $N$  indicates to the population.

### 3.4.2 Final sample database

The final sample size was 375. The total score ranged from 88 to 175 with a mean score of 139.5, a standard deviation of 16.4 and a negative curve of -355 with a standard error of 0.126.

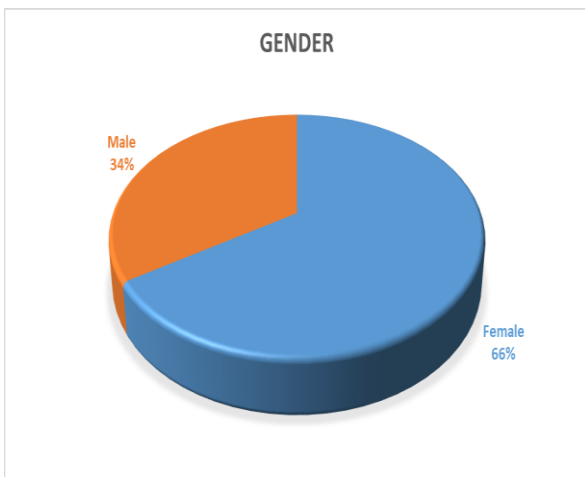


**3.4.3Final characteristics (demographic variables):**

**Samples disaggregated by Gender variable as follows:**

The researcher has chosen female where they formed 66.1% more than male since they are more present than men in humanitarian field, besides, the study is concerned with women empowerment and humanitarian participation which is related to female.

But still, the male formed 33.9% which is very important to the study to know their answers. The following chart and table show the percentage of each:

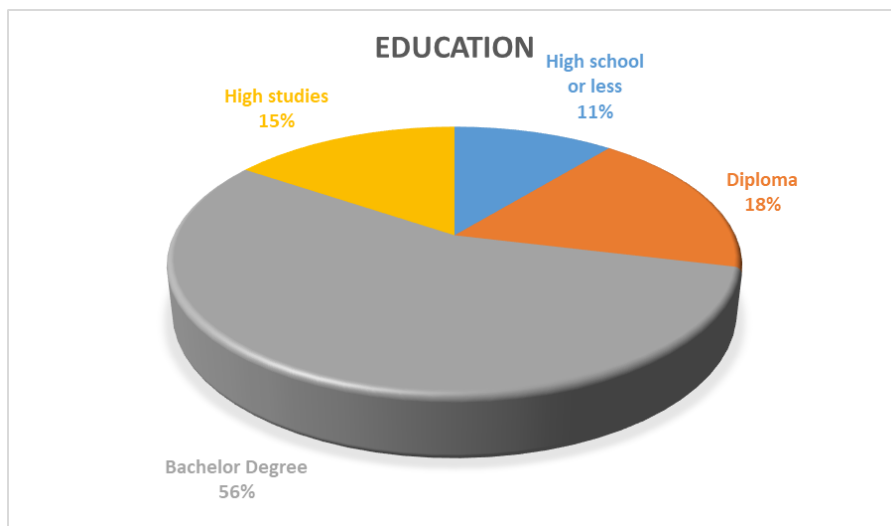


Gender	Count	Col %
male	127	33.9%
female	248	66.1%
Group Total	375	100.0%

**Samples disaggregated by Education variable as follows:**

The disaggregation of education was important to the study where bachelor degree has the highest average with 55.7% since they are the most category, which participate in humanitarian projects, programs, and initiatives. High school or less were the lowest formed 10.9% respondents since their low education reflects their neglecting to the importance of the humanitarian participation and women empowerment. Diploma is less found in Yemeni society, which was reflected in the low number of respondents that formed 17.9%. It was also important to study the answers of less educated and more educated people to get more understanding of the research phenomena and get an accurate answer to the research question. So, high study formed 15.5% of the respondents.

The following chart and table show the percentage of each:

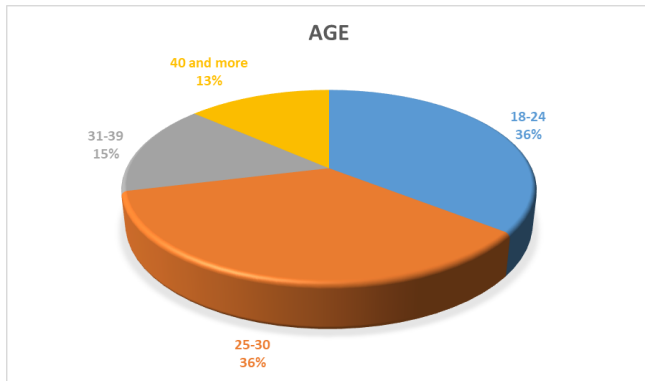


Education	Count	Col %
High school or less	41	10.9%
Diploma	67	17.9%
Bachelor Degree	209	55.7%
High studies	58	15.5%
Group Total	375	100.0%

**Samples disaggregated by Age variable as follows:**

It was very important to study the answers of the all ages young, medium, and matures. Samples between 18-24 years old are almost university students where they were the high respondents since they are more present in humanitarian participation and more present in volunteers' works. 25-30 years old are people of post-graduates and more interested in work issues, they were 21% of the population. 31-39 years old are people of stability age where people of work, people of this age are almost having jobs, living stable life, and building their future. 40 years old and more were the lowest respondents since they are less found in humanitarian participation and less interested in women empowerment. The following table show the percentage of each:





Age	Count	Col %
18-24	163	43.5%
25-30	80	21.3%
31-39	70	18.7%
40 and more	62	16.5%
Group Total	375	100.0%

## **4 CHAPTER FOUR: DATA ANALYSIS AND RESULTS**

### **4.1. Quantitative Data Analysis**

According to the hypothesis of the study which states that: (There is a relationship between humanitarian response participation and women empowerment). In another words, is women participation in humanitarian initiatives can be a strong factor for women empowerment. In this chapter, the researcher will answer to numbers of question which will set to verify this hypothesis that will tested in this chapter.

The study was based on three main questions which examined to what extent Yemeni women participate in humanitarian work and to what extent they are empowered to be leaders (either as pioneers of change or decision maker), these questions as follows:

**The first main question:** Do Women participate in humanitarian response work? From this question, there are four sub-questions:

Sub-question 1: Do Yemeni women participate in health care initiatives?

Sub-question 2: Is There an active role for Yemeni women in relief projects?

Sub-question 3: Do Yemeni women have a contribution to the continuation of the educational process?

Sub-question 4: Do Yemeni women have an active presence in social cohesion? To answer the previous questions, the researcher has conducted statistical analysis by SPSS program, the results were as follow:

By using the one-sample t-test the mean of the humanitarian scale was 4.03 degrees, which is higher than the theoretical average and statistically significant indicating its tendency in the positive, high or high direction.

The mean of all axes ranged from 3.89 degrees for Relief axe which was significant with 72.2% being the lowest of the other axes, indicating a trend of positive or high or high to 4.18 degrees. The education axe was statistically significant by 4.18 degrees, with an application rate of 79.6% which is the highest From the rest of the axes, indicating its tendency in the direction of positive, or high, and the following table shows that:



Scales	N	mean	Standard deviation	t	fd	Sig
Health	375	4.13	.56	39.178	374	.000
Relief	375	3.89	.61	27.921	374	.000
education	375	4.18	.63	36.362	374	.000
social co.	375	4.01	.64	30.793	374	.000
humanitarian	375	4.03	.49	40.85	374	.000

In light of the above results, it is clear that there is an obvious participation for women in humanitarian works, which is statistically significant according to the previous table, and this led to the answer of the main first question with its four sub questions

**The second main question:** Do Women's participation in humanitarian work make them pioneers of change or decision makers?

And from this main question, there are two other sub-questions:

Sub-question 1: Are Women uninvolved to the political regime that participate in humanitarian works can be pioneers of change in society?

Sub-question 2: Are Women involved to the political regime that participate in humanitarian works can be decision-makers in society?

It was clear that the mean of the empowered women uninvolved with political regime was 4.14, which was higher than the theoretical average and was statistically significant indicating its tendency in the positive, high or high direction.

The mean of the empowered women involved with political regime was 3.77, which was higher than the theoretical average, and was statistically significant indicating its tendency in the positive, high or high tendency.

Scales	N	mean	Standard deviation	t	fd	Sig.
emp.un	375	4.14	.66	33.237	374	.000
emp.in	375	3.77	.68	21.990	374	.000

In light of the above results, it is clear that women uninvolved with political regime can be pioneers of change, and women involved with political regime can be decision makers, all

of them, if they participate in humanitarian works. These results, which is statistically significant according to the previous table, led to the answer of the main second question with its two sub-questions.

**The third main question** that the study based on, is: The third main question: Are There any statistically significant differences for the demographic variables (Gender, Age, educationa) according to the main questions I and II?

**Gender differences:** By using the t-test of independent samples according to the gender (male, female) variable, they were statistically significant in the scales and all the axes, at the level of significance of 0.05, for the benefit of gender variable (female) , except the empowered women involved with political regime scale which showed no significance .

The researcher used t-test for the independent samples and found that there are statistically significant differences between the variables according to the humanitarian response and women uninvolved with political regime. As for women involved with political regime, there were no statistically significant differences. The researcher explained the existence of gender differences on benefit of gender variable (female) since they are the most respondents in the research questionnaire, In addition, they are interested in the study subject which study women empowerment and humanitarian participation which made them more responsive and interactive with research questions

Despite the existence of these differences and statistical significance, the researcher believes that they do not seriously reflect the real differences being found at the same level of statistical acceptance, which exceeded the average and was almost in the same category of agreement, so these differences are not useful for scientific interpretation, which can be relied on.

The following table shows that:

T test for independent variables									
Scales	Gender						t	df	Sig.
	Male			female					
	N	mean St.	Dev.	N	mean St.	Dev.			
Health	127	4.04	.63	248	4.18	.52	-2.336	373	.020
Relief	127	3.70	.65	248	3.98	.58	-4.278	373	.000
Education	127	3.98	.69	248	4.28	.57	-4.475	373	.000
social co.	127	3.76	.70	248	4.14	.56	-5.656	373	.000
Humanitarian	127	3.85	.54	248	4.13	.43	-5.430	373	.000
emp. un	127	4.05	.69	248	4.19	.65	-1.971	373	.050
emp.in	127	3.79	.69	248	3.76	.67	.445	373	.656



**The Fourth main question:** Is there a knowledge of Resolution 1325 among women leaders working in the field of humanitarian work?

From this question there are two sub-questions:

Sub-question 1: Is there knowledge of Resolution 1325 among women leaders uninvolved with political regime

Sub-question 2: Is there a knowledge of Resolution 1325 among women leaders involved with political regime?

**4.2. Descriptive analysis for interviewed Women:** According to their knowledge about women empowerment, they said that Women's empowerment is the process in which women elaborate and recreate what it is that they can be, do, and accomplish in a circumstance that they previously were denied. It is one of the gender mainstreaming actions that was supported by UN worldwide. Women empowerment means giving them the space to act , interact and to engage in all aspects of life in order to increase their self-esteem and to acknowledge them that this is one of their rights and they have power to do all what they can. The ability for women to enjoy their right to control and benefit from resources, assets, income and their own time, as well as the ability to manage risk and improve their economic status and well-being. The power the women have in participating socially, politically, economically in their community. they referred that women can be empowered by making humanitarian, social and economic initiatives. Akhlaq interpreted women empowerment concept as having all her lawful and legal rights according to the sharia'a to be equal to the man. Describing women's participation in humanitarian response in Yemen, they said that Yemeni Women are participating in humanitarian response, but it is limited, especially to giving relief and on individual level some participated in giving rehabilitation for children who were recruited for the armed conflict and for vulnerable women who suffered violence. Not only this, sometimes they are participating in the program designs and also in many concerns related to women issues in terms of the interventions. Nevertheless, they are still facing some obstacles which often hindering them from participating in any humanitarian work, these obstacles as follows:

The security situation which put women in danger specially during movement from one place to other.

- lack of Experience and Qualification
- difficulties in convincing family to work since the Yemeni society is reserving one,
  - difficulties in finding fund to implement humanitarian projects,
  - besides, Sexual harassments for women who work as a volunteers in humanitarian works.
  - there is a failure at the country level to engage and support women to take part in humanitarian actions and response, either nationally or/and in their own communities.
  - women are not doing enough at a global level to promote women in leadership positions in the humanitarian community – neither among donors, the UN, or NGOs.
- Poverty and society suppression.
- The culture of the country which look to women as a shame.



- The corruption in the humanitarian institutions.
- The lack of knowledge, experience and qualification specially in the upper level
  - Absence of the regulations to enforce women participation
  - "Sometimes it is family concerns, sometimes it is the timeline of the work itself with the humanitarian actors as they are all working mostly from 8 – 4 , sometimes it is inside the humanitarian actors they might prefer having this position for males as it needs a lot of roving here and there and sometimes it is because they think that males would lead better and many other concerns that me and you could figure out with the time.
  - Their opportunity is not that much in seizing donations.
  - Society and sometimes woman herself doesn't improve herself
  - Masculine dominance for leading humanitarian works.

Most of the interviewees are working with NGOs and working in Humanitarian Response projects. These humanitarian initiatives, for instance: distributing food baskets, school bags, blankets and furniture for IDPs, conducted training courses for women in making perfumes and incense, she helped in building mosques, and helping in distributing medicines for sick people and sometimes she helped in making surgeries for people who need direct surgical intervention.

Women are the most in need for humanitarian responses as a beneficiary as well as providers, and has the closest way of getting and knowing women's need to serve them as an employer.

They indicated that participation in humanitarian works can empower women since families are quite accepting women to participate in humanitarian work and there is something inside them force them to accept and not preventing them from participation in humanitarian works, besides, when women be part of this process it enables them to put the women needs in the plan and implementation mostly women can understand what women and children needs. It also help women to be part of decision-making about the forms of assistance and protection they need. Humanitarian action can also present opportunities for new and more progressive gender roles and relationships to emerge. Women's participation in humanitarian response is one of the drivers for the women empowerment, when she works in the humanitarian response her sense of responsibility outside her house increases and in turn this strengthen her personality much. Participation in humanitarian response can empower her since humanitarian works have many different sectors and opportunities which women can gain a huge experience and be part of the decision making, also, this work help women to get the strength to face many difficulties and show the society how women can make a big different. It increases the acceptance of women role in the society as an active indispensable actor and increases their responsibility and presence. Her participation in the humanitarian response is a good chance to support and empower her by giving her leadership positions."Yes. Humanitarian response is targeting mostly women and girls with high percentages and as a result will aware people of women's importance and her need in participation and this lead to her empowerment in her house firstly then to her society." Dr, Abu-Osba stated.

Participation makes her confident of herself and able to convey all her contribution in society to be a decision maker and empower all people around her. They all agreed that Women are the most in need for humanitarian responses as a beneficiary and has the





closest way of getting and knowing women's need to serve them as an employer, so women participation in humanitarian response is very important to empower themselves.

The interviewees stated that NGOs role in implementing humanitarian response projects, this role is effective and useful to some extent but can't provide sustainable impact. In the current situation where the role of the government almost absent and the humanitarian situation are being worse especially health sector which is collapsing, NGOs are giving good support specially in providing support to the health sector which include medicines, training, vaccines, power supply and other donations. Besides, most of NGOs and INGOs interventions are taking care of the women especially in the nutrition sector, for instance: pregnant and lactating women programs and the ANC/PNC programs. They also provide food bags for poor people and IDPS. In Addition, some INGOs are sponsors for peace and security projects and trainings to local entities and parties

Regarding Yemeni government position on Security Council resolution 1325 most of them didn't know and they are not sure whether Yemeni government have a position on Security Council resolution, except few of them who know that Yemen has signed this resolution No. 1325. "I don't think so, looking to the fact Yemen has come in the last rank in gender index" Abeer said. Others said they think Yemeni government are working on it. They have characterize Yemeni government's attitude to questions of implementing UNSCR 1325 as weak attitude since In current situation government doing nothing to implementing UNSCR 1325, "They are all still away far from this, but somehow comparing to previous years I think there is some kind of progress in this regard" Iman said. Other said that Yemeni government don't mind in implementing it but this needs time and effort to be fully applied. According to leaders of humanitarian initiatives, said that regardless Yemeni government attitude toward UNSCR 1325, It's attitude is toward empowering women and supporting them which is clear by facilitating every procedures to women who are implementing humanitarian projects, for instance: easily get licenses and recommendation from every government's institutions.

According to their personal opinion what governments and NGOs should do to advance women empowerment, they said that Government and NGOs should adopt advance policies to empowering women. To facilitate education at all levels to women and to improve the health centers and to impose more laws that can improve the situation of security and human rights for women.

NGOs should focus more in implementing the existing rules of women empowerment and work to train and prepare for their role in the area of humanitarian response the same applies with the government. NGOs perhaps they can always provide special trainings for women and engage them in programs designing, implementation and evaluation. Governments, Likewise NGOs they can provide trainings for women in the public sector, equalize their rights like men and understand the idea of women empowerment and they can do like what men can do in terms of work. Also, Increase women percentage of rights and equity in every where. giving them more opportunities to make decisions. Their work should be towards effective solutions to the barriers of women's' participation, in particular in areas where their strengths are very much needed.

In their opinion, Yemeni women have many chances to succeed in humanitarian participation since the society and donors trust women more than men since they are less



corrupted, to proof that you can study NGOs led by women and see how trustworthy are they.

#### **4.3. Interpretation of the results related to the questions:**

##### **4.3.1. Analysis and social implications of the first question:**

According to the first main question of the study which says: Do Women participate in humanitarian response work? And it's four sub-questions:

sub-question 1: Do Yemeni women participate in health care initiatives?

sub-question 2: Is There an active role for Yemeni women in relief projects?

sub-question 3: Do Yemeni women have a contribution to the continuation of the educational process?

sub-question 4: Do Yemeni women have an active presence in social cohesion?

The answers of the first question, and its four sub-questions in Chapter 4 shows that there is a high level of participation of women in humanitarian work. That was clearly approved by the statistical tables that showed high approval from the sample of the study. This can be explained in terms of analysis and social indicators that the Yemeni society leaves a large space for women to participate in humanitarian work. In spite of Yemeni society is Traditional one, the participation of women as an active actor is clear and has its social roots imposed by the difficult life that the society suffered from, in the past. Currently, Women are involved with men in the field and in raising children, if not alone in this regard, and in family affairs in general. Despite all big responsibilities lays on woman shoulders, inside homes and outside homes, that did not stop her from appearing on numerous occasions as a leader and queen of the society in general, where she ruled Yemen in pre-Islam and also at some point after Islam. Therefore, we can say that the governing frameworks in society has not changed despite the change of religions.

For such results, there is an overwhelming assertion that women can access public life and their various branches in all economic, political, cultural, social and even administrative spheres through community service work, which included in this study, such as: (health care initiatives, relief projects, educational programs, social cohesion) At the same time empowering them through those works gradually.

##### **4.3.2. Analysis and social implications of the second question:**

According to the second main question of the study which says : Do Women's participation in humanitarian work make them pioneers of change or decision makers?

And it's two sub-questions:

sub-question 1: Are Women uninvolved to the political regime that participate in humanitarian works can be pioneers of change in society?

sub-question 2: Are Women involved to the political regime that participate in humanitarian works can be decision-makers in society?

The results showed that women's participation in humanitarian work has enabled them to be pioneers of change and decision-makers. It was found that if they participate in humanitarian work and do not belong to or not involved with the political regime, they still turn in a very high rate into pioneers of change; Women who participate in humanitarian



work within the society, which is the highest incubator in the country, they freely transformed into pioneers of change. The researcher attributes this result since it is related to the big space left in the social environment that women uninvolved with political regime live. The researcher noted that women who participate in humanitarian work and belonging to the political regime turn into decision makers, but significantly less than women who do not belong to the political regime. The researcher analyzes that the political regime binds women with many restrictions. Besides, political regime has less environmental space in addition to the male dominance in the community of the political regime is higher than outside the political regime. Also, The support received to women involved with the political regime is limited within the laws and issues regulating that political party. In contrast with support received by society for women uninvolved with the political regime is not limited by any specific rules or regulations except those related to customs, values, and traditions, which are also linked to religion and which are themselves flexible rules that are depending on circumstances, the ability of women to penetrate or overcome them.

#### **4.3.3. Analysis and social implications of the third question:**

- According to the third main question of the study which says : Are There any statistically significant differences for the demographic variables (Gender, Age, education) according to the main questions I and II?

In terms of demographic variable (gender), it was found that there are differences in humanitarian participation according to the axes of health, relief, education and societal cohesion. These differences are statistically significant and were also found according to the axis of women uninvolved with the political regime (were close to the test) and did not exist in women involved with the political regime. All differences were in favor of the gender variable "female", which means that women were more responsive to the themes of the study. However, the researcher found that the answers to gender variable "male" was above the theoretical average of this study which is (3) which means that it was in the approval side and therefore the differences do not reflect the difference Intrinsic between gender variable (Male) and (female).

In terms of demographic variable (Education), it was found that there are differences in humanitarian participation according to the axes of health, relief, education and social cohesion. The differences were between demographic variable education (high studies), and between (bachelor degree- Diploma), which means that people of high studies have a lack in observing women's participation in educational programs due to their busyness and their high responsibilities make them less interactive with their outer environment. These differences are statistically significant and were also found according to the scale of women uninvolved with the political regime, (according to Duncan test) while in Scheffe there was no differences in scale of women uninvolved with political regime. All differences were in favor of the demographic variable education (diploma), which means that (diploma) were more responsive to the themes of the study and more active in the outer activities were they found women's participation in educational programs. However, the researcher found that the answers to demographic variable education (high studies) were above the theoretical average of this study which is (3) which means that it was in the approval side and therefore the differences do not reflect the difference Intrinsic between all demographic variable of education.

In terms of demographic variable (Age), it was found that there are differences in humanitarian participation according to the axes of health, relief, education and social



cohesion. The differences were between demographic variable Age (31-39), and between (18-24, 25-30), which means that people of (31-39) ages have a lack in observing women's participation in educational programs due to their busyness and their high responsibilities make them less interactive with their outer environment. These differences are statistically significant and were also found according to the Scheffe test. All differences were in favor of the demographic variable age (18-24), which means that (18-24) were more responsive to the themes of the study and more active in the outer activities were they found women's participation in educational programs. However, the researcher found that the answers to demographic variable Age (31-39) were above the theoretical average of this study which is (3) which means that it was in the approval side and therefore the differences do not reflect the difference Intrinsic between all demographic variable of Age

**4.4 Interpretation of the results related to the hypotheses:** After reviewing the results of the study and answering its questions regarding the field research, in this chapter, the researcher will investigate the hypotheses of the study which says that there is a relationship between women empowerment and humanitarian participation. Before examining the hypotheses of the study, the researcher has tested the correlation between the humanitarian participation as an independent variable and its four axes to ensure the existence of a relationship confirms the validity of the scale, the results confirmed the existence of such a correlation according to a strong statistical significance. – by using Pearson correlation coefficient between the humanitarian scale and its axes they showed a positive relationship and statistically significant between the scale and all axes, at the level of significance 0.0001, as shown in the following table:

Correlations			
scales	humanitarian		
	Pearson Correlation	Sig. (2-tailed)	N
health	.709(**)	.000	375
relief	.846(**)	.000	375
education	.785(**)	.000	375
social co.	.824(**)	.000	375
** Correlation is significant at the 0.001 .			

In the previous table, there was a positive correlative relationship between the subaxes of women's participation in health initiatives, relief projects, education programs, and social cohesion, and women's participation in the humanitarian work in general.

## CHAPTER FIVE: 5. CONCLUSIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

### 5.1 Research results:

**The study results were according to the answer of the study's questions, and according to the verification of the hypotheses of the study, can be stated as follow:**

#### **First: women's humanitarian participation scale:**

- Yemeni women do participate in humanitarian works with high rate
- . ▪ Yemeni women do participate in health care initiatives.
- Yemeni women do participate in relief projects.
- Yemeni women have a contribution to the continuation of the educational process, and educational programs.
- Yemeni women have an active presence in social cohesion in country-wide.

#### **Second: women's humanitarian participation scale and its role in women's empowerment can be displayed through the following:**

- There is an impact in woman's humanitarian works and her empowerment uninvolved with the political regime.
- There is an impact in woman's humanitarian works and her empowerment involved with the political regime.

#### **Third : the correlation between women's humanitarian participation scale with its four :**

- There is a positive significant correlation between women participation in health care initiatives and her participation in humanitarian works.
- There is a positive significant correlation between women participation in relief projects and her participation in humanitarian works.
- There is a positive significant correlation between women participation in education programs and her participation in humanitarian works.
- There is a positive significant correlation between women participation in social cohesion and her participation in humanitarian works.

#### **Fourth : the correlation between women's humanitarian participation scale and its four axis with women's empowerment:**

- There is a positive significant correlation between women participation in humanitarian works and her empowerment outside the political regime as pioneer of change, and inside the political regime as a decision maker
- . ▪ There is a positive significant correlation between women participation in health care initiatives and her empowerment outside the political regime as pioneer of change, and inside the political regime as a decision maker.
- There is a positive significant correlation between women participation in relief projects and her empowerment outside the political regime as pioneer of change, and inside the political regime as a decision maker.



There is a positive significant correlation between women participation in education programs and her empowerment outside the political regime as pioneer of change, and inside the political regime as a decision maker.

- There is a positive significant correlation between women participation in social cohesion and her empowerment outside the political regime as pioneer of change, and inside the political regime as a decision maker.

**Fifth : the regression between women's humanitarian participation scale and its four axis with women's empowerment:**

- There is a positive significant regression between women participation in humanitarian works as an independent variable and her empowerment outside the political regime as pioneer of change, and inside the political regime as a decision maker as dependent variables.

- There is a positive significant regression between women participation in health care initiatives and her empowerment outside the political regime as pioneer of change, and inside the political regime as a decision maker.

- There is a positive significant regression between women participation in relief projects and her empowerment outside the political regime as pioneer of change, and inside the political regime as a decision maker.

- There is a positive significant regression between women participation in education programs and her empowerment outside the political regime as pioneer of change, and inside the political regime as a decision maker.

- There is a positive significant regression between women participation in social cohesion and her empowerment outside the political regime as pioneer of change, and inside the political regime as a decision maker.

**Sixth : differences scales:**

- There is no crucial differences between demographic variables from sample's point view regarding women's participation in humanitarian works.

- There is no crucial differences between demographic variables regarding women's participation in health care initiatives.

- There is no crucial differences between demographic variables regarding women's participation in relief projects.

- There is no crucial differences between demographic variables regarding women's participation in education programs.

- There is no crucial differences between demographic variables regarding women's participation in social cohesion.

- There is no crucial differences between demographic variables regarding women's empowerment uninvolved with political regime as pioneers of change.

- There are differences between demographic variables regarding women's empowerment involved with political regime as decision makers.





## 5.2. Recommendations

### 5.2.1 First: Regarding humanitarian Participation

- To continue support women's participation in humanitarian work in all its forms, which - according to the study- has proved that it enhances the role of women as pioneers of change.
- To support women's participation in humanitarian work in all its forms, which -according to the study- has proved that it enhances the role of women as decision makers. ▪ Strengthen the role of women in health initiatives by encouraging them and adopt such initiatives.
  - Training and developing of women activists, reactors and volunteers in the community on all relief programs according to Sphere standards, which is potential mechanism in enhancing their personal and leadership abilities.
  - Financing humanitarian assistance programs in the educational fields, which proved effective in the empowerment of women globally and confirmed by the results of this study in the Yemeni society significantly.

### 5.2.2.Second: Regarding women's empowerment:

- Supporting women's participation in peace and conflict prevention issues nationally and by giving them the opportunity to have a place in any future peace processes internationally and locally by helping them in social cohesion efforts by giving them more self-confidence to be heard.
  - Directing women to participate in humanitarian work as the study proved that this participation is one of the pillars of the empowerment of women in addition to education and work, which is universally stated and recognized.
  - Strengthen the capacities of women involved with the political regime by giving them training courses on participation in humanitarian work and management of humanitarian programs and projects.
  - Involvement of women within the political regime in humanitarian programs and projects where the study showed that their participation is weak compared to women uninvolved with the political regime.
  - Establish Networking between women leaders inside and outside the political regime to form a strong feminist component composed of pioneers of change, and decision makers.
  - Expanding support for humanitarian initiatives and projects for all components within Yemeni society and not limiting them to specific and limited local organizations. ▪ Opening up local initiatives for competition and encouraging them through financial and logistic support.

### 5.2.3Third: Regarding women's logistical support:

- Demonstrate successful women leadership within government institutions as a role model in Yemeni society to be accepted as decision makers for the service of the state and the political regime.





- Demonstrate successful women leaderships in Yemeni society as a role model to be accepted as leaders of change for community service.
- Support and encourage women leaders, who are active in the humanitarian field in the community to accommodate the available sites, which were occupied, by former women leaders, who became nowadays busy with the government, organizational, or political party's duties.
- Provide a source of income for women workers in the humanitarian field so that empowered women will not be seekers of living conditions due to war, which led to deterioration of their economic statuses, and critical circumstances that is forcing them to search for a source of livelihood.

### 5.3. Suggestions:

- Conduct separate studies on the empowerment of women in humanitarian work in the areas of health, education and relief and the social cohesion
- To study in depth the executive regulations of political parties to determine the extent to which women can hold leadership positions in the party.
  - Studies on the possibility of enhancing women's personal and leadership capacities through their integration into aid, relief programs and projects in Yemeni society.
  - Conducting studies on the needs and requirements of the Yemeni society and the most appropriate ways to meet these needs by engaging women in helping them achieve their goal.
- To conduct studies on the extent to which international resolutions, conventions, treaties and norms are compatible with the customs and traditions of Yemeni society.
  - Conducting studies on social, political and economic factors that enhance women's empowerment as a leading figure in society.
  - Conduct studies on how media and social networking sites can be used to demonstrate the leadership role of women as peacemakers at the individual and family levels and at the local and regional levels.

### 5.4. Summary :

The study revealed that there is an increase in the participation of women in humanitarian work in its four axes (health initiatives, relief projects, educational programs and Social cohesion) according to the demographics criterion. This participation greatly helps to empower women to be either pioneers of change if they are uninvolved with the political regime, or as decision makers in case They are involved with political regime. According to UNSC resolution 1325, the study found that the Yemeni society has the eligibility to apply it since the study found that the society is primarily accepting women's participation in peace and humanitarian issues.

The study set out a set of recommendations that were supposed to enhance the participation of women in humanitarian work and to ensure their empowerment, and pointed out that the implementation of resolution 1325 required government authorities to work out a national plan for its implementation.



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## **7. Appendices**

### **7.1. INTERVIEWS QUESTIONS TO WOMEN EMPOWERMENT, HUMANITARIAN WORKERS, ACTIVISTS AND ACADEMIC PEOPLE:**

1. What do you think of women empowerment?
2. Have you ever participated or monitored in any humanitarian response projects or initiatives?
3. How would you describe women's participation in humanitarian response in Yemen? What are the obstacles they face?
4. Do you think that humanitarian response participation can support women empowerment? If yes, how?
5. Have you heard about UNSCR 1325? If yes, What is it about?
6. Does Yemeni government have a position on Security Council resolution 1325?
7. How would you characterize Yemeni government's attitude to questions of implementing UNSCR 1325 and NGO access to humanitarian response interventions?
8. What do you think of the role of the NGOs? Are they useful to



implementing humanitarian response, especially regarding healthcare sector?

9. How could you describe the Yemeni society absorption for the UNSCR 1325?

your opinion, what are factors hinder women from participating in humanitarian response and healthcare initiatives?

11.Has the UNSCR 1325 and other international interventions made any difference in terms of women's impact and participation in humanitarian response and initiatives? What needs to be done to strengthen their role in Yemen?

12.In your personal opinion, what should NGOs do to advance women empowerment? What should governments do?

## **7.2. Questionnaire**

**<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfg7-V9OTFhGpUaJSkBTCWIfsy6X3jeg1J0DkIRNYS0tMdFjA/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0>**



FAIpQLSd0HqjELRB9eBmdFWGggtL0sY93ewWzOy6Y-lbbxg4ScI8IMw/viewform

صفحة دور ارضى لاجبار... إدارة المشاريع ضمن...

## Research on The impact of women economic empowerment on entrepreneurship (case study in -Yemen)

Dear Sir / Madam

Please share a little of your time to answer this survey .I'm in the final stages studying Masters of international Cooperation and humanitarian aid and my research is about -The impact of women economic empowerment on entrepreneurship (case study in -Yemen)the purpose of my choice is to examine to what extent participation of Yemeni women can make women leaderships and empowerment to be a decision maker and pioneer of change, get a deeper understanding for the reasons behind the weak role of Yemeni women participation on the growth of entrepreneurship works. In addition, to figure out what are the challenges that are facing Yemeni women in humanitarian participation, and the opportunities that can be used to strengthen women role in decision-making participation.

Would you spend 3 minutes to answer the questions below appreciate your time.

Rahma Al-hady

 rahmaalhady1@gmail.com (not shared) [Switch account](#) 

\* Required

id0HqjELRB9eBmdFWGggtL0sY93ewWzOy6Y-lbbxg4ScI8IMw/viewform

صفحة دور ارضى لاجبار... إدارة المشاريع ضمن...

Female

Prefer not to say

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Age? \*

25

25 to30

30to40

up to40

Do you work with ? \*

NGO

CSOs

International organization

None

Other: \_\_\_\_\_





sd0HjgELRB9eBmidFWGgqtL0sY93ewWzOy6Y-lbxg4Scj8JMw/viewform

شقة دور ارضى لايجار... إدارة المشاريع ضمن...

- None
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Do Women participate in economic empowerment work? \*

- Yes
- No

Do Yemeni women participate in economic activities and initiatives? \*

- Yes
- No

Is There an active role for Yemeni women in relief projects? \*

- Yes
- No

No

Do Yemeni women have a contribution to the continuation of the entrepreneurship process? \*

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

Do Yemeni women have an active presence in social cohesion? \*

- Yes
- No

Do Women's participation in humanitarian work and economic activities make them pioneers of change or decision makers? \*

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

