

Profile

Sheba Youth Foundation for Development

6 years of practice, learning
and partnerships for peace
and development in Yemen



Towards A Peace That Begins with the People, And with the Issues That Affect Their Daily Lives

Sheba Youth Foundation for Development is a Yemeni organization operating at the national level, with extensive field experience and expertise in peacebuilding, public service governance, and the participation of women, youth, and adolescent girls in Yemen

Sheba's field experience stemmed deeply from Taiz Governorate, one of the Yemeni regions most severely affected by the conflict, where the organization has leveraged issues related to public services (such as water, sanitation, roads, and access to essential services) as entry points for building trust, fostering dialogue, and facilitating local mediation

At the same time, Sheba's work and partnerships extend across the country's various governorates, throughout engaging with local communities, women, youth, adolescent girls, local authorities, policymakers, and both local and international stakeholders

Sheba operates through three interconnected pillars: peace-based governance and public services; women, youth, peace, and security; and the voices of adolescent girls, channeled through "Wa'ed" Network. These pillars are not presented as separate projects, but rather as operational pathways that integrate local accreditation, mediation, community engagement, knowledge production, and partnership building

Welcome To the Journey of Sheba Youth Foundation for Development



Since **2020**, Sheba's journey has been one of action, learning, and partnerships with conflict-affected communities, working alongside with women, youth, and adolescent girls, as well as local and international partners who believe that peace is built not only through formal agreements, but also through the everyday details that shape people's lives. Our experience in Taiz has taught us that public services can serve as a gateway to building trust, that local mediation can open new spaces for dialogue, and that women, youth, and adolescent girls are not merely target groups, but essential partners in understanding challenges and crafting solutions.

We have learned that institutional work in conflict settings requires patience, listening, flexibility, and responsible partnerships. Consequently, Sheba's journey has been more than just a series of projects; it has been a gradual process of practice and learning, one that has enabled the organization to develop clearer foundations, a more consistent methodology, and an institutional memory upon which to build. We extend our gratitude to the communities that opened their doors to us; to the women, youth, and adolescent girls who shared their voices and experiences with us; to local authorities and stakeholders; to our partners and donors; and to everyone who has contributed to this journey.

We hope this profile offers a clear window into the field experience and knowledge that Sheba has accumulated, and that it serves as a new space for collaboration with all those who believe that peace and development in Yemen require solutions crafted from within the local context, through partnerships that respect the people and their experiences.

Our Journey

2020 > 2026

Sheba Youth Foundation for Development's journey from 2020 to 2026 reflects a gradual path of fieldwork, trust building, expanding participation, developing platforms, producing knowledge, and organizing expertise within clearer pillars

2020
▼
2021

Beginnings, Building
Spaces, and Trust

Developing localized pathways for peacebuilding, mediation, public service governance, and the engagement of youth and women, with a particular focus on Taiz as a field environment rich in both lessons and challenges.

2022
▼
2023

Expanding Participation
and Building Platforms

The organization's experience has expanded toward more structured spaces for the participation of women and youth, with some initiatives evolving into platforms and networks for coordination, advocacy, learning, and capacity building.

2024
▼
2025

Deepening practice
and knowledge

Deepening mediation pathways, public services, culture, political and civic participation, digital empowerment, and digital safety, with a greater focus on documenting learned lessons.

2026

Organizing accumulation
within clearer pillars

A milestone for organizing the institutional development of Sheba Youth, presenting its experience accumulated since 2020 through clearer pillars, a more consistent methodology, and a shareable institutional mission that others can engage with.

A Practice That Begins with People and Evolves Into Knowledge and Partnerships

**Listening to people's
voices and their
daily experiences**



**Analyzing the
context, the actors,
the relationships,
and the risks**



**Facilitating dialogue and
transforming needs into
shared issues for
discussion and action**



**Building partnerships
and connect local action
to broader paths of
cooperation and impact**

**Building trust and
open up safe spaces
for dialogue**



**Building trust and
open up safe spaces
for dialogue**



Our Corporate Governance and Team Capacity Building Sheba Internship Program



The Sheba Internship Program serves as a pathway for practical learning and capacity building. Between 2021 and 2024, it has provided young men and women with the opportunity to gain professional experience within a civic or development-oriented work environment, for a duration of up to six months, depending on the organization's needs and its capacity to provide proper supervision

Our Corporate Governance and Team Capacity Building

Governance and Business Sustainability



Sheba treats institutional governance and capacity building as a fundamental component of its operational sustainability. To this end, the organization works to define roles, develop its administrative, financial, and programmatic systems, strengthen documentation and accountability, and build an institutional memory that enables the team to work with greater clarity alongside partners and communities

Lenses That Guide Our Practice



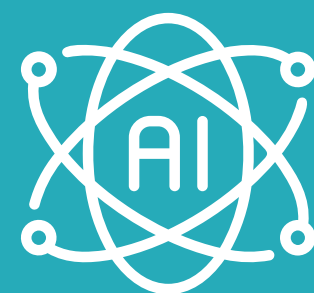
Climate Change and Resilience: Understanding the Impact of Climate on Services, Livelihoods, Women, Youth, and Adolescent Girls



Education for Peace to transform training, dialogue, arts and knowledge into learning and confidence-building opportunities



Localization and local partnerships: Sustainable solutions begin with the local context and with partnerships that respect local knowledge



Digitalization and artificial intelligence for developing innovative solutions and enhancing impact

The Pillars of Our Work



Peace-Based Governance and Public Services

Sheba views public services as everyday spaces through which trust can be built, tension reduced, and the relationship between communities and local institutions improved.



Women, Youth, Peace and Security

Sheba works with women and youth as active participants in public life, peacebuilding, leadership, advocacy, culture, knowledge production, and economic and digital opportunities.



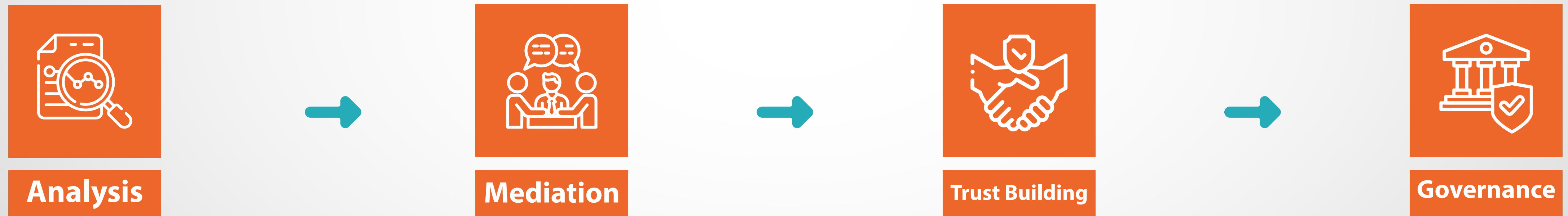
The Voice of Adolescent Girls

Through the Wa’ad network, Sheba creates a safe space for adolescent girls to learn, express themselves, build confidence, and develop their voices within their families, communities, and civic spaces.

First Pillar:

Peace-Based Governance and Public Services

In conflict settings, public services are not merely technical matters. Water, sanitation, roads, and access to services are linked to people's trust in institutions, the responsiveness of local authorities, and the day-to-day relationships between communities and local actors



This pillar reflects Sheba's conviction that local peace begins when people's daily needs are transformed into shared issues for dialogue, and that the governance of public services can serve as a practical entry point for building trust and reducing tension

Water: Mediation and Governance



How can a crisis involving a basic service in a divided city become an entry point for mediation, trust-building, the depoliticization of services, and the governance of public resources

Waste Mediation and Governance



Addressing waste as an issue of governance and environmental safety, rather than merely a matter of daily sanitation

Access and Local Peace

Connecting roads, daily movement, and access to schools, hospitals, and markets sustains social and economic ties

Second Pillar:

Women, Youth, Peace and Security

We work to empower women and youth to participate actively in peacebuilding, civic leadership, advocacy, culture, and economic and digital opportunities in Yemen



**Capacity Building
of Youth &
Women**



**Creating Safe
Spaces**



**Supporting
Youth Platforms**



**Producing
Studies &
Knowledge**



**Implementing
Interventions
and Initiatives**



**Documenting
Impact and
Learning**

Political and Civic Participation and Leadership

مشروع القيادة النسائية والتأثير في مسارات السلام
بدعم وتمويل من منظمة شركاء اليمن، تنفذ مؤسسة شباب سبأ للتنمية
جلسات حوارية مغلقة مع قيادات الصف الأول وأعضاء مؤثرين من قيادة التنظيم
الوحدوي الشعبي الناصري ومنظمات المجتمع المدني والسلطة المحلية
في محافظة تعز

Closed dialogue sessions involving first-tier leadership and influential members of
the Nasserist Unionist People's Organisation (NUPO), civil society organizations,
and local authorities.

in Taiz Governorate

29th July 2026

للشكاوى والمقترحات
For Complaints and suggestions
complaints@shebayo

Supporting women and youth in transitioning from symbolic presence to active participation in peacebuilding, leadership, advocacy, policymaking, local mediation, and the governance of public affairs

Culture for Peace and the Creative Economy



Viewing culture as a space for preserving memory, restoring social ties, and opening up safe spaces for expression, dialogue, and a shared sense of belonging

Economic and Digital Empowerment

A person is seen from the side, focused on a laptop screen. The laptop is a dark-colored Lenovo ThinkPad, and the person's hands are on the keyboard. The screen displays a complex web application with various data fields and lists. The background is slightly blurred, showing other people and equipment in what appears to be a classroom or training center.

Linking economic and digital skills to job opportunities, digital products, entrepreneurship, digital protection, and safe participation in the digital space

Third Pillar:

The Voice of Adolescent Girls

Adolescent girls often find themselves caught between the stages of childhood, youth, and adulthood, a reality frequently reflected in development programs and public spaces alike. Their specific needs are not always clearly recognized, and spaces are rarely designed with their age, protection, and unique modes of self-expression in mind

From this, Wa'ed network evolved as a specialized track within Sheba, focusing on adolescent girls in Yemen and providing a safe space for their voices, a space for learning, self-expression, building confidence, and engaging in ways that are appropriate for their age and context.



-----○ **Start by Listening**



-----○ **Building Trust**



-----○ **Using tools that are accessible to adolescent girls**

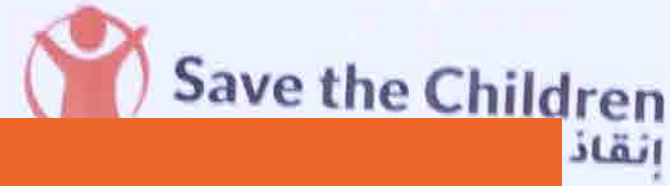


-----○ **Connecting major issues to the daily lives of girls**



-----○ **It supports small-scale initiatives within the school and the community**

The Voice of Adolescent Girls



ضمن مشروع تعزيز الوعي الرقمي للشباب اليمني لمواجهة العنف الإلكتروني بتمويل من منظم
تنفذ مؤسسة شباب سبأ للتنمية وبالشراكة مع شبكة وعد

مرشة تدريبية في الأمن الرقمي والسلامة الرقمية وتعزيز الوعي الأسري للفتيات اليافعات والفتيان اليافعين

خلال الفترة 29 - 30 2023

Within Strengthened Yemeni Youth's Digital Counter Violence Programme
Foundation for Development Partnership
Two awareness sessions for parents and guardians
During the period 29 - 30 2023



We empower adolescent girls today so that they grow up capable of expressing their voices, participating, and creating change

From Projects to Ongoing Spaces for Coordination, Learning, and Advocacy

Sheba's experience is not limited to the implementation of specific projects and activities; it also encompasses the creation of spaces and platforms that have enabled women, youth, adolescent girls, and local stakeholders to coordinate, learn, advocate, and exchange experiences



A safe space for the voices of adolescent girls



A youth alliance to unite young people's voices around peacebuilding and political participation



A digital awareness platform for combating disinformation and promoting critical thinking and digital safety



A national youth space to strengthen the role of young men and women in peacebuilding and conflict transformation



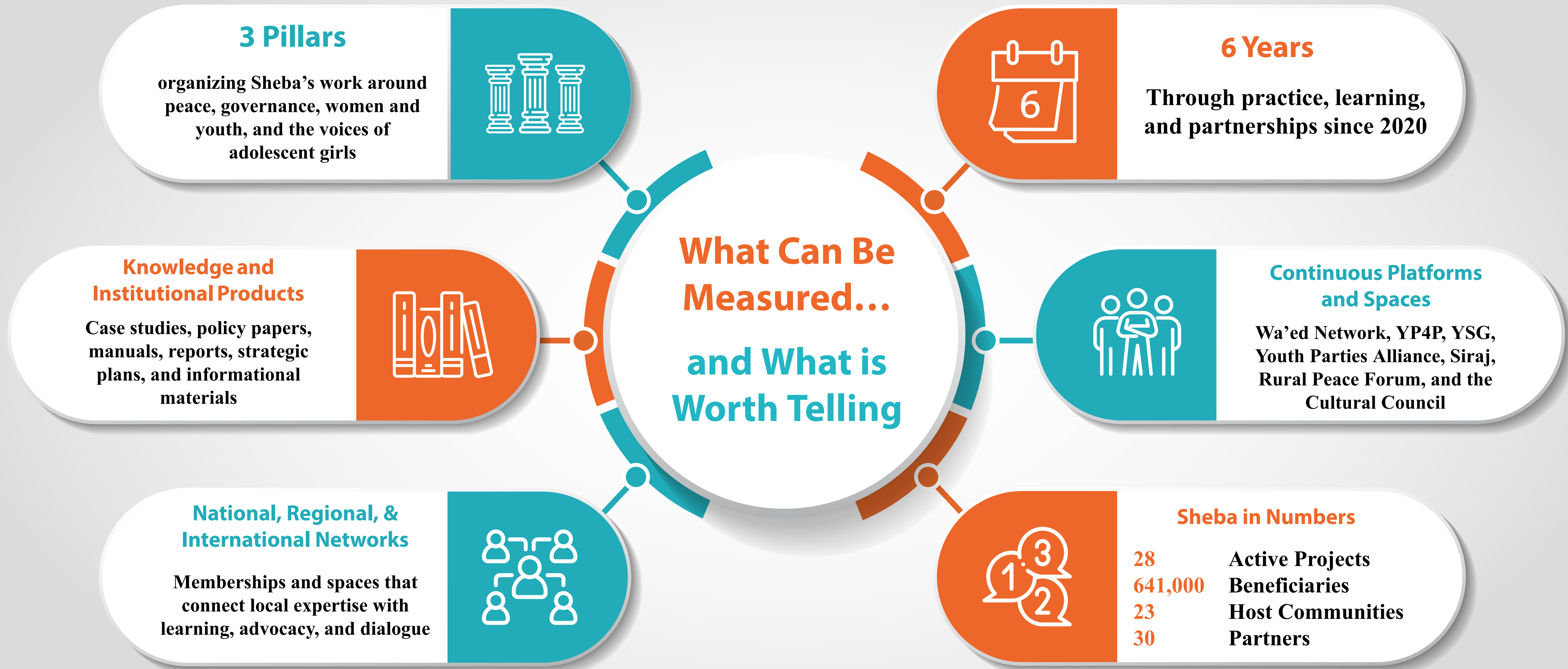
A space for youth dialogue across diverse political backgrounds



A local space to amplify the voices of rural women in peacebuilding and community engagement



A space for cultural coordination and for linking culture with peace and societal identity



Deepening Practice, Organizing Knowledge, & Expanding Partnerships

The year 2026 marks a milestone for organizing Sheba's accumulated institutional experience, refining the expertise gained since 2020 into clearer pillars, a more consistent methodology, and an institutional mission that can be shared with partners and the public alike.



**Deepening peace-based
governance and public
services**

Developing work on public service issues as a practical entry point for building trust, mediation, and dialogue between communities and local institutions

**Expanding the participation of
women and youth in peace,
leadership, and local governance**

Promoting the safe and meaningful participation of women and youth in peacebuilding, civic leadership, advocacy, knowledge production, and local governance

**Developing the path for
adolescent girls through
Wa'ed Network**

Protecting safe spaces, supporting expression and learning, and developing life and digital skills for adolescent girls

**Leveraging digitalization and
artificial intelligence for peace,
services, and participation**

Exploring responsible digital tools that help improve coordination, organize knowledge, support secure sharing, and enhance digital safety

Institutional Enablers for the Next Phase

From accumulation to clarity, and from practice to deeper partnerships for peace and development in Yemen

Governance and Capacity Building

Developing internal systems and roles, enhancing the clarity of responsibilities, ensuring quality of execution, documentation, and knowledge management, while continuing to advance the Sheba Professional Fellowship and practical learning pathways

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Knowledge Documentation

Documenting field experience and transforming it into case studies, policy papers, manuals, and knowledge materials

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Partnerships and Sustainability

Building partnerships based on trust, knowledge exchange, and collaborative work with communities, partners, and knowledge hubs

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Publications

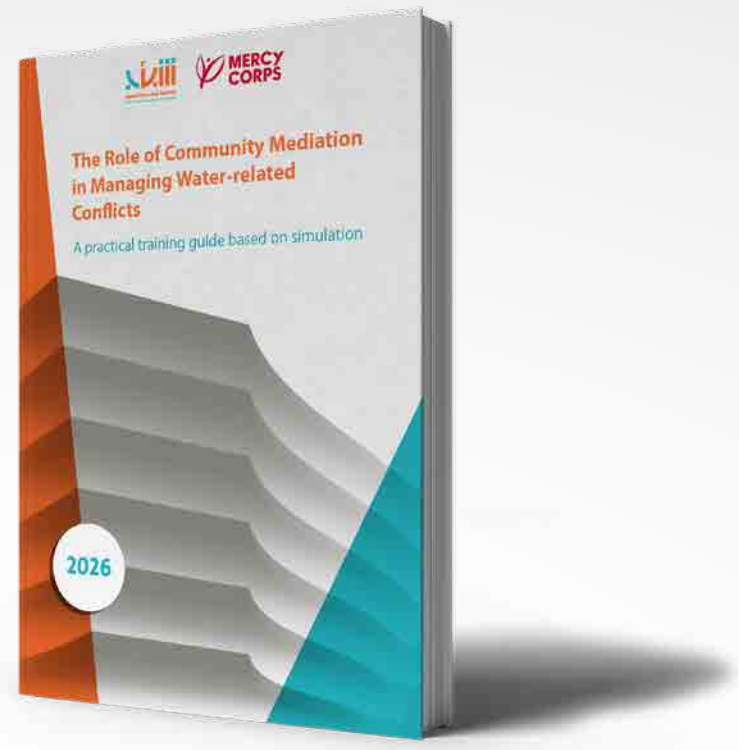
Brief Policy Paper

The Role of Local Mediation in Maitigating Water Governance Gaps in Conflict-afeced Contexts



Training Guide

The Role of Community Mediation in Managing Water-related Conflicts



Case Study Report

The Role of Local Mediation in Managing Water Conflicts in Conflict-afeced Contexts



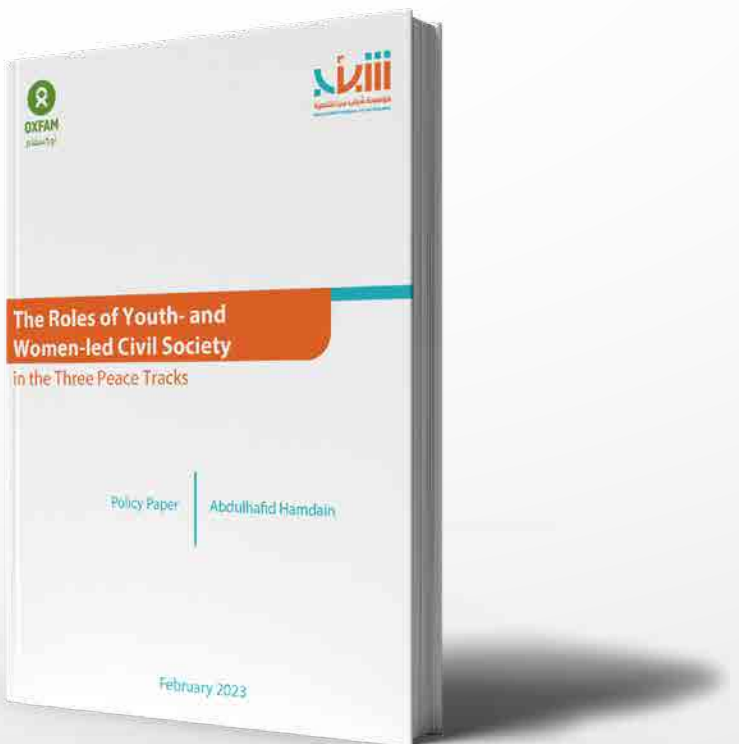
Survey Study

The Role of Women in Social Change in Taiz Governorate



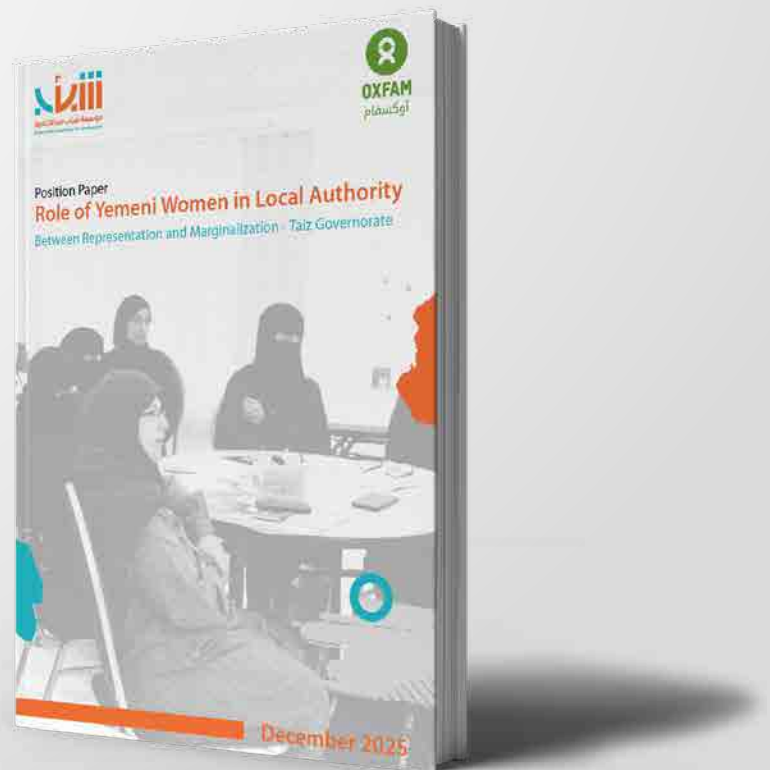
Policy Paper

The Rolea of Youth- and Women-led Civil Society in the Three Peace Tracks



Position Paper

Role of Yemeni Women in Local Authority; Between Representation and Marginalization



Case Study

**Women's Local
Mediation Efforts in
the Water Issue in Taiz
Governorate**



Policy Brief

**Yemeni Youth
Engagement in the First
Track of Peacebuilding
Process**



Analytical Report

**The Impact of Local
Conflicts on the Political
Process and Political
Stability in Yemen**



Knowledge Guide

**A Step for Your
Digital Safety**



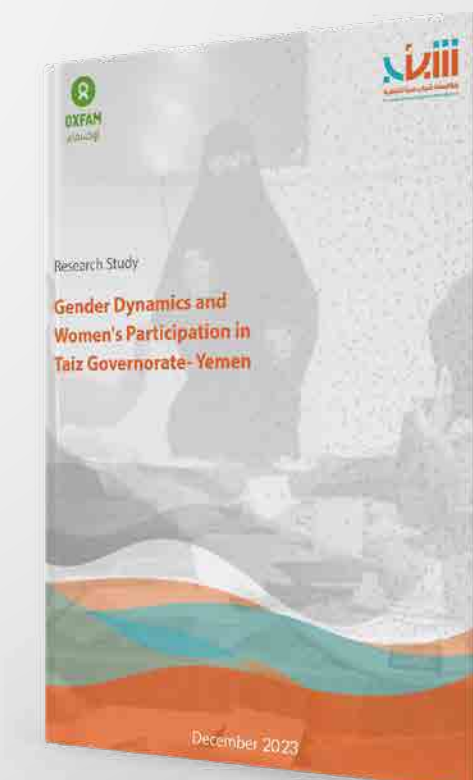
Knowledge Guide

**Political
Participation and
Digital Advocacy**



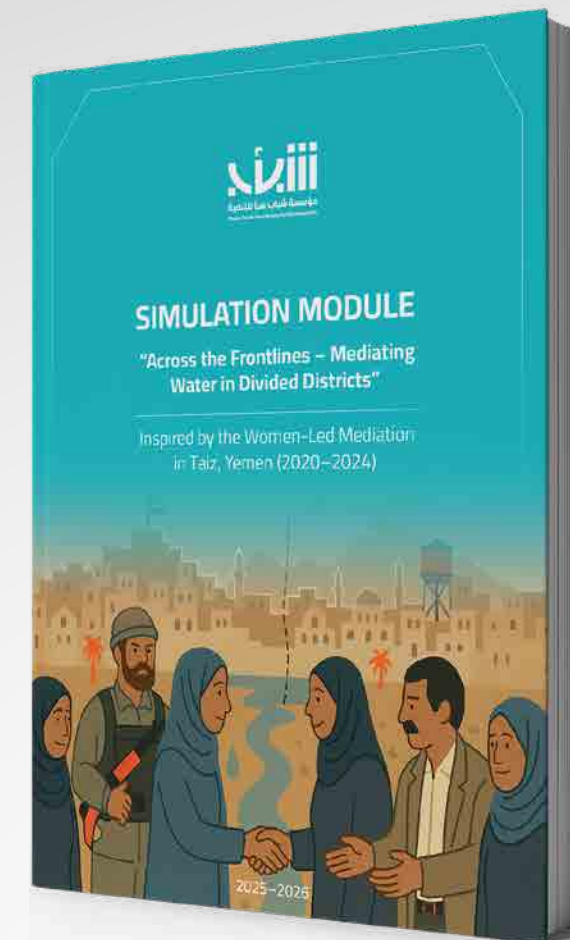
Research Study

**Gender Dynamics and
Women's Participation in
Taiz Governorate**



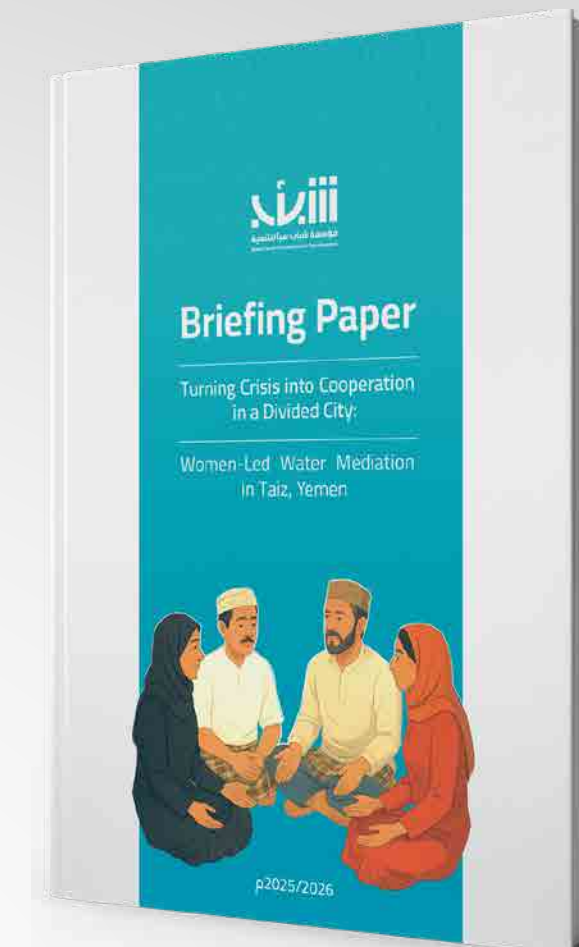
Simulation Module

Across the Frontlines - Mediating Water in Divided Districts



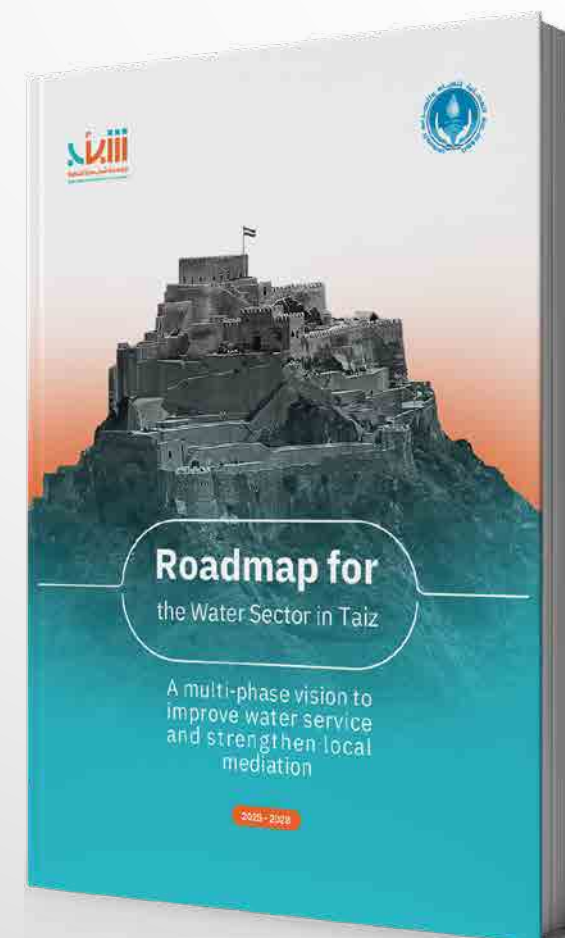
Briefing Paper

Turning Crisis into Cooperation in a Divided City



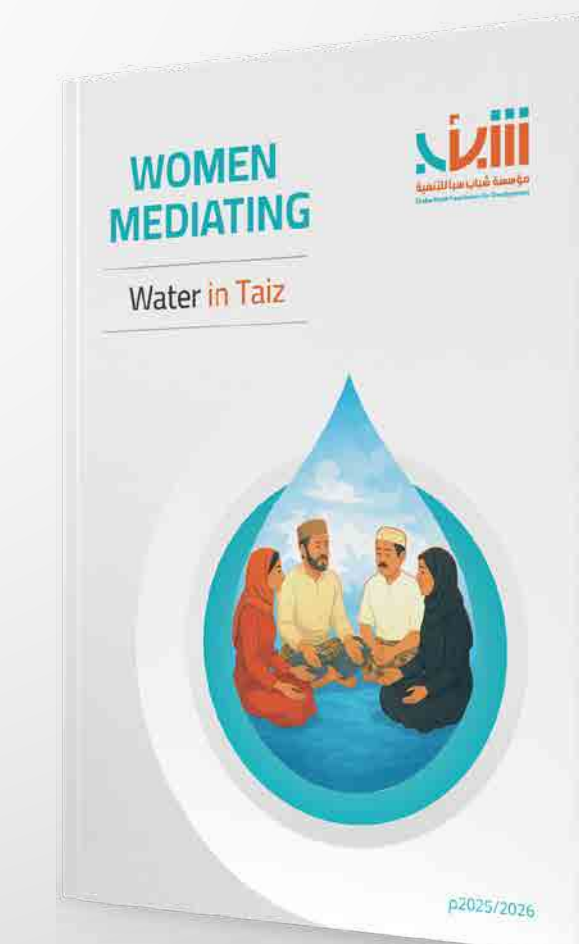
Roadmap File

Water Roadmap for the Water Sector in Taiz Governorate



Case Study

Women Mediating Water in Taiz Governorate





Success Partners





منظمة مدرسة السلام في اليمن
Yemen Peace School Organization



Resonate! Yemen
Learn. Engage. Contribute.



Contact Us

Sheba Youth Foundation for Development welcomes engagement with partners, researchers, media outlets, civil society organizations, supporting institutions, volunteers, and those interested in collaborating on local peace, the governance of public services, and the empowerment of women, youth, and adolescent girls in Yemen



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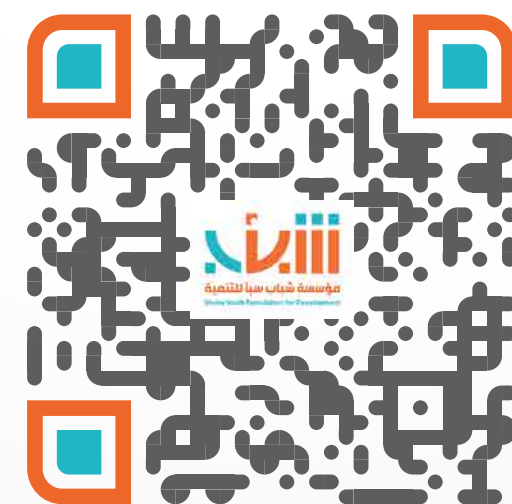
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