

National Dialogue Survey

Conducted by: the Social Research and Development Center (SRDC)

Funded by: Save the Children International

1 General Information about the survey

- *The survey was conducted over the period March 31 to April 12, 2013. It targeted 500 respondents in four provinces (Taiz, Al-Hodeidah, Sana'a and Amran) and these are the provinces where the Save the Children currently works.*

2 Executive Summary

2.1 General Questions

- About 52% of respondents are dissatisfied with their living conditions, while 43% feel completely satisfied or somewhat satisfied about their living conditions.
- Gender wise, the majority of those feeling dissatisfied about their living conditions are males (64%), versus 41% of female respondents.
- 58% of women feel completely or somewhat satisfied with their/their families' living conditions, versus 26% of men.
- At the province level, the highest satisfaction was recorded among the respondents of Sana'a and Al-Hodeidah provinces (53%), while the highest dissatisfaction rate was recorded in Taiz at 60%, followed by Amran at 59%.
- As to things that would make the respondents or his family's life better, the majority of respondents focused on economic aspects including increasing income, availability of basic commodities and low prices at 73%; women show more interest than men with regards to economic matters.
- 37% of respondents state their situation has, compared to last year, improved. An equal percent (37%) said the situation of their family has worsened, compared to last year, while 26% said there has been no change.
- As to the situation after one year from now, 49% believe theirs and their families' situation will be better, while 9% believe it would worsen, while 38% said they "do not know".

2.2 National Dialogue

- 74% of respondents usually or sometime follow Yemen's news, versus 26% who do not.
- Similarly, 65% of respondents follow the news of the national dialogue, while 35% do not.
- The majority of those who do not follow the national dialogue activities are women at 46%, versus 24% of men.
- 74% of respondents follow the activities and news of the national dialogue through TV, while 14% follow the activities through radio and 10% through relatives and friends.

- The majority of respondents follow the activities and news of the national dialogue conference through the Yemen Satellite Channel. A small percentage of respondents follow the national dialogue conference through Al-Saeeda, Yemen Today and Suhail channels.
- Those respondents who use radio follow Sana'a Radio Station, followed at small percentages by local radio stations in Taiz and Al-Hodeidah.
- "The National Dialogue" phrase means the reconciliation between Yemenis for 37% of respondents, putting an end to Yemen's crisis for 31%. Other respondents, yet at small percentages, mentioned things like sharing of power, building the civil state, secession, unity and security, etc.
- Almost half of respondents (46%) were able to tell how long the national dialogue will be. The same percentage answered with "do not know".
- 44% of respondents noted the conference length is sufficient, while 19% said it is somewhat long, mostly women.
- 63% percent of respondents stated they are either completely interested or somewhat interested in the national dialogue conference and 26% mentioned they are not interested at all.
- Male respondents showed more interest in the national dialogue than females; 80% of male respondents versus 46% of female respondents. 41% of female respondents mentioned they are not interested in the national dialogue conference.
- The reasons for showing interest in the national dialogue ranged between putting an end to Yemen's problems (66%), improving the security situation at 14% and reconciliation between Yemenis at 10%.
- The reasons for showing disinterest in the national dialogue conference ranged between busyness and lack of interest in political issues at 48%, followed by lack of communication mediums (TV sets, radio, etc.) (6%) and lack of electricity, etc.
- About half of respondents noted all things relating to the national dialogue are clear to them, versus 21% who said it is not and 21% said they "do not know".
- The overwhelming majority of respondents (74%) do not know how the participants in the national dialogue conference were selected.
- Likewise, 50% of respondents stated they do not know if all groups/factions have been represented in the national dialogue, versus 36% of respondents who noted that all or most groups/factions have been represented.
- As to the factions/groups not represented in the national dialogue, the majority mentioned youth first and most respondents who said this belong to Amran province at 67%, followed by marginalized people, southern movement and expatriates.
- 34% of respondents believe they have a representative in the national dialogue, while 25% think they do not and 25% also do not know if they have or do not have. The majority of respondents who believe they have a representative in the national dialogue belong to Arman province. The majority of respondents who said they do not have are in Taiz province and the majority of those who do not know are in Al-Hodeidah.
- About 30% of respondents believe that parties are the most represented group in the national dialogue, followed by President Hadi's list (7%), while 54% stated they do not know.
- The overwhelming majority of respondents (85%) do not know who is the most influential group in the national dialogue conference is.
- As to the representation of the different groups in the national dialogue:

- 29% of respondents believe that political parties were appropriately represented and 20% believe they were overrepresented.
- Likewise, 29% believe that President's list was appropriately represented, versus 13% who said they were overrepresented.
- 20% of respondents believe that southern movement was appropriately represented, while 11% believe they were overrepresented and 12% said they are underrepresented.
- 22% of respondents believe that Ansaru Allah (Houthis) were appropriately represented and 13% believe they were overrepresented and 6% said they were underrepresented.
- 15% of respondents believe that youth were appropriately represented and 2% believe they were overrepresented, while 31% said they were underrepresented.
- About 33% of respondents believe that women were appropriately represented and 4% believe they were overrepresented and 17% said they were underrepresented.
- 14% of respondents believe that civil society organizations (CSOs) were appropriately represented and 8% believe they were overrepresented and 11% said they were underrepresented.
- About 37% of respondents believe that children were appropriately represented and 4% believe they were overrepresented and 2% said they were underrepresented.
- Only 3% of respondents believe that marginalized people were appropriately represented and 21% believe they were underrepresented, while 18% believe they were not represented at all.
- About 14% of respondents believe that security and army leaderships were appropriately represented and 5% believe they were overrepresented and 9% said they were underrepresented.
- 16% of respondents believe that businessmen and merchants were appropriately represented and 8% believe they were overrepresented and 4% said they were underrepresented.
- 18% of respondents believe that tribal sheikhs were appropriately represented and 15% believe they were overrepresented and 6% said they were underrepresented.
- 14% of respondents believe that religious scholars and preachers were appropriately represented and 7% believe they were overrepresented and 14% said they were underrepresented.
- Just 7% of respondents believe that expatriates were appropriately represented and 15% believe they were underrepresented, while 11% said they were not represented at all.
- 14% of respondents believe that independent people were appropriately represented and 13% believe they were underrepresented, while 3% stated they were not represented at all.
- The majority of respondents believe that the national dialogue conference does address the challenges that face Yemen, while 8% do not believe in that. The majority of those who said it addresses challenges facing the country are men at 70%, versus 46% of women.
- 18% of respondents believe that the national dialogue should focus on South Yemen issue, while 18% believe it should focus on the economic situation and on security at 15%, comprehensive development at 10 percent, and political stability at 7% and Sa'ada cause at 4%.

- The treatments for personal problems lie, according to respondents on revitalizing the national economy (50%), improving public utilities like water and electricity at 38%, riding of unemployment and providing job opportunities at 35%.
- About 57% of respondents have confidence in the national dialogue's ability to resolve Yemen's current problems.
- Likewise, half of respondents are completely or somewhat confident that the national dialogue conference is capable to solve the problems in their respective provinces.
- 40% of respondents are completely or somewhat confident that the national dialogue can resolve their own problems
- As to the shape of the future state, the majority of respondent answered with "do not know" at 62%, while 9% chose federalism and central state was favored by 22% and 7% are for having things as they are now.
- Ruling system – 34% are for the presidential system, 19% for parliamentary system, 9% for having things as they are now and 38% answered with "do not know".
- As to the electoral system, 15% are for the proportional list system, 9% for the single-member plurality system, 8% support mixed systems, while 11% support having things as they are now and 58% answered with "do not know".
- Voting for the constitution if it states equality between men and women, 68% of respondents, mostly women at 81%, declared they will vote for it.
- Voting for the constitution if it states setting up a civil state, 62% of respondents, mostly women, said they will do. The highest percent of supported this was in Taiz at 68%.
- Voting for the constitution if it states setting up a federal state, only 11% of respondents said they will do, while 27% refused and 62% answered with "do not know".

2.3 Sources of Information

- Over half of respondents (55%) receive their information from TV, 24% from relatives and friends, 13% from Radio and 2% from print journalism.
- The overwhelming majority of respondents (73%) mentioned that TV is the best source of information through which they follow the national dialogue news and activities. Radio came in the second place at 9%, followed by friends and relatives at 4% and websites at 4%.
- The majority of respondents (57%), mostly in Amran province, prefer to follow live broadcasting of the national dialogue activities, while 8% prefer following the results in news bulletins, 6% prefer summaries of sessions and 6% as well prefer telecasting fully recorded sessions.

2.4 Women and Children

- The majority of respondents (64%), mostly women, support equality between men and women in terms of political work, while 26% oppose.
- Likewise, 63% are for equality between men and women in assuming public posts and 31% oppose.
- 57% of respondents are for equality between men and women in nomination for parliament, while 30% oppose.

- As to the quota the respondents propose for women’s representation in the national dialogue, 25% - mostly women – are for having a quota of 50% for women, while 17% are for having a quota of 30% for women.
- As to the appropriate quota the respondents propose for women’s representation in parliament, 18% - mostly women – are for having a quota of 30% for women, while 12% are for having a quota of 50% for women, while 5% oppose representing women in parliament.
- As to the appropriate quota the respondents propose for women’s representation in local councils, 15% - again mostly women – are for having a quota of 30% for women, while 14% are for having a quota of 50%for women and 14% are for a quota of more than 50%, while 12% are for a quota of 20%.
- As to the representation of children in the national dialogue, 39% of respondents sated they were not represented, versus 7% who said they were represented; 54% answered with “do not know”.
- The children’s issues that need to be addressed by the national dialogue are education at 46%, health at 20%, child labor at 7%, children’s trafficking at 6% and early marriage at 2%.

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