



30 March 2023 – The conflict in Yemen has become a largely forgotten and neglected humanitarian crisis in which two-thirds of the population – more than 20 million people – are in present need of urgent health assistance. But as this protracted conflict now enters its ninth year, there is renewed hope for eventual peace and health, for all Yemenis.

“Arabia Felix”, or “Happy Yemen” – as this beautiful and once-prospering country was called in ancient Roman times – is deeply suffering and impoverished today.

Since March 2014, long years of conflict have driven Yemen into a dark abyss of human deprivation and despair. Multiple life-threatening health risks, and a severely crippled and overwhelmed health system, have contributed to making Yemen home to one of the world’s most protracted and dire humanitarian crises.

Currently, only 54% of health facilities are functioning, while 46% are closed or only partially operating. Facilities that are still open are badly overstretched and struggling to provide even most basic services, due to shortages of staff, electricity, medicines, supplies, and equipment. Most health workers are receiving reduced payments if any, compared to previous years – resulting in further deterioration of essential services.

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Tuesday 30th of April 2024 12:04:35 PM