



منتدى المنظمات الوطنية
NNGOs Forum

Yemen National NGOs Forum

Report - 2024

YEMEN NNGOs Forum Overview

The Yemen National Non-Governmental Organizations Forum (YNNGOsF) serves as a national coordination mechanism for active NNGOs.

Aimed to create a platform for local-to-local communication, promoting information sharing, capacity development, and supporting the localization strategy.

The forum advocates key issues among national and international actors, enhance direct communication between donors and NNGOs, Foster quality partnerships between local and international partners; this includes facilitating small and emerging NNGOs' access to coordination mechanisms such as clusters and other WGs, ensure active participation of NNGOs in preparing the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) and Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP).

Yemen NNGOs Forum Structure:

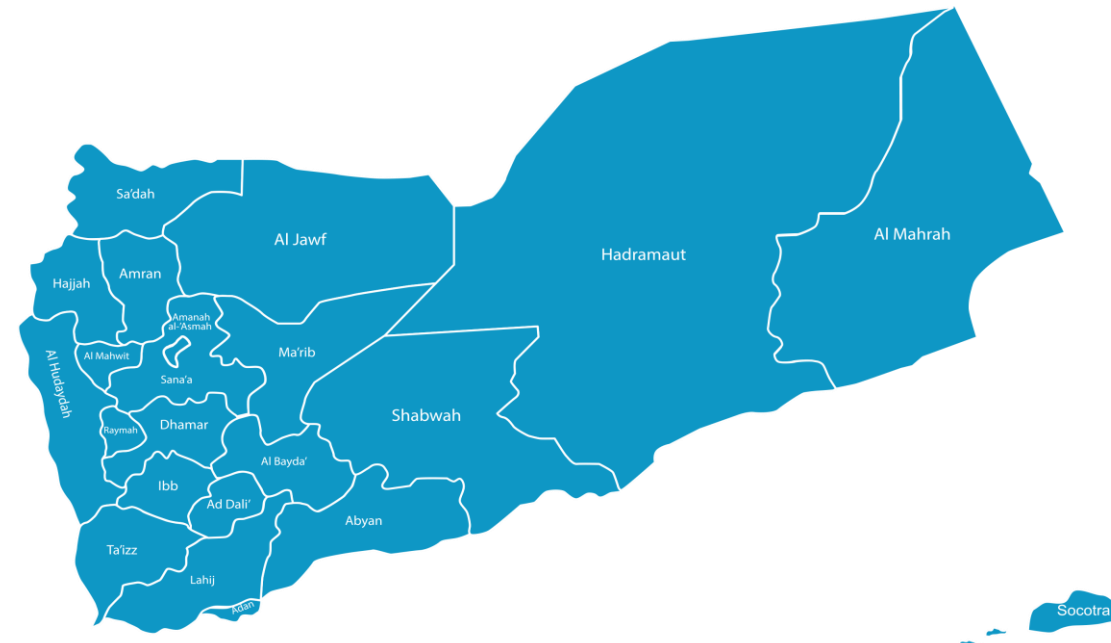
Forum Leadership: Nahda Makers serves as the hosting agency responsible for coordinating the Forum activities.

Steering Committee: Consists of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) NNGOs members which are: NMO, NFDHR, YFC, Altawasl, Alaman, and Salam Yemen.

Forum Members: Comprise Yemeni NGOs with active humanitarian or development interventions.

Coverage Area

Yemen Notional NGOs Forum covers all Yemen Governorates both South and North.

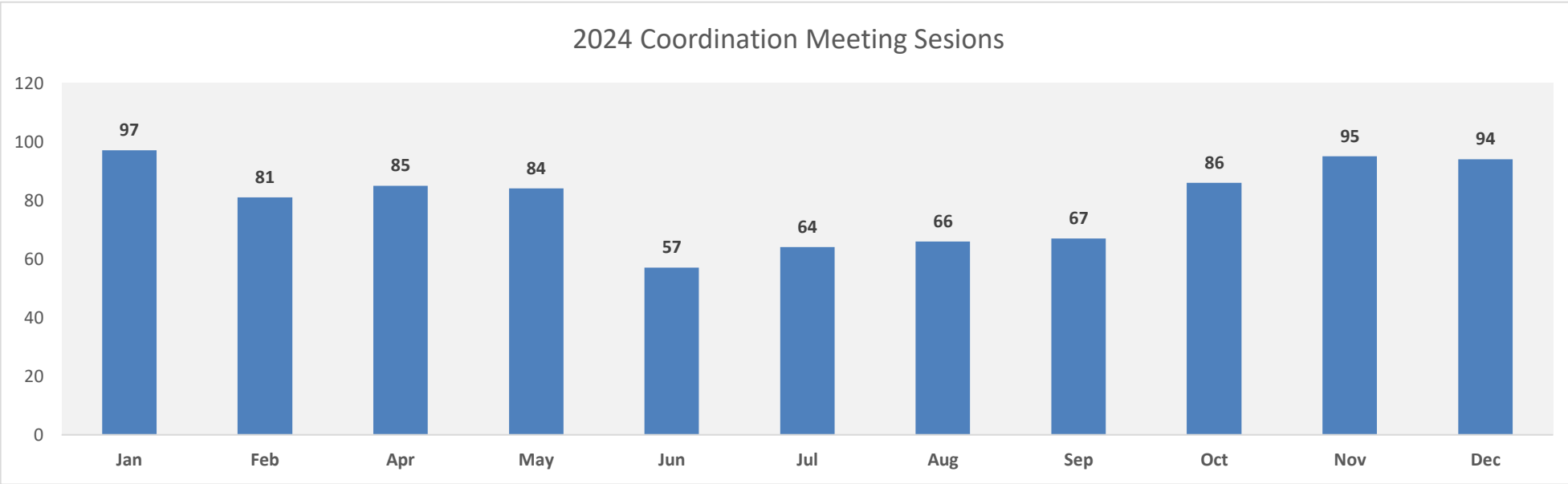




1. Strengthening Coordination and Facilitating Engagement Across Local, National, and International Networks:

1.1 Coordination Meetings

During 2024, the Yemen NNGOs Forum successfully conducted monthly coordination meetings. These meetings served as crucial platforms for fostering collaboration, sharing best practices, and promoting effective communication among the participating organizations. The forum engaged different partners from OCHA, INGOs, NNGOs, donors, and international networks to provide updates and insights during these meetings. Through this diverse participation, members were able to address common challenges, explore opportunities for joint initiatives, and enhance coordination. [Figure 1 reflects the number of organizations participated in the coordination meeting per month.](#)



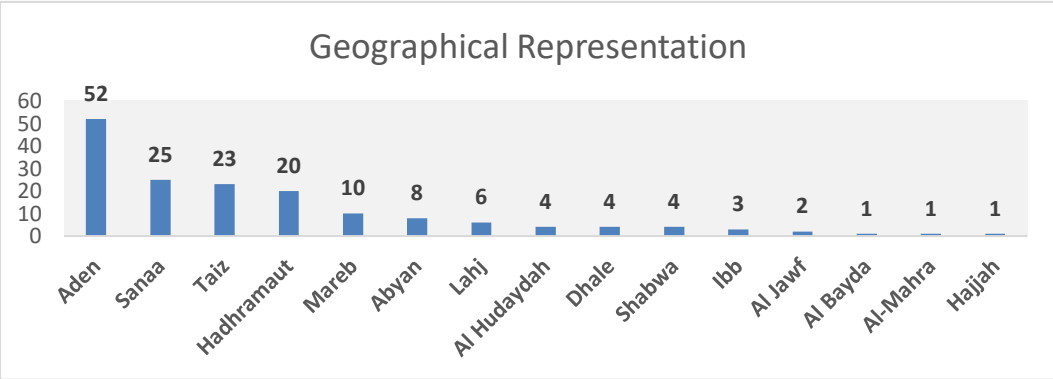
1.2 Developing the Membership Mechanism.

During the first quarter of 2024, the Yemen National NGOs Forum prioritized enhancing its membership system. To ensure efficiency and effectiveness, various improvements were implemented, including streamlining the membership application process, establishing clear criteria for membership eligibility, and enhancing the evaluation and review mechanisms. These enhancements have resulted in a more robust and inclusive membership system, enabling the forum to attract diverse and qualified organizations, and fostering a dynamic and vibrant network of national/local non-governmental organizations.

Membership mechanism link:

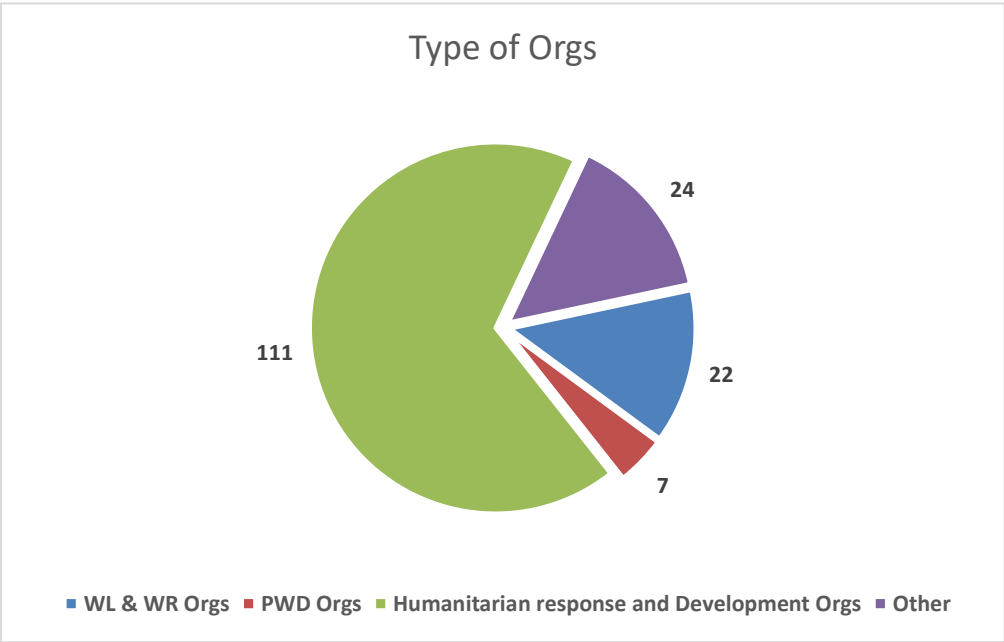
<https://nmoorg.sharepoint.com/:f/g/EjK749rpKU5Imi47IMTD0AwBAkIBbYqFWT4jsH4Drsp9uw?e=0hBMNC>

Figure 2 provides an overview of the distribution of the 164 NNGOs members across governorates, highlighting their geographical representation.

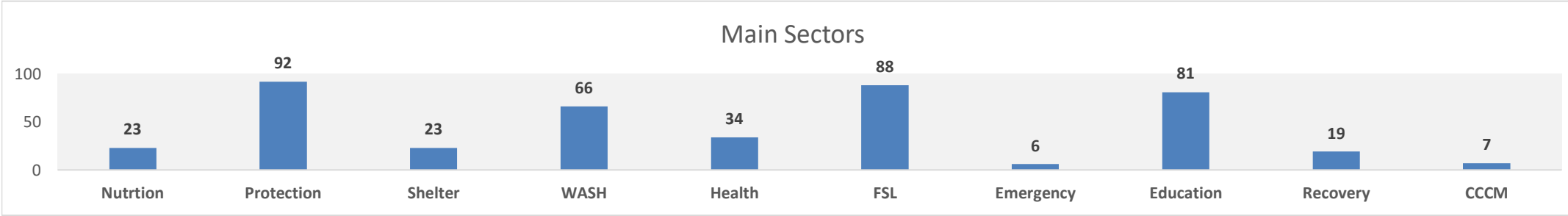


Enhancing the membership mechanism has provided the Forum with comprehensive information about its members, including the organizational classifications such as Women Lead organization (WLOs) and People with disability organizations (PWDOs). This clarity enables the Forum to strategically plan, and provide tailored support, fostering stronger collaboration and more impactful outcomes across its diverse network.

Figure 4 offers an overview of the different types of members.



As a result of enhancements to the membership mechanism, the forum has gained valuable information and insights about the primary sectors in which each member operates. It also strengthens the forum’s capacity to address sector-specific challenges and leverage opportunities effectively. Figure 3 illustrates the main sectors alongside the number of national NGOs actively working in each sector.



1.3 Digital Archiving System: Enhancing Access and Efficiency.

The Forum introduced a digital archiving system to streamline access to its materials for members. This system offers improved accessibility, allowing members to retrieve important documents and resources at any time and from anywhere for all activities including Monthly Coordination meeting minutes, monthly training materials ...etc. Additionally, it provides a centralized repository for securely storing all Forum materials. This initiative also fosters stronger collaboration by enabling quick access to shared resources, reflecting the Forum's commitment to leveraging technology to support its members and enhance overall operational effectiveness.

Archiving System link:

<https://nmoorg.sharepoint.com/Shared%20Documents/Forms/AllItems.aspx?id=%2FShared%20Documents%2FNMO%2FNNGOs%20Forum%20Materials%2FExternalShare&p=true&ga=1>

1.4 Enhancing Planning, Coordination, and Engagement with Key Stakeholders.

- Developing an Annual Plan Based on Member Inputs

The Forum developed its annual plan by incorporating insights gathered through a comprehensive member survey. This participatory approach ensured that the plan reflected the needs and priorities of its diverse membership, fostering inclusivity and alignment with collective goals.

- Establishing Coordination Mechanism:

Communication by email, monthly meeting, and an open WhatsApp group to create space for members to communicate and exchange news, as well as a closed WhatsApp group to share key updates from the Forum to strengthen members on time access to the Forum updates, meeting, trainings, and request.

- Recognition for Engagement and Localization Efforts

The Forum gained significant recognition for its proactive engagement with relevant stakeholders. Notably, its contributions were highlighted in the senior official meeting (SOM) 2024 report, including the establishment of a coordination Forum for Yemeni NGOs. This achievement, detailed on Page 2 of the report, underscores the Forum's commitment to advancing localization and facilitating dialogue. The Forum also played a pivotal role in the -pre-SOM process by working closely with ECHO and OCHA to facilitate remote participation for N/LNNGOs from Aden and Sana'a.

Report link:

EN : https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu/document/download/9f838e98-ff1e-4d15-985f-b2c5f60752b3_en?filename=SOM%20VI%20Yemen%20CoChair%20Summary_EN.pdf

- Strengthening Coordination with Key Stakeholders

The Forum has played a pivotal role in coordinating and facilitating interactions between national/local non-governmental organizations (L/NNGOs) and key stakeholders. This includes organizing and supporting high-level meetings, such as those between NNGOs and the Humanitarian Coordinator (HC) and Deputy of Humanitarian Coordinator (DHC).

Additionally, the Forum has facilitated critical training sessions and events, such as Preventing Sexual Harassment PRS in collaboration with WHO, ensuring active NNGO participation. It has also supported international and national networks such as the International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA) and Nexus Initiative hosted by (ADO) in hosting events, sessions, and advocacy initiatives.

Furthermore, the Forum has strengthened its coordination with donors, arranging meetings and creating opportunities for NNGOs to engage directly with donor representatives in Yemen in collaboration with UNOCHA. These efforts reflect the Forum's commitment to amplifying the voices of local organizations, enhancing collaboration, and fostering meaningful partnerships across the humanitarian sector.

- Facilitate the Election Process for local Advisory Board Members

Based on the Yemen Humanitarian Fund (YHF) request, the Forum took the lead in managing the election process for new YHF Advisory Board (AB) local NGOs members. This includes overseeing the selection process, which was conducted through a voting system to ensure transparency and inclusivity. After the election, the Forum coordinated with the newly elected YHF AB members to support them in representing NNGOs effectively this includes organizing a joint meeting between HCT/AB NNGOs representatives.

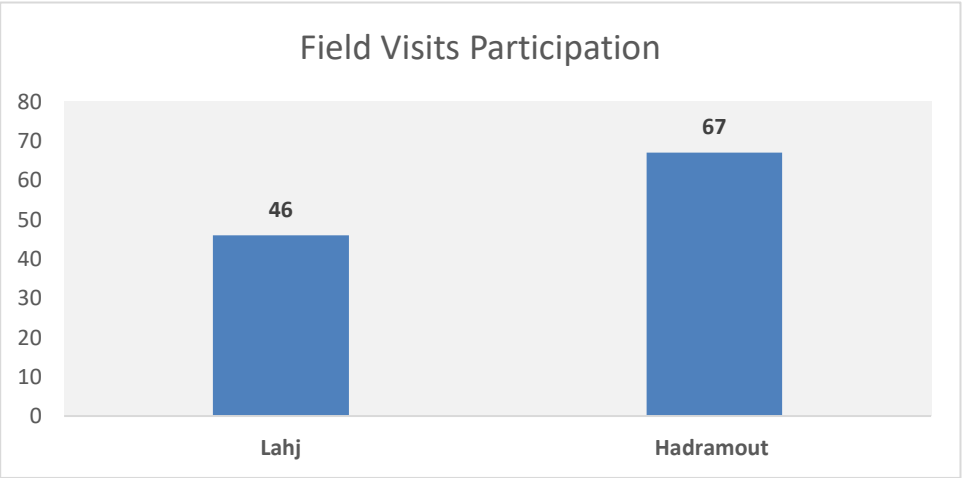
1.5 Field visit to Lahj, Al-Dhale, and Hadramout GOV.

The Forum Coordinator conducted a field visit to Lahj Governorate to meet with national NGOs and local authorities. The purpose of the visit was to provide an indication of the NNGOs Forum and the localization strategy.

The Forum Coordinator visited Al-Dhale with OCHA to support local NGOs, meet with the governor, and discuss the challenges faced by organizations while exploring possible solutions; another field visit to Hadramout Governorate to participate in the TADAMON panel discussion on localization and its progress. As part of the visit, the coordinator also led a session titled "Means of Capacity Development and Institutional Building for Civil Society Organizations to Improve Humanitarian Response and Meet the Requirements of the Recovery Phase.", focusing on practical strategies to enhance organizational capacity and institutional readiness.

Field mission was limited to those governorates due to a lack of human resources (only one person managing the whole forum in the whole country, as well as access limitation and safety concerns in some governorates).

Figure 5 highlights the number of organizations that actively participated in each of the forum’s field visits.



1.6 Establishing and Empowering Working Groups (WGs) Among National NGOs

The Forum has initiated the formation of two dedicated working groups to address key operational and advocacy priorities:

- **Developing the internal policies of the NNGOs Forum Working Group:**
This group consists of experts from national NGO members of the Forum and is tasked in developing the Forum TOR and its annex, reviewing, and enhancing the Forum’s internal policies. Their work ensures the Forum operates with transparency, inclusivity, and efficiency while adhering to international best practices. The updated TOR is finalized and under the endorsement process from the steering committee.
- **HCT/ YHF AB NNGOs Representatives Joint Group:**
?? the Yemen Humanitarian Fund Advisory Board national and Humanitarian Country Team members (HCT) national NGOs members to collaborate in addressing common advocacy topics and challenges faced by NNGOs. The group focuses on identifying systemic issues such as banking issues, proposing actionable solutions, and amplifying the collective voice of NNGOs in key decision-making platforms.

1.7 Represent the NNGOs in the Humanitarian Coordination Forum (HCF).

The Forum plays a crucial role in representing the priorities of national NGOs within the Humanitarian Coordination Forum (HCF). This representation ensures that the perspectives, challenges, and contributions of NNGOs are effectively communicated and integrated into the broader humanitarian coordination processes.

2. Contributing to Enhancing the Capacities of National Organizations:

At the end of 2023, the NNGOs Forum conducted a survey among its members to identify their capacity needs. This participatory approach ensured that the Forum's training initiatives were directly aligned with the priorities and challenges faced by its members.

Based on the survey results, the Forum organized more than seven training sessions during 2024.

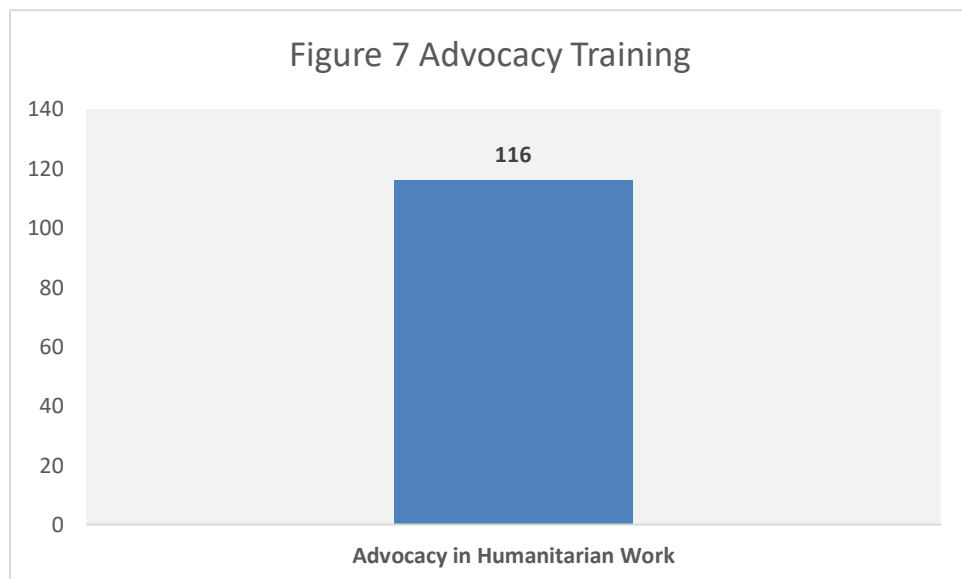
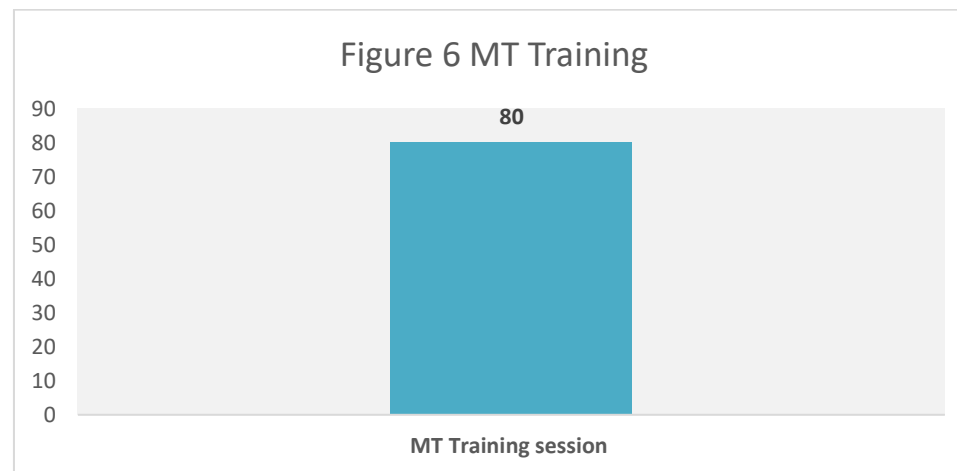
2.1 Collaborating with NNGOs, INGOs, UN Agencies, and National and International Networks to Deliver Capacity Training:

- Training on Utilizing Microsoft Teams in the Work Environment.

In collaboration with NMO, the Forum conducted a training session for its members on how to use Microsoft Teams in their work environment. The session aimed to enhance participants' knowledge of the platform's features, helping both employees and senior management optimize its use for communication, collaboration, and engagement.

This training covered key functionalities such as virtual meetings and file sharing. By equipping participants with these skills, the session contributed to improving members' engagement in the Forum's monthly meeting and training session.

Figure 6 provides an overview of the number of Orgs that benefited from this training.



-Training Session on Advocacy in Humanitarian Work

In collaboration with the Save the Children International advocacy team, the Forum conducted comprehensive training sessions for its members on advocacy in humanitarian work. The sessions focused on equipping participants with essential skills and knowledge to effectively advocate for humanitarian priorities.

As a follow-up to the training, the trainers requested participants to prepare project proposals addressing specific advocacy topics. These proposals were subsequently shared and discussed with other members during another follow-up session.

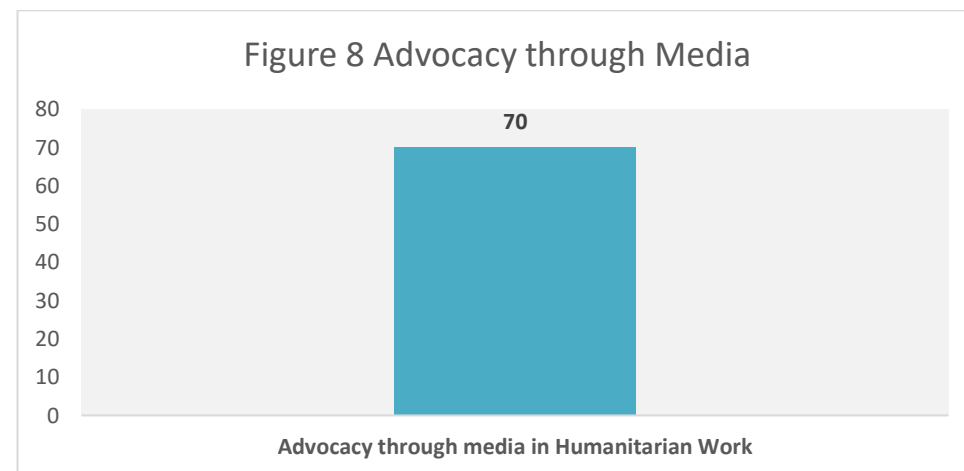
This approach not only enhanced participants' practical understanding of advocacy but also encouraged a participatory environment for developing impactful and actionable advocacy initiatives. Figure 7 provides an overview of the number of Orgs that benefited from this training.

- Training Session on Advocacy through Media in Humanitarian Work

In collaboration with Save the Children International, the Forum conducted a training session to equip national NGOs with skills to effectively use media for advocacy in humanitarian work. The session covered crafting impactful messages, storytelling and social media.

Participants gained insights about media roles in addressing misinformation, empowering them to represent humanitarian issues and influence public opinion.

Figure 8 provides an overview of the number of Orgs that benefited from this training.

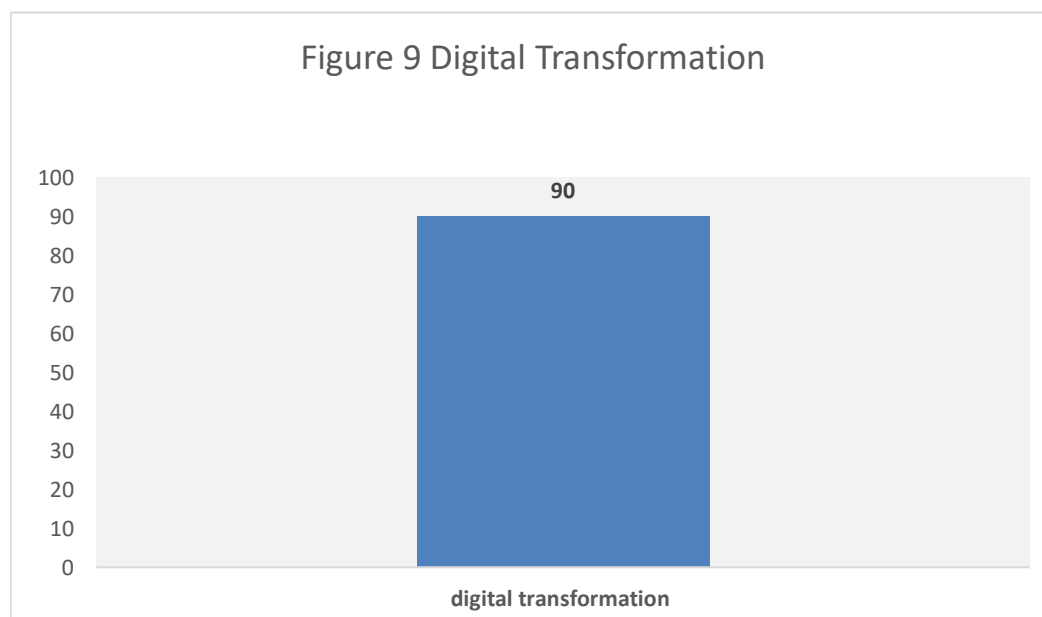


- Training Session on Digital Transformation

In collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO), the Forum organized a training session on digital transformation with their IT specialist to empower national NGOs in adopting technology in internal work. The session covered key topics such as utilizing digital tools, improving data management, streamlining workflows, and integrating digital strategies into organizational practices.

Following the training, the Forum established a WhatsApp group comprising IT practitioners from various organizations to facilitate knowledge sharing, collaboration, and the development of best practices in digital transformation. This initiative underscores the Forum's dedication to supporting its members in leveraging technology to improve efficiency and drive innovation in their work.

Figure 9 provides an overview of the number of Orgs that benefited from this training.

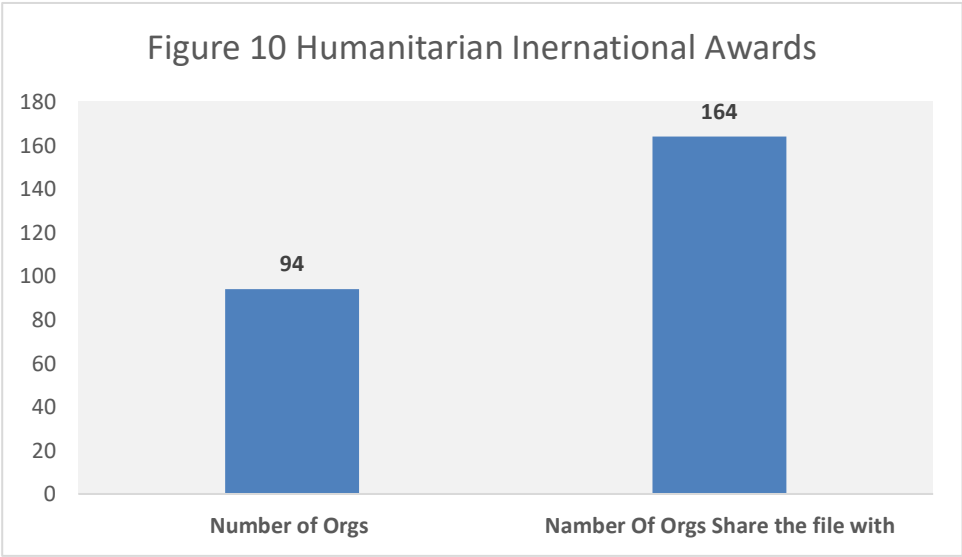


- Developing a List of Humanitarian International Awards:

In collaboration with the Al-Aman Foundation, the Forum developed a list of key International Awards tailored for the humanitarian field. This comprehensive resource provides information about the awards, eligibility criteria, and application processes. The reference aims to encourage national NGOs to compete and increase their visibility on global platforms. It is structured to offer clear guidance and categorized information to simplify the award application process.

To maximize the effectiveness of this resource, the Forum hosted a dedicated online session to guide participants on how to utilize the reference. The session provided insights into identifying relevant awards, preparing compelling applications, and leveraging awards to boost organization's credibility and outreach.

Figure 10 highlights the number of Orgs that attended the training and engaged with the open reference to further their organizational goals.

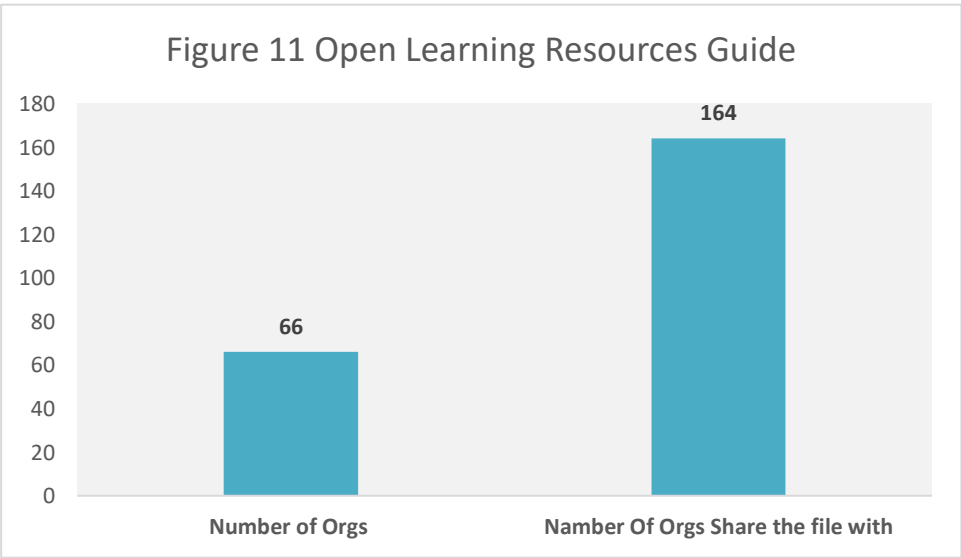


- Developing a Guide for Open Learning Recourses:

In collaboration with Diversity Organization, the Forum developed an Open Learning Recourses Guide designed to serve as a comprehensive resource for individuals and organizations engaged in humanitarian work. The guide is structured into clear, user-friendly sections, enabling readers to easily navigate and access relevant content.

This guide features an extensive collection of online resources, including training courses provided in well-recognized platform. It comprises approximately 400 training tracks, categorized by skill level, offering participants opportunities to earn certificates when completing selected courses. To ensure effective utilization, the Forum hosted a dedicated online session on how to use the Open Learning Guide efficiently.

Figure 11 illustrates the number of Orgs that benefited from this training and their engagement with the guide.

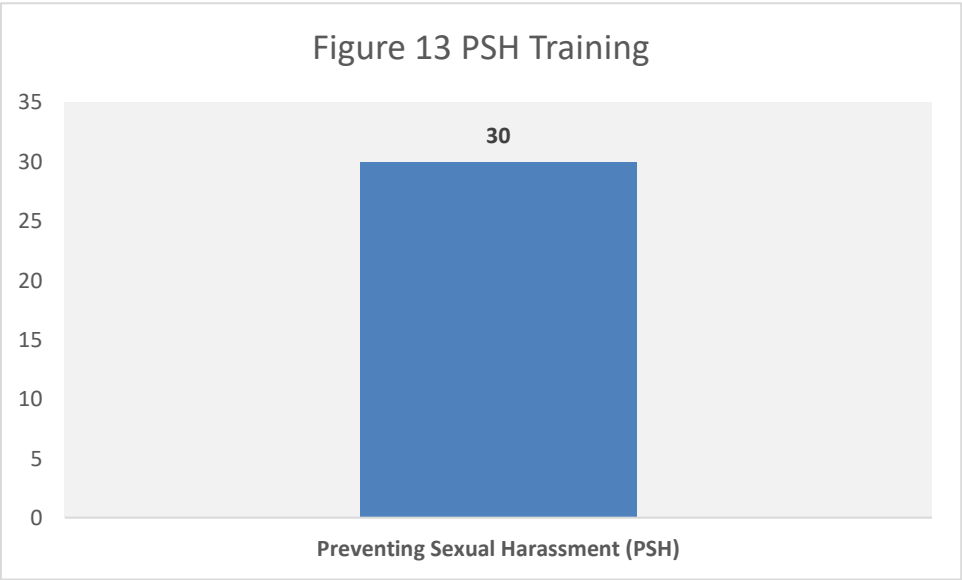


- Training Session on Social Media Management in Humanitarian Work

In collaboration with NMO media team, the Forum conducted a training session to enhance the capacity of national NGOs in managing social media platforms effectively. The session focused on creating content, building audience connections, and leveraging social media for advocacy, awareness, and community outreach in humanitarian work.

Participants gained practical skills in planning and executing social media campaigns and addressing challenges such as misinformation. This collaboration highlighted the importance of social media as a tool to amplify humanitarian efforts, strengthen NGO visibility, and drive impactful communication strategies.

Figure 12 provides an overview of the number of participants who benefited from this training.



- In-Person Training on Preventing Sexual Harassment (PSH)

In collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO), the Forum organized an in-person training session focused on preventing sexual harassment (PSH) in the workplace and within humanitarian settings.

The training aimed to raise awareness among participants about the importance of fostering a safe, respectful, and inclusive work environment. Key topics included understanding what constitutes sexual harassment, recognizing warning signs, creating preventive measures, and responding effectively to incidents; WHO Ani-sexual harassment policies in both Arabic and English versions were shared with all Forum members to help them adopt it in their own system.

Figure 13 presents an overview of the participants who benefited from this essential training.

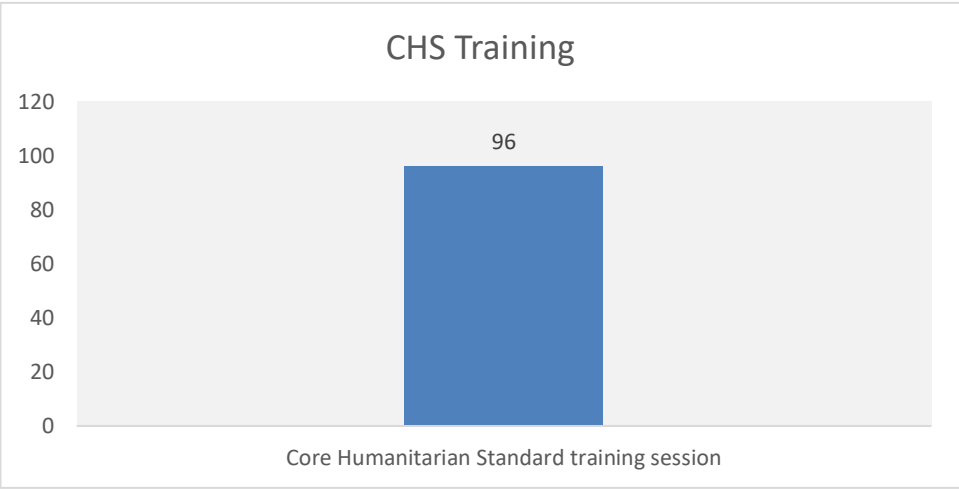
-Training Session on Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS)

In collaboration with the Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) Alliance, the Forum conducted two training sessions on the CHS to strengthen the capacity of its members to adhere to globally recognized humanitarian principles.

The session provided an in-depth understanding of the nine CHS commitments, focusing on practical steps for integrating these standards into organizational policies, programs, and operations. Participants explored methods to enhance accountability to affected populations, improve communication and feedback mechanisms, and promote ethical, transparent practices in humanitarian work as well as explaining the requirements of getting the CHS certificate.

This collaborative effort underscores the Forum’s commitment to empowering its members to deliver high-quality and accountable humanitarian assistance, aligned with international standards

Figure 14 provides an overview of the number of participants who benefited from this training.



- ICVA Trainings Session and Webinars

In collaboration with ICVA Networks, the Forum actively shares information about training sessions and webinars provided online by ICVA for its members. By facilitating this access to non-ICVA members through the Forum, non-ICVA local NGOs have access to the latest updates, resources, and knowledge about the evolving humanitarian context.

3. Amplifying NGO Voices and Strengthening Collective Advocacy:

3.1 Preparing NGOs for Strategic Engagement

To ensure that pre-SOM NGOs participants are well prepared and informed about Pre-SOM sessions, 2 meetings were conducted, one online and the other was in person in Amman for the Pre-SOM NGOs participants.

3.2 Expanding NGO Representation in SOM VI

As part of its advocacy efforts, the Forum successfully increased the number of seats allocated to NGOs at SOM VI from four to eight seats. This expansion provided greater opportunities for NGOs to engage directly in discussions and decision-making processes. Additionally, the Forum works with the SOM participants to develop their statements to be well-written and harmonized.

3.3 Developing Collective Advocacy Initiatives

The Forum facilitated collaborative advocacy efforts by working with the Advocacy Working Group (AWG) to develop the Pre-SOM Recommendation Paper, which was signed by 85 NGOs. This paper consolidated the collective priorities and concerns of NGOs. Additionally, the Forum collaborated with UN agencies and INGOs to develop the SOM Funding Statement, which was signed by 144 NGOs and 46 INGOs.

3.4 Facilitating Partnerships and Access to Information

To enhance collaboration and partnership opportunities, the Forum shared key funding opportunities with members; as well as circulated relevant updates that fostered stronger connections between NGOs and potential partners, including INGOs, UN agencies, and donors.

4. The Forum Annual Performance Review for 2024

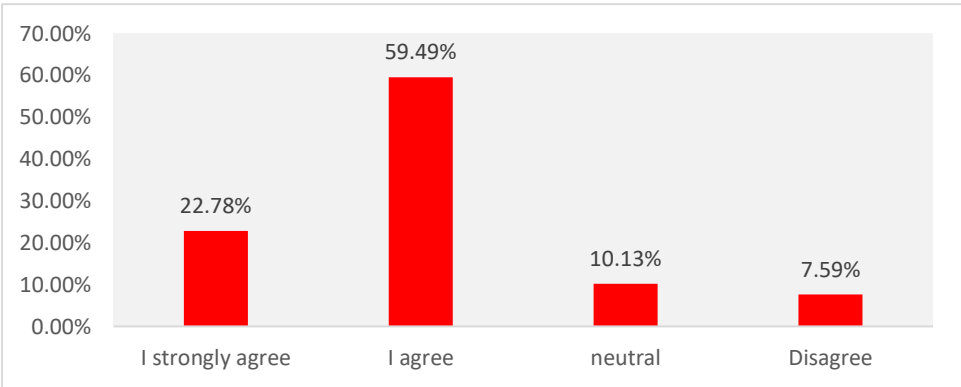
As part of the NNGOs Forum's adherence to transparency and continuous learning principles, the 2024 Annual Performance Review survey was circulated to all members to share their feedback about the Forum's activities during 2024. The survey aimed to measure the effectiveness of the Forum's initiatives, identify areas for improvement, and gather actionable recommendations to enhance its impact.

A total of 79 organizations actively participated in this survey. This good level of engagement reflects the dedication and interest of the Forum's members in contributing to its continuous development and ensuring its alignment with their needs and expectations.

Performance Review Key Figures/Results:

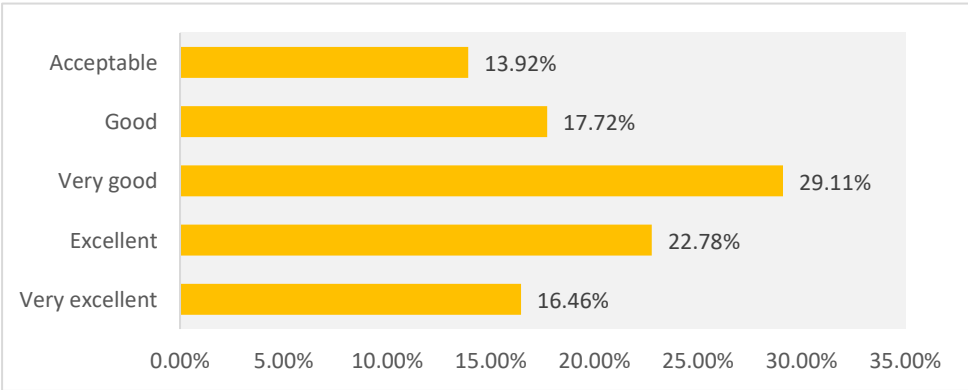
Do you agree that participating in the NNGOs Forum has increased your access to information and opportunities?

Members Response:



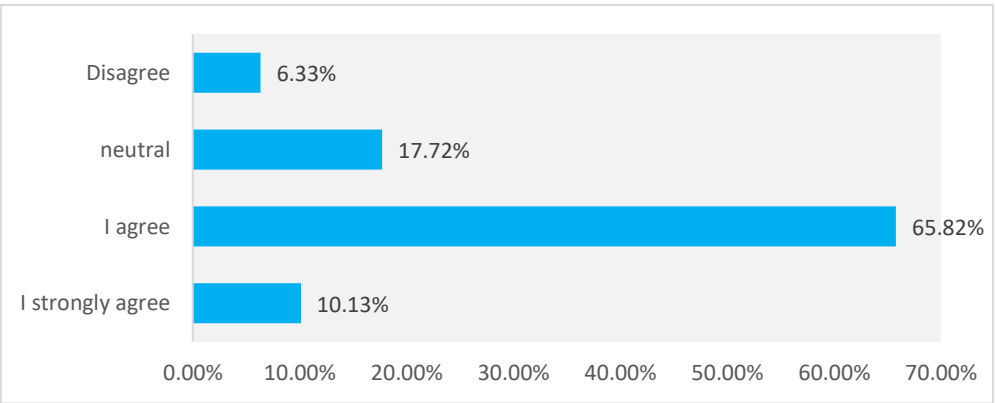
How do you evaluate the Forum's efforts in supporting institutional and technical capacity building of national organizations?

Members Response:



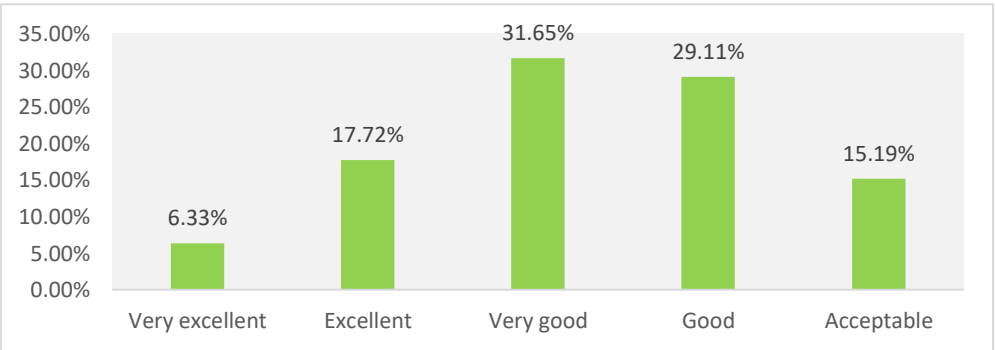
Has the Forum been effective in advocating for key issues at the national and international levels?

Members Response:



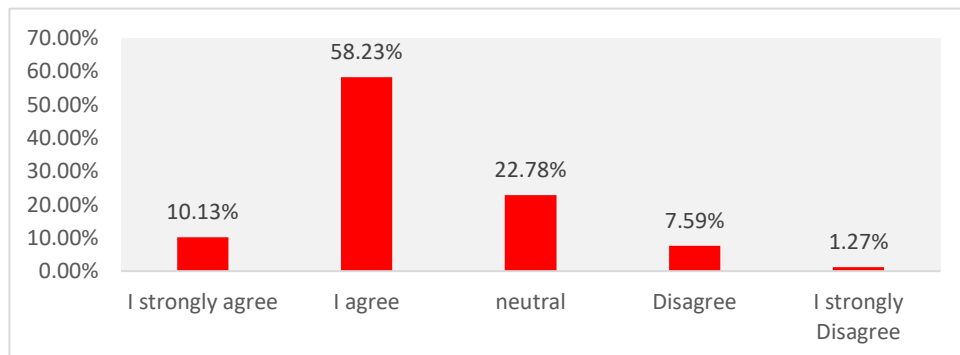
How successful has the Forum been in increasing the participation of national organizations in the Humanitarian Needs Plan (HNO) and Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) processes?

Members Response:



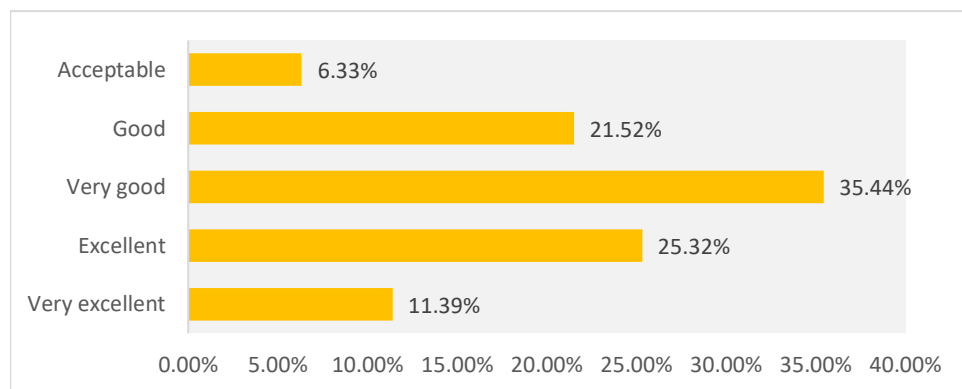
Were the training and capacity devolvement activities aligned with your organization's needs?

Members Response:



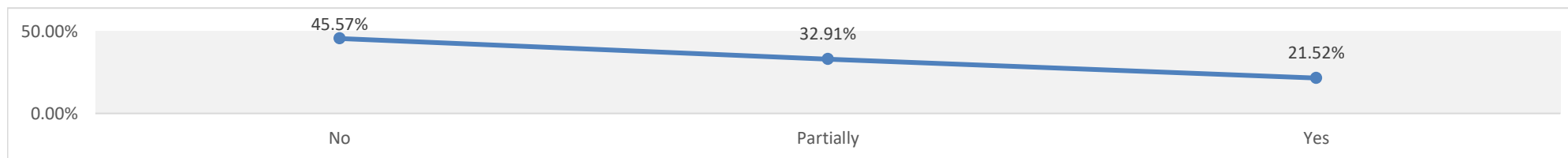
How do you rate the quality of the monthly meetings of the NNGOs Forum?

Members Response:



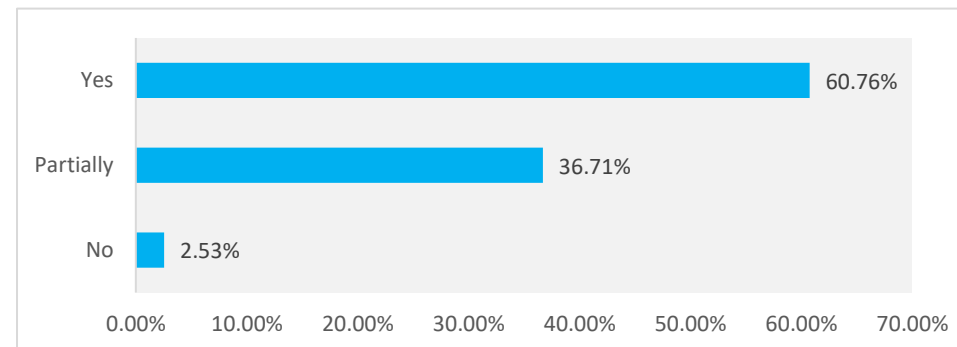
Did the Forum help your organization deal with international bodies?

Members Response:



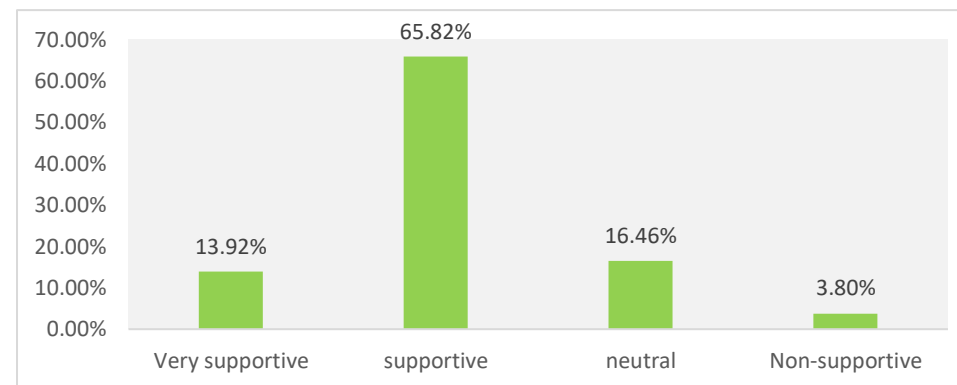
Was the information and opportunities shared by the Forum useful to your organization/institution/association?

Members Response:



How do you evaluate the Forum's support for the localization strategy?

Members Response:



5. Conclusion:

The Yemen National NGOs Forum has made significant strides in 2024, strengthening coordination among national organizations, enhancing capacity-building initiatives, and amplifying local voices in humanitarian decision-making. Through structured engagement with international and national stakeholders, the Forum has increased the representation of local NGOs and provided critical support to its members.

Key achievements include the coordination meetings, improved membership mechanisms, the establishment of digital archiving for knowledge sharing, and the facilitation of training sessions that have empowered national NGOs in advocacy, digital transformation, and humanitarian response. Additionally, the Forum has played a pivotal role in localization efforts, ensuring that Yemeni NGOs have a stronger presence in global and national humanitarian platforms.

The performance review conducted at the end of the year highlighted the Forum's impact, with 79 organizations actively providing feedback. The results reaffirm the Forum's role as a vital coordination mechanism, bridging gaps between local NGOs, INGOs, UN agencies, and donors. While progress has been made, the Forum remains committed to addressing challenges and refining its strategies to further enhance effectiveness, sustainability, and inclusivity in the coming years.

Moving forward, the Forum will build on these achievements, reinforcing its advocacy efforts, expanding capacity-building initiatives, and fostering deeper collaboration among stakeholders to ensure that national NGOs remain at the forefront of humanitarian and development efforts in Yemen.