INTRODUCTION

Yemen—not Syria or Iraq—is the world’s largest humanitarian crisis.

More than 22 million people—81% of the population—are now in urgent need of humanitarian assistance. The crisis is fuelled by an intense armed conflict in which Yemen’s neighbour Saudi Arabia plays a leading role and all sides stand accused of violating International Humanitarian Law.

The United Kingdom plays a puzzling role in Yemen. On one hand the UK is a generous donor of humanitarian aid to Yemen. On the other hand the UK is selling weapons to Saudi Arabia, whose airstrikes have destroyed food supplies, schools, hospitals and homes in Yemen. Oxfam Schools’ Red Line for Yemen action asks you to organise a creative photograph and then write to your MP calling for the UK to demand an immediate ceasefire and end UK arms sales to Saudi Arabia.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

This guide outlines what young people can do in response to this urgent crisis

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2. Take part in Oxfam Schools’ Red Line for Yemen action
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3. Fundraise for the Yemen Crisis Appeal
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1. Learn about the Yemen crisis

Begin by learning about the Yemen crisis. Then aim to strengthen your learning by teaching others about Yemen.

Your first aim is to deliver an assembly using the Yemen crisis PowerPoint presentation. You may wish to adapt the text and/or include other information you’ve researched.

Practice by making your presentation to a small group first.
For support with taking action or setting up a Youth Ambassadors Group, get in touch with Oxfam’s Youth & Schools Team:
education@oxfam.org.uk

Crisis in Yemen

September 2018 Action Guide

2. Participate in Oxfam Schools’ red line action

Oxfam Schools’ Red Line for Yemen action is aimed at MPs and calls for the UK to push for an immediate ceasefire in Yemen and end arms sales to Saudi Arabia.

- Visit http://www.parliament.uk/mps-lords-and-offices/mps/ to find your MP’s name and contact details
- Think creatively about how to set up a red line stunt and take a photograph in your school. For example, one group painted their hands with red lines and photographed them. Another group tied red string around their school. Make sure you follow school safeguarding and photo consent policies if under 18s are visible in your photo.
- Discuss your plans with your teacher to make sure they are achievable.
- Ask as many classes and groups as possible to take photos or stage one big photo with as many participants as possible.
- Use the Red Line for Yemen information sheet in this resource to handwrite a red line letter to your MP. Post your letter and photo(s)
- There are lots of tips for the skills you need to organise your campaign at http://www.sfypath.eu/index.php/en/youth-space/youth-toolkit/skills

3. Fundraise for the Oxfam Yemen Crisis Appeal

Organise a fundraising campaign in your school or college for the Oxfam Yemen crisis appeal.

- Visit http://bit.ly/2n7BD5w to learn more about the appeal.
- Think creatively about the most effective ways to raise money in your school.
- Make an action plan to make sure all the jobs that need doing get done on time.
- Discuss your plans with your teacher to make sure they are achievable.
- There are lots of tips for the skills you need to organise your fundraising campaign at http://www.sfypath.eu/index.php/en/youth-space/youth-toolkit/skills

Photo: Ben Ansell/Oxfam