

Tearfund's work in Yemen

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Tearfund - one of the charities we support - regularly reports on its work on the internet. My eye was caught by the report on Yemen. Tearfund states that the World Food Programme has declared that the situation in Yemen amounts to the world's worst humanitarian crisis.

The country is devastated by years of civil war and over 20 million people are in need of aid. The population is riddled with disease and although cholera is not the threat that it was, there are still over one million cases of the disease. Thirty per cent of the cases are among children according to the World Health Organisation. Because of poor sanitation, a second epidemic is thought likely.

Hospitals in rural areas have only the simplest equipment and staff numbers are low because salaries are not being paid. Here, a Tearfund partner has stepped in with increased supplies of medication and money to pay and train staff. Tearfund has also become involved in the provision of clean water and sanitation equipment to reduce the incidence of disease. Last year, Tearfund celebrated its 50th anniversary and marked the occasion with a programme of financial giving and prayer to end extreme poverty. There were also a number of events around the country to mark the anniversary, notably a service in Coventry Cathedral led by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby.

To read more about Tearfund's work in Yemen, search the internet for 'famine looming in war-torn Yemen Tearfund'. You will also be able to find information on the web about Tearfund's work elsewhere.