

SCG described its programs for facilitating dialogue among diverse members of the community, including non-violent communication and education in schools (though this is hampered by the fact that many schools are not open or used only to house IDPs). SCG also commented on the lack of sectarian conflict in Yemen before this conflict, that people, for example, simply went to the closest mosque without regard for sectarian affiliation. Now, however, people go to sect specific mosques and are identified by sect. SCG also gave examples of hate speech in the media. SCG commented that both Al Qaeda and Houthi groups play off of the increased sectarianism and thus fuel more of it.

HRW commented that sectarian conflict in Yemen is not just of the past few years, but goes back to the Saada-Houthi wars beginning in 2004.

SCG commented that sectarian affiliation has still only become a prominent identity marker in the last few years.

SCG emphasized that good human rights programming is still possible in Yemen today.

[REDACTED] commented that data from NGOs is very important for thinking at both DOS and DoD. He added that end use monitoring (of weapons previously sold to foreign nations) is an issue under discussion and that problems in Yemen are moving people to think more about this.

Amnesty asked if there's any explanation for the indiscriminate nature of Saudi airstrikes.

[REDACTED] responded that he believes, from his outsider perspective, that the strikes are not intentionally indiscriminate but rather result from a lack of Saudi experience with dropping munitions and firing missiles. He added that the lack of Saudi experience is compounded by the asymmetric situation on the ground where enemy militants are not wearing uniforms and are mixed with civilian populations. Finally, he added that weak intelligence likely further compounds the problem.

[REDACTED] added that the quickly evolving nature of the conflict, with parties frequently switching loyalties exacerbates the situation. He added that there are elements in Saudi government who want a "total victory" and others who want to learn from this—the Saudis are not homogenous in their views. He also added that