

**UNICEF Yemen – Bi-Weekly Situation Report**

**For external and internal use**

**Reporting period 1-15 November 2011**

Next sitrep: 07 Dec, 2011

**Highlights**

- UNICEF provided all the polio vaccines and vitamin A required for the National Polio Campaign and has contributed 30% of the operational costs and social mobilization. In total, UNICEF contributed about USD 2.4 million to enable authorities to reach every target child. Field offices have been involved in in-process and end-process monitoring.
- Access to 18 villages in Arhab where 832 IDP families live in caves and in the open is not assured, hampering humanitarian assistance with implications for health and hygiene.
- Thirty-nine per cent of children in the southern governorates are out of school despite creative solutions found for many children who are now back at school.
- Since the beginning of the civil unrest, 82 schools in Sanaa were attacked by armed forces or groups, out of which 54 schools are occupied by either party, as per Minister of Education initial assessment that was conducted during the reporting period. At least three children were killed in schools since beginning of armed conflict in May. A verification phase will be conducted to verify the assessment reports.

**Inter-Agency Collaboration, Coordination, Cluster Leadership and Key Partnerships**

**Child Protection Sub-Cluster**

- Three-day pre-testing for the Global Child Protection Working Group Rapid Assessment Tools was conducted in two schools in Aden. These tools are relevant and applicable for use in the current civil unrest situation. This also showed that there were some child protection issues such as recruitment, violence, sexual abuse and relatively high figures for child marriage. This rapid assessment is being replicated together with partners in 21 schools in Aden
- The Education and Child Protection Section in collaboration with the Ministry of Education is currently conducting a joint Rapid Assessment on the impact of the current civil unrest to the students, teachers and schools in Sana'a. The joint assessment completed its initial phase where 15 researchers from the Ministry of Education supported by UNICEF visited 90 schools in Sana'a. Initial reports indicated that 82 schools are reported to have been attacked by armed forces or armed groups since the start of the civil unrest, out of which 54 schools remain occupied by armed forces or armed groups, 21 schools were shelled, 7 schools are being used as military shelters and 3 children were killed in schools. Due to this, at least 2,259 children living in the neighbourhoods of these schools are still not able to go back to school.

**Education**

- In Aden and Lahaj, a total of 105 schools are still being used as a shelter by IDPs from Abyan affecting 109,260 students. So far alternative solution was found for 55,625 who are now accessing education of acceptable quality.

**WASH cluster**

- A new Sub cluster coordinator for Aden was appointed. Save the Children will now lead coordination in the south Yemen. Coordination in North and at national level will continue to be led by UNICEF. Ministry of Water and Environment where GARWSP (General Authority for Rural Water Supply Projects) office is occupied and has been looted by the tribal groups who have defected from Government. This will affect the operation of water supply in rural areas. Alternate arrangements to continue GARWSP operations including renting and furnishing a temporary office space are on-going with UNICEF support.

**Nutrition Cluster**

- In collaboration with the global nutrition cluster, the nutrition cluster in Yemen strengthened the capacity of five staff from UNICEF, CSSW, MDM and Government, who are directly involved in the delivery of quality nutrition interventions in emergency areas. This is expected to have a positive impact on the survival and development of under 5 girls and boys and Pregnant & Lactating Women (PLW) affected by emergency in Yemen, who will benefit from quality and well-coordinated and integrated nutrition interventions.

## **UNICEF Response**

### **Education**

- The government, in coordination with UNICEF, has now availed three buildings (Community college, the Institute of Preaching and Technical institute) to be used as alternative schools which are expected to accommodate a total of 10,964 students who had their original schools are occupied by IDPs. A number of other public buildings were turned into temporary schools and are catering large number of students.
- Almost all schools in Aden are now operating on a double shift scheme and some are even on a triple shift. It is reported the girl's attendance has reduced drastically during the afternoon shifts and this is something UNICEF and other partners are looking into and will address.
- A total of 5,113 internally displaced and host community children are now receiving basic education in Al-Mazraq. UNICEF assisted in opening new classes to cater 39 boys and girls from Al-Mazraq IDP camps 2 and 3 to have access to education at grades 7 and 8. Necessary learning materials were provided and 5 teachers supported for this reason. Increasing the number of supported teachers by UNICEF at main IDP schools in Harad to 92. An afternoon shift started in Al-Yarmuk school in camp 1 of Al-Mazraq with the aim to reduce overcrowding in morning classes and enrol more children.

### **Nutrition**

- Hodeida nutrition status survey data cleaning, verification, weighing and double checking finalised by two technical experts.
- In a joint effort to integrate nutrition components (anthropometric measurements along with IYCF, vitamin A supplementation) among other key sectoral indicators into the coming WFP supported national Comprehensive Food Security Survey (CFSS) 2011; UNICEF technical team facilitated anthropometric data collection sessions for 120 enumerators and team leaders. The survey teams will reach 6,900 households in 690 clusters in all governorates in Yemen (except Al-Jawf) to collect food security, nutrition and other related data and will take anthropometric measurements for all U5 children and CBAW. The findings will be finalised by Feb. 2012; the nutrition and other sectoral results will guide the programme to better understand the dynamics of high level of malnutrition in Yemen, to better target the most vulnerable groups/communities and further investigate the situation of mothers and children to address 'within country inequalities'.

### **Health**

- The polio and vitamin A campaign targeting approximately 4 million under five children countrywide was launched on 15 November by the Hon Vice President. UNICEF procured and delivered all the vaccines required for the campaign worth 750,000US\$ (Contribution from the Saudi Government\_) and operational support (DFID). The campaign utilizing 40,000 health workers through a house-to-house strategy is of particular interest to UNICEF in the conflict affected areas of Sana'a, Taiz, Aden and Lahj.

### **WASH**

- UNICEF partner, Al-Amal NGO has completed the registration of 3,204 families in Haydan district of Sa'ada to receive hygiene kits and water filters. The area is known for poor water safety and a high risk of water-borne diseases such as diarrhoea and Malaria.
- In Aden, a technical assessment has been carried out for WASH facilities in two public buildings that will be used as temporary schools for almost 4,000 pupils.
- A routine monitoring of WASH activities in 30 Aden schools that accommodate 1,282 families have monitored 200 latrines. 80 % of latrines were found clean, while 70 % of jerry cans for drinking water were found clean.
- In Amran, water supply continued at an average of 16-19 litre/capita/day for 7,994IDPs (1,142 families, 3598 children) in eight settlements (330 IDPs families from Sa'ada conflict, and 812 IDPs families from Arhab conflict settled in Amran and 5 villages in Arhab). Monthly hygiene consumables have been distributed for 116 IDPs families in Amran settlement.
- 30 hygiene promotion volunteers and three national experts have started a hygiene promotion campaign outside the camps in Harad. Hygiene consumables have been distributed to 2,511 families in Haradh camps.
- A Technical study was conducted in Qufl and Madab areas of Haradh to connect the communities with the water system and replace water trucking
- 90 mud-block latrines in camp 3 in Harad have been constructed by Al-Khair NGO.
- 32,532 people continue to receive safe drinking water in Haradh including 9,700 people outside camps and over 5,000 school children.

## Child Protection

- Advocacy efforts continue on different fronts in highlighting the poor protection for children in Yemen. The bi-monthly Global Horizontal Note of Yemen was submitted to the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Children and Armed Conflict where a total of 162 grave violations affecting 63 boys, 13 girls, 16 children with unknown sex. Contributions highlighting child victims of extreme violence were included in the UN statement on Taiz which was issued on 13 November and to the UN Special Envoy Jamal Benomar, who was visiting Yemen to monitor progress against Security Council Resolution 2014.
- A total of 27,396 children (16,398M, 10,998F) were provided with psychosocial support through recreational, sports and education activities in partnership with Save the Children and Child Protection Initiative (CPI), Al-Ferdoos and Social Association Associations in Sana'a, Hajja, Sa'ada, Amran, Aden and Lahj and with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour (MoSAL). This took place in 54 child-friendly spaces (CFS) based in schools and 50 community/home based CFSs in host communities. More than 1500 children were supported in their celebration of the Eid festival in the displacement camps in Haradh, Saada and Amran including football, volleyball, drawings, played with skipping ropes, ... etc.
- Eight violations (four boys and four girls) involving the worst forms of child labour and child marriage were identified. The children received PSS support whilst the families were counselled in in Saada and Amran.
- 75 peer educators (M: 34, F: 41) have been trained on child protection and have met to discuss outreach activities to disseminate child protection messages in Sana'a and Aden Governorates.
- 36 community members equipped with information on how to ensure protection for children from violence abuse and exploitation in Hodiehda organized by Abo Mosa, CSSW, Qutoof and AL-Tawasul organizations.

### Spokespersons

Topic	Spokesperson	Languages	Contact Details
Child health Malnutrition	Agostino Munyiri Chief of YCSD	English, Swahili	+967 712223469 <a href="mailto:amunyiri@unicef.org">amunyiri@unicef.org</a>
Education	Salam Al Shehri, Officer-in-charge, Basic Education and Gender Equity	English, Arabic	+967 7111 87 998 <a href="mailto:salshetri@unicef.org">salshetri@unicef.org</a>
WASH	Ghassan Madieh Water, Sanitation, Hygiene Specialist	Arabic, English	+967 712223353 +967 737523015 <a href="mailto:gmadieh@unicef.org">gmadieh@unicef.org</a>
Child Protection	Ghada Kachachi Chief of Child Protection	Arabic, English	+962 79 7650146 <a href="mailto:gkachachi@unicef.org">gkachachi@unicef.org</a>
Head of mission	Geert Cappelaere	English, French, Dutch, Italian	+967 71110 6127 +967 737523001 <a href="mailto:gcappelaere@unicef.org">gcappelaere@unicef.org</a>
Communications	Mohammed Al-Asaadi Communication Officer	Arabic, English	+962 79 5883799 <a href="mailto:pnaell@unicef.org">pnaell@unicef.org</a>

#### For further information, contact

Jeremy Hopkins, deputy representative, +967-737-523-056

[www.unicef.org](http://www.unicef.org)

[www.facebook.com/unicefyemen.arabic](http://www.facebook.com/unicefyemen.arabic), [www.facebook.com/unicefyemen](http://www.facebook.com/unicefyemen)