

This report is produced with inputs from the Humanitarian Country Team in collaboration with its partners. It was issued by OCHA Yemen country office. It covers the period from 15 August 2011 to 30 August 2011. The next report will be issued on or around 13 September 2011.

I. HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- Conflict continues in particular in Arhab and Abyan Governorates. Access remains a challenge in many parts of the country and humanitarian organizations continue to collaborate to find solutions in obtaining increased access.
- Humanitarian partners are working closely with the Government to find alternative accommodation for IDPs currently living in schools in Aden
- The nutrition cluster is increasing monitoring and developing response actions following the recent nutrition assessment in Hajjah governorate, which revealed alarming levels of malnutrition.
- The outbreak of cholera in Abyan is under control. However cases of acute watery diarrhea have been reported in neighbouring governorates, showing the potential for further deterioration of the health situation.
- Agencies are finalizing the Response Plan for Sa'adah and Northern Governorates, including Hajjah, as well as the Response plan for South. Another strategy is being formulated to address the needs of the non-displaced populations affected by the socio-economic crisis.
- Funding against the Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan rises 4% to USD 159 Million.

II. Situation Overview

As the month of Ramadan draws to a close, uncertainty remains as to whether President Saleh will return. A National Council has been now formed with 143 politicians and activists from all over Yemen. However, 23 members from the South of Yemen reportedly withdrew last week and the future of the National Council remains unclear. In a positive development, the burial of Abdul-Aziz Abudul Ghani, the president of the Consultative Council who died last week from injuries suffered in a June assassination attempt on President Saleh, took place peacefully in Sana'a last Wednesday.

During the reporting period, fighting has continued to be reported in the southern Governorate of Abyan. In Shaqra district in particular, renewed fighting has taken place between the Yemeni forces and armed militants. Parts of Jaar and Zinjibar districts remain under the influence of armed groups. However, in the northern part of the country, the ceasefire between the Al Houthies and Al Islah supporters is holding. In Sana'a city, the situation remains calm following a truce agreed between the national security forces and armed tribesmen in Hasaba area. However, elsewhere in Sana'a governorate, fighting continues in Arhab.

Needs assessments were conducted last week in Arhab, Hasaba, Sa'adah, Al-Jawf and Abyan where there s been population displaced since June 2011. Preliminary results indicate that priority needs include shelter, NFIs and hygiene kits. Some families in Arhab require food assistance. Final assessment results will be shared shortly. In addition, an assessment was conducted in Aden to explore alternative shelter options for IDPs currently residing in schools. As a majority of IDPs do not consider camps as a suitable solution, options including support to host families and the use of public buildings for communal shelter are being considered. Fifteen alternative public buildings and other sites in Aden have already been identified by humanitarian actors. Some IDPs are afraid that leaving school accommodation may adversely affect their access to assistance.

In Sa'adah governorate, the de facto authorities continue to dispute the distribution lists prepared by some humanitarian agencies. Discussions are ongoing to resolve the problems and resume aid distributions. Plans for recovery activities are being increased by several agencies as part of the revised Sa'adah plan.

<i>Governorate</i>	<i>Number of IDPs</i>	<i>Source</i>
<i>Sa'adah</i>	<i>110,000</i>	<i>UNHCR, July 2011</i>
<i>Hajjah</i>	<i>105,673</i>	<i>UNHCR, July 2011</i>
<i>Amran</i>	<i>40,336</i>	<i>UNHCR, July 2011</i>
<i>Al-Jawf</i>	<i>24,491</i>	<i>UNHCR, July 2011</i>
<i>Aden</i>	<i>55,958</i>	<i>UNHCR, July 2011</i>
<i>Lahj</i>	<i>14,576</i>	<i>UNHCR, July 2011</i>
<i>Abyan</i>	<i>11,968</i>	<i>UNHCR, July 2011</i>
<i>Sana'a</i>	<i>35,492</i>	<i>UNHCR, July 2011</i>
<i>Shabwa</i>	<i>770</i>	<i>UNHCR, July 2011</i>
Total	399,264	
New Displacement Figures since 15 July (Unverified)		
<i>Al-Jawf</i>	<i>*1,500-3,500</i>	<i>July 2011</i>
<i>Arhab/Amran</i>	<i>*9,500</i>	<i>18/07 – 31/07/2011</i>
<i>Taiz</i>	<i>*1,000</i>	<i>17/07/2011</i>
Total	*12,000 – 14,000	
Other Displaced Populations of Concern		
<i>- 97,000 returnees in Northern Yemen</i>		
<i>- 116,830 war affected persons in Sa'adah</i>		
<i>- 198,163 refugees/asylum seekers</i>		
<i>- Currently 4,300 registered migrants</i>		
*Total number of vulnerable persons: 827,557 – 829,557		
<i>(*) Not confirmed. Further assessments are needed.</i>		

Access to conflict-affected areas in Abyan, including Zinjibar, remains problematic. Agencies continue to work with local parties to gain access to populations in need of assistance.

While the price of fuel across the country has stabilized in recent weeks, the prices of basic commodities remain very high. According to the results of the on-going bi-monthly social protection monitoring program, food insecurity remains acute in rural areas and populations in urban areas continue to lack access to adequate public health services. A response plan to address the humanitarian needs of vulnerable non-displaced Yemeni affected by this slow onset humanitarian crisis is currently being developed in order to reduce the threat of a slow-onset crisis within the general population.

II. Humanitarian Needs and Response



EDUCATION

Response: During the reporting period, assessments to identify educational needs were concluded in Harad'h and Lahj Governorates. Findings will be shared soon. As part of the Back-to-School campaign, 46,812 school bags have been dispatched to Sa'adah. The total number of prepositioned school bags is now 70,000. Those will be distributed during phase one of the campaign. A teacher training plan is also being developed.



SHELTER AND NON FOOD ITEMS (NFIS)

Response: Partners are preparing to distribute NFIs to registered IDPs in Aden. The distribution will target 1,750 families currently sheltered in schools and 3,650 families living in the community. Items distributed will include mattresses, plastic mats and kerosene stoves. In addition, alternative accommodations are being sought for IDPs currently residing in schools. In Harad'h Governorate, a general survey was conducted at Al Mazrak Camp I and III to assess tent damage due to storm damage in May 2011. A total of 21 tents were replaced and 1,280 plastic sheets distributed to the IDPs. The IDP Community Centre is also being repaired.

Gaps & Constraints: The renewed fighting in Abyan Governorate is hampering the delivery of necessary household items to populations displaced in conflict areas and potentially in need of assistance.



FOOD

Response: The August food distribution cycle for IDPs from northern Yemen was completed in Hajjah, Amran and Sana'a governorates. A total of 189,917 IDPs received food assistance. In addition, seasonal safety net distributions targeting 637,147 severely food insecure non-displaced persons in Raymah, Hajjah, Ibb and Amran governorates are almost finalized. The August distribution cycle for 15,400 Somali refugees in Kharaz Camp was started. In addition to this, the supplementary feeding programme for malnourished children under 5 is ongoing in the camp as well as in Al-Basateen.

Gaps & Constraints: The August distribution cycle has not yet started in Sa'adah due to continuing negotiations over distribution lists with de facto authorities. Due to a shortage of resources, assistance to severely food insecure populations has only taken place in 4 out of the 14 planned governorates although 1.8 million persons in 14 governorates have been identified as severely food insecure and in need of assistance. The second round of distributions in September 2011 will expand to 1.1 million persons in 7 governorates. Further funds are urgently needed to increase the safety net distribution coverage.



NUTRITION

Response: Training for nutrition screening in Aden is ongoing. Four mobile OTP clinics have started to work in Lahj governorate. Preliminary results of the recent nutrition assessment in Hajjah governorate revealed alarming levels of malnutrition among the population. An increase in malnutrition rates has been recorded although nutrition interventions are on-going in Hajjah. The nutrition cluster is increasing its monitoring to understand the reasons of the increase. Final assessment results will be available by mid-September 2011.

Considering the very high malnutrition rates in Hajjah governorate, the nutrition cluster is also planning to undertake a nutrition assessment among of IDP populations living in the community in Mustabah governorate.

The August cycle of blanket supplementary feeding to approximately 47,770 under-5 children in Hajjah and Amran governorates has been completed. As part of the nationwide response to food insecurity among non-displaced populations, 19,471 pregnant and lactating women and 45,554 children under 2 years have received bi-monthly assistance in Amran, Hajjah, Hoedaidah and Al-Badia governorates.

The cluster is also facilitating the distribution of 3 month nutritional supplies, including plumpy nut and therapeutic milk to 19 governorates. Plans are underway to reopen the therapeutic feeding centre in Sa'adah.

Gaps & Constraints: The limited number of nutrition implementing partners is impacting the ability of the cluster to meet increasing needs. The security situation hampered the planned delivery of nutritional supplies in some governorates.



HEALTH

Response: The second phase of the vaccination campaign for the remaining 7 districts in Sa'adah was completed on 31 July 2011. The outbreak of cholera in Abyan is currently under control although there is potential for further deterioration. From 1 April to 17 August, 20 confirmed cases of cholera and 9,767 cases of acute watery diarrhea (5779 in Abyan, 613 in Lahj, and 3,375 in Aden) have been reported, including 32 deaths.

More than 13,478 medical consultations for IDPs were conducted in the south by the mobile teams. Medical supplies have been sent to Al-Dhale to treat the outbreak of Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD). It has also been reported that diarrhea cases have increased at IDP camps in Northern Yemen.

Gaps & Constraints: The government reports that 20 percent of the vaccination facilities are non-operational due to a lack of transportation, gas, electricity and cold chain services.



LOGISTICS

Response: Approximately 600 liters of petrol and 2,800 liters of diesel were supplied to aid organizations. The Logistics Cluster has still not received clearance from the government to resume UNHAS flights to Sa'adah Governorate.

The Logistics Cluster procured two large tented warehouses which will be installed at Al-Mazrak IDP camps to support common services.



CHILD PROTECTION

Response: A total of 8,773 children from Aden, Abyan, Lahj, Ibb, Hoedaidah, Taiz and Sana'a governorates were provided with access to recreational activities, such as sports and crafts. These activities aimed at improving the wellbeing of children affected by the unrest. More than 3,780 people from the IDP community were trained on how to protect and be more aware of signs to prevent children from being exposed to violence, exploitation, neglect and abuse.

Gaps & Constraints: The Mine Risk Education Training in Sa'adah was postponed until after the end of Ramadan.



GBV

Response: The cluster is procuring 8,000 dignity kits for women in Lahj and Aden.

Gaps & Constraints: GBV awareness activity did not take place in Sa'adah as cluster partners could not access the camps.



WATER SANITATION HYGIENE

Response: The cluster is currently undertaking a country-wide needs assessment for water, sanitation and hygiene needs. Results of the assessment are expected at the end of September 2011. In Abyan governorate, the cluster is supporting the local water supply corporation (LWSC) to restore water supplies in some areas. In Al-Jawf governorate, six water points have been rehabilitated and hygiene promotion activities are ongoing. The following beneficiaries have been reached: 426 in Rajouzah; 429 in Khabb wa'ash Shaf; 511 in Barat Al-Inan; 696 in Az Zaher; and 357 in Al-Humaydat.

WASH services have been extended to support IDPs from Arhab in Amran governorates. The total number of additional beneficiaries is 1,620 (436 families) of which 103 families are from Arhab. Six water tanks have been set up in Amran city to provide water supply to IDPs from Arhab governorate. In Sa'adah, the rehabilitation of school latrines is ongoing. Seven hundred hygiene kits were distributed in Redah and Bear Ayed. The remaining 800 kits are to be distributed in Amran and Jabal Yazeed.

Gaps & Constraints: Between 14 and 16 August, a breakdown of the main water pipeline to Al Mazarak Camp I and III reduced the provision of water to 11 liters per day, per person. In Hajjah governorate, some IDPs are using unsafe water sources as a result of shortages due to disruptions in water distributions.

MULTI-SECTOR

Response: A total of 638 migrants were registered in July 2011 at the Migrant Departure Center in Harad'h. There are currently 93 extremely vulnerable migrants staying at the Departure Center. Food, WASH, shelter and access to healthcare are being provided to stranded migrants

Gaps & Constraints: The voluntary return of migrants has recently been suspended due to a lack of resources.

IV. Coordination

The response plan for Sa'adah and northern governorates and the response plan for the South are currently being finalised. The Response Plan for Sa'adah and northern governorates will also cover Hajjah where a large percentage of IDPs are currently located. As part of the current strategic planning to address the needs of non-displaced families affected by the socio-economic crisis, a meeting was organized on the 29 August to discuss vulnerability criteria, geographical priority and response programming options. These three plans will inform the development of the Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan for 2012.

V. Funding

The remaining balance of the Emergency Response Fund (ERF) currently stands at USD 1.5 million. Two new ERF proposals, totalling approximately USD 0.5 million are currently now under consideration. One project focuses on early recovery activities for IDPs in Aden and the other on health and nutrition interventions in the North.

The United Kingdom pledged an additional amount of USD 983,836. Further funding is being sought from other donors.

The Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan is currently **55 percent** funded. Thus far, a total of **USD 158,862,703** has been pledged.

All humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform OCHA's Financial Tracking Service (FTS - <http://fts.unocha.org>) of cash and in-kind contributions by e-mailing: fts@un.org.

<p>290 million Requested (US\$)</p>	<p>55 % Funded</p>
--	--------------------------------------