

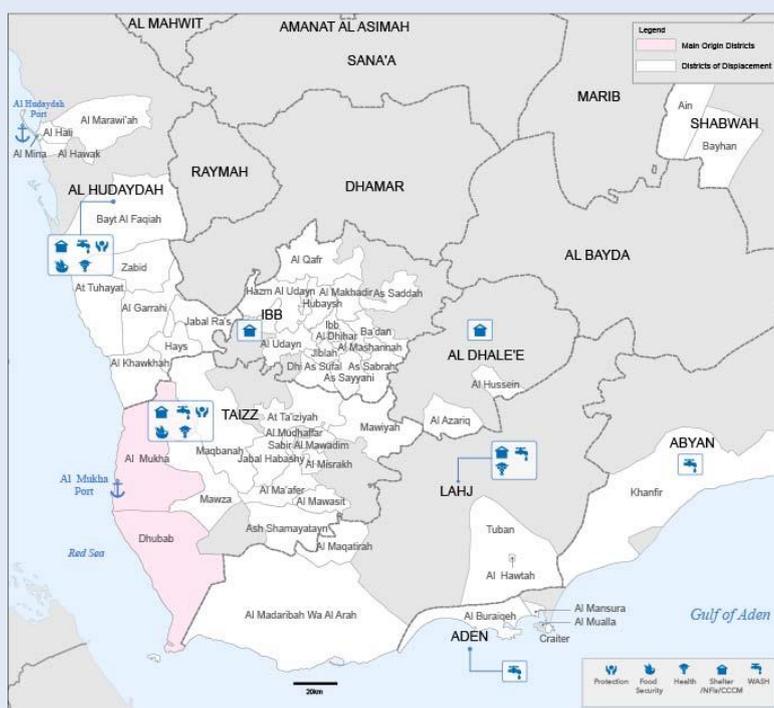


This report was produced by OCHA Yemen in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It was issued by OCHA Yemen on 16 March 2017 and covers the period to 10 March. This is the third report on the escalating conflict along the western coast. The previous two reports were shorter Flash Updates. The next report will be issued in seven to 10 days.

Highlights

- Conflict along the western coast of Taizz Governorate escalated in January 2017 and has continued over the last week, including in several areas adjacent to coastal districts and near the southern border of Al Hudaydah Governorate.
- As of 10 March, the fighting had led to more than 48,000 people being displaced from across Taizz Governorate. The majority are from Al Mukha and Dhubab districts in the south-west. Nearly all displaced people are sheltering in more secure areas of Taizz Governorate (73 per cent) or neighbouring Al Hudaydah Governorate (20 per cent).
- Humanitarian partners have provided direct, in-kind relief to nearly 120,000 people, including IDPs, host communities and residents of affected areas. In addition, partners are supporting critical services through assistance to local water networks and health facilities, as well as offering protection.
- Access to the most affected areas of Taizz remains challenging due to ongoing clashes and movement restrictions imposed by parties to the conflict. Assistance in some sectors has concentrated mainly on Al Hudaydah, with further scale-up planned in Taizz.

Displacement and assistance in south-west Yemen (10 Mar)



Source: TFPM, OCHA, clusters
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

48,000

IDPs from across Taizz Governorate since January 2017

62%

Share of IDPs from Mukha and Dhubab districts of Taizz

93%

Share of IDPs now sheltering in Taizz or Al Hudaydah governorates

120,000

People assisted with direct in-kind aid (IDPs, hosts, affected people)

37

Districts reached with some kind of assistance in eight governorates

Situation Overview

Military operations along the western coast of Taizz continued this week, reportedly extending to Maqbanah and Mawza districts and moving closer to the southern border of Al Hudaydah Governorate. Reports on front-line military developments frequently differ, indicating that the military situation remains fluid.

As of 9 March, the Task Force on Population Movements (TFPM) estimates that 48,408 people had been displaced from across Taizz Governorate since the offensive began in January 2017. About 62 per cent of these people have fled the most severely affected districts of Al Mukha and Dhubab. A large majority of internally displaced persons

(IDPs) have moved to more secure areas within Taizz Governorate (73 per cent), with a significant number sheltering in southern Al Hudaydah Governorate (20 per cent). Considerably smaller numbers of IDPs have arrived in Abyan, Al Dhale'e, Aden, Ibb, Lahj and Shabwah governorates (7 per cent spread across these locations). These figures represent verified displacement; actual figures may be higher.

Partners have been quick to assess needs on the ground, providing evidence for the immediate response (see sector summaries below). At least ten localized assessments have been completed in different areas, in addition to TFPM emergency displacement tracking. As of 10 March, partners had reached nearly 120,000 IDPs, host community members and other affected people with some kind of direct, in-kind assistance – mainly relief food, non-food items (NFIs), emergency shelter or hygiene kits. Partners were also supporting health facilities and water networks to ensure availability of these essential services where possible. Protection activities – mainly mine risk education and psychosocial support – were also under way in affected areas.

Access challenges persist mainly in Taizz Governorate, where active clashes and movement restrictions imposed by parties to the conflict have in some cases hindered partners' ability to deliver aid. Humanitarian partners are finalizing a contingency plan that will allow rapid scale-up of assistance in the event of further escalation, especially in Al Hudaydah Governorate.

Current IDP locations

Governorate	Households	Individuals	% Total
Abyan	30	180	0%
Al Dhale'e	115	690	1%
Aden	150	900	2%
Ibb	178	1,068	2%
Lahj	68	408	1%
Shabwah	19	114	0%
Taizz	5,871	35,226	73%
Al Hudaydah	1,637	9,822	20%
Total	8,068	48,408	100%

Source: TFPM

Humanitarian Response



Food Security and Agriculture (FSAC)

Needs:

- IDPs are more vulnerable to food insecurity, while host communities may already be struggling with insufficient access to food.
- In Jabal Ras District (Al Hudaydah), a recent assessment showed that 79 per cent of households had a poor food consumption score. Jabal Ras is an IDP-hosting district.

>10,500
Households received
food assistance

Response:

- FSAC partners have reached 10,532 households with general food distribution (73,724 individuals). This includes 8,992 households in four affected districts of Taizz (Al Mukha, Al Mudhaffar, As Silw and Ash Shamaytayn) and 1,540 households in six districts of Al Hudaydah (Al Garrahi, Al Khawkha, Al Mina, Bayt Al Faqiah, Hays and Zabid).
- A local partner has provided YR500,000 (approximately US\$1,500) to a central kitchen in Al Mudhaffar District (Taizz) to increase food production for IDPs.
- FSAC partners are currently planning to increase cash or voucher distributions to 800 households in Mawza and Al Ma'afar districts (Taizz).



Health

Needs:

- The main health concerns reported among affected people to date are fever, malaria, upper respiratory tract infections, acute watery diarrhoea (AWD) and skin diseases. Trauma care is also an important need.

Response:

- Health partners are supporting hospitals, ambulatory care and mobile clinics to cope with additional pressure on the already fragile health system.

- Roughly 18 tons of essential medical supplies have been delivered to Taizz, including 8 tons into the Taizz enclave. This includes two trauma kits that can support 200 surgeries and four full interagency emergency health kits that can treat nearly 4,000 patients.
- In Al Hudaydah, partners have provided essential medicines and supplies (IV fluids, testing kits, dressings, etc.) in 11 districts. Partners have also supplied two ambulances and more than five trauma and interagency emergency health kits. This assistance has been delivered through established hospitals and health centres.
- Health partners are deploying medical staff to affected areas. Five health teams are operating out of health centres in Al Khawkhah, Bait Al Faqiah and Hays districts (Al Hudaydah). In addition, mobile teams are working in Al Khawkhah (Al Hudaydah), Al Mukha (Taizz) and Al Madaribah Wa Al Arah (Lahj) districts.
- Additional medical teams are planned for Zabid, Al Khawkhah and Al Garrahi districts (Al Hudaydah).



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Needs:

- Assessments indicate that less than one-third of people are using protected water sources for drinking, reaching as low as 14 per cent in Al Mukha District (Taizz).

Response:

- WASH partners have provided direct, in-kind assistance to 4,797 households in Abyan, Al Hudaydah, Lahj and Taizz Governorates. Assistance primarily included hygiene kits and chlorine tablets for drinking water. WASH partners in Taizz provided bottled drinking water to 260 households in Al Mudhaffar District.
- WASH partners have also provided fuel to water authorities in Al Mukha District (Taizz) and Al Khawkhah District (Al Hudaydah) for water pumping. The water network in Al Khawkhah has also been rehabilitated.
- Partners are planning to reach more than 7,000 additional households with hygiene kits, chlorine, water filters and water trucking.

4,800

Households received hygiene kits and other in-kind WASH assistance



Shelter, Non-Food Items and CCCM

Needs:

- In assessed areas in Al Hudaydah, most displaced people are residing in overcrowded homes of relatives or friends and in rental accommodation, while others have found refuge in abandoned or public buildings. In areas such as Al Khawkhah, Al Garrahi and Hays districts (Al Hudaydah), many people are living in open areas.
- In Taizz, the majority of displaced families are being temporarily accommodated in schools and other public facilities if not living in the open.

Response:

- Partners have reached over 5,000 households with NFIs and emergency shelter kits. These materials have been distributed in Al Hudaydah (2,829 households), Lahj (450 households), Taizz (3,000 households) and Al Dhale'e (115 households).
- Based on assessment results, partners are potentially planning to reach a further 8,500 households, mainly in Taizz. This includes 500 households in affected areas of Al Mukha District.

> 5,000

Households have received NFIs and shelter kits



Protection

Needs:

- Affected people have reported loss of documentation and difficulty accessing services.
- Risks associated with mines or other explosive remnants of war have increased.

Response:

- Protection partners have provided psychosocial support to an estimated 4,820 households in Al Hudaydah and Taizz governorates.
- Wide-ranging mine risk education programmes have been implemented in affected areas of Taizz and Al Hudaydah.
- Cluster partners plan to reach an additional 5,000 households with psychosocial support and case management.

General Coordination

Coordination of the emergency response is taking place through the Area Humanitarian Coordination Teams (AHCTs) in Hudaydah, Ibb and Aden. The national Inter-Cluster Coordination Mechanism (ICCM) in Sana'a is providing continuous support.

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