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Yemen

Humanitarian Situation Report

13 - 26 January 2016

Highlights

- On 21 January, UNICEF’s Representative participated in an inter-agency UN mission led by the Humanitarian Coordinator for Yemen. The mission visited the Taiz enclave and witnessed the extreme difficulties faced by people living in the three districts, due to limited access to basic services, goods and supplies.
- Through local partners, UNICEF has been able to reach some of the most affected communities in Taiz city, however access continues to be challenging for humanitarian actors.
- Since 9 January, UNICEF is supporting operations and communication activities for the polio and Measles-Rubella (MR) vaccination campaign across the country, over 3.9 million children have been vaccinated against polio and about 2.3 million against MR.
- During the reporting period, UNICEF has provided Temporary Learning Spaces (TLS) for over 5,100 students in Ibb, Hodeida, Hajjah and Sana’a.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

The humanitarian situation in Yemen remains critical. The conflict that escalated in late March 2015 has left an estimated 21.2 million people (82 per cent of the population), including more than 9.9 million children, in need of some kind of humanitarian assistance. The conflict continues to force families to flee their homes, with 2.5 million Yemenis now internally displaced, 31 per cent of whom are children.¹

It is estimated that the current crisis, has left 19.3 million people requiring assistance to meet their needs of water and sanitation, 14.1 million people in need of access to healthcare, 1.3 million children at risk of acute malnutrition, 7.4 million children in need of protection services, and about 2.9 million children with education-related needs.²

Given the continuity of hostilities, ground fighting and violations of international humanitarian law, an improvement of the situation is not expected in the near future.

Despite slight improvements observed in November 2015 with regard to imports trends, during December the number of ships berthing, as well as the

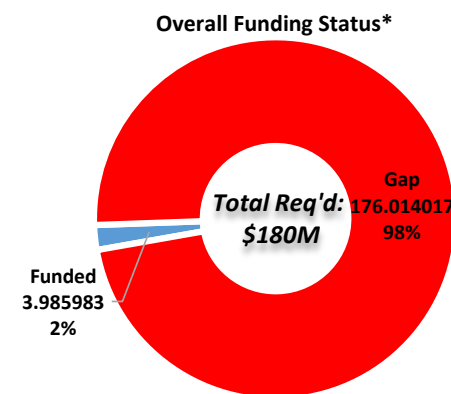
People in need of urgent humanitarian assistance:

21.1 million people, of which:
9.9 million are children
2.5 million are IDPs (31% children)
 (Protection Cluster, includes prior to and since the conflict escalated)

320,000 children under 5 at risk of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM)
1 million children under 5 projected to suffer Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM)
19.3 million people in need of WASH assistance
14.1 million people in need of basic health care

UNICEF 2016 Requirements:
US \$180 million

Funds received in 2016:
US \$ 4 million (98 per cent gap)



*Excludes US\$ 67.5 million carry-over funds pledged against the 2015 appeal.

¹ Sixth report of the Task Force on Population Movement, led by UNHCR and IOM (10 December 2015).

² Humanitarian Needs Overview – Yemen 2016.

volume of food and fuel imports into Yemen decreased. Commercial food imports decreased by 19 per cent compared to November, and fuel imports dropped by 83 per cent over the previous month.³ Regular incomes and livelihoods of the most vulnerable families are drying up, increasing poverty, food insecurity and risk of malnutrition.

To mitigate against increasing humanitarian needs, UNICEF continues to provide support across different sectors, including, but not limited to, health and nutrition, WASH, education, child protection and social protection, working closely with Governments and local partners.

On 21 January, the UN Humanitarian Coordinator for Yemen, UNICEF's Representative and other UN senior officials travelled to the cities of Taiz and Ibb. The mission was aimed at assessing the humanitarian situation and discussing humanitarian access, with local authorities in critical areas, particularly to the three districts of Taiz city which have been cut off for months. After the visit, the Humanitarian Coordinator advocated for the establishment of a mechanism that will allow regular and sustained access of goods into the city and called on all parties to the conflict to observe international humanitarian law and provide humanitarian access as well as refrain from targeting civilian infrastructure.

Humanitarian Leadership and Coordination

UNICEF continues to work in coordination with the Yemen Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and is leading the WASH, Education and Nutrition Clusters and the Child Protection Sub-Cluster. UNICEF has also established sub-national level Clusters for WASH, Child Protection and Education in Aden and Nutrition Sub-Clusters in all field offices, and continues to be an active member of the Health Cluster.

In addition to the hub in Ibb, which has been operational since 15 November 2015, UNICEF leads the humanitarian hub in Sa'ada. UNICEF continues to review and monitor programme implementation through local partners, utilizing remote monitoring and some innovative use of mobile technology. Efforts continue to diversify and expand partnerships with local NGOs to deliver humanitarian programmes on the ground.

Humanitarian Strategy

UNICEF's humanitarian strategy remains focused on providing an integrated package of health, nutrition and vaccination services and preventive measures to mothers, newborns and children, expanding treatment services for children with malnutrition and supporting displaced families through provision of safe water and hygiene facilities. UNICEF supports government partners to re-open schools, provide catch up classes, provide school supplies and encourage strategies for alternative accommodation for displaced persons occupying schools. Acknowledging the psychological distress experienced by children, UNICEF supports partners to provide psychosocial support through schools and community facilities including child friendly spaces (CFS). UNICEF and partners are scaling up efforts to reach the most vulnerable children and their families especially internally displaced persons. In light of the huge impact of poverty on children, targeted cash grants reach thousands of the most vulnerable families in Yemen. UNICEF continues to generate new evidence on geographic vulnerabilities, effectiveness of early relief efforts and remaining gaps in lifesaving interventions. UN leaders at country, region and HQ level remain committed to a peaceful solution to the conflict and negotiate for unhindered access and the protection of humanitarian supplies and sites. UNICEF's Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) 2016 appeal was launched on 26 January, aiming to reach 7.5 million people – including 5.2 million children.⁴

In July 2015, UNICEF activated its Level 3 Corporate Emergency Procedure which mobilizes the highest level of organization-wide support to the current crisis in Yemen.

Summary of Programme Response

Health & Nutrition

The Yemen Humanitarian Country Team (YHCT) estimates that in 2016, 14.1 million people lack sufficient access to healthcare, 3 million children and pregnant or lactating women require malnutrition treatment or preventive services, about 320,000 children under 5 will be at risk of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and 1 million children may suffer from Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM).⁵

During the reporting period, UNICEF provided health and nutrition services for over 40,000 people through 79 mobile teams, including children under 5 years, pregnant and lactating women, and mothers (see table). This also included the launch of two new mobile teams in Ibb and Sa'ada governorates. In Aldhalea, Hodeidah, Hajjah, Ray,ma, Mah-weet, Taiz, Ibb, Saada, Aljouf, Amran, Sanaa and Dhamar, 30,000 cartons of

14.1 million people
lack sufficient access to
healthcare

320,000 children under 5
at risk of Severe Acute Mal-nu-
trition (SAM)

³ OCHA Yemen: Snapshot on Shipping, Food and Fuel Imports for December 2015 (Issued on 18 January 2016).

⁴ For more information, go to: <http://www.unicef.org/appeals/yemen.html>

⁵ Humanitarian Needs Overview – Yemen 2016.

ready to use therapeutic food (Plumpy’Nut) are under distribution and will treat 37,500 children with severe acute malnutrition (average treatment duration 4 to 8 weeks). As part of the Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) scale up plan, 63 new outpatient treatment programmes (OTPs) were established in Sa’ada to provide treatment to children with severe acute malnutrition, thus increasing programme coverage.

Capacity-building activities during the reporting period included Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) training for 80 midwives in Hajjah; CMAM training for 60 community health volunteers in Albydha, Amran and Dhamar governorate; and integrated CMAM and IYCF training for 39 health workers from Amran and Taiz governorates.

Health and nutrition services provided by 79 mobile teams MTs (13 - 26 Jan 2016)	
Children screened for acute malnutrition through routine nutrition services in Sana’a, Hodeidah, Taiz, Sa’ada and Aden governorates (8,395 male, 8,975 female)	17,370
Severely malnourished children under 5 years admitted to feeding programmes in Hodeidah, Hajjah, Almahwit, Raymah, Lahj, Aden, Shabwah, Aldhalea, Abyan, Ammant Al asimah, Ammran, Dhammar, Sana’a, Mareb, Sa’ada, Aljawf and Taiz (923 boys, 1,044 girls).	1,967
Mothers of children under 5 received infant and young child feeding counselling in Ammran, Sana’a, Hodeidah, Hajjah, Raymah, Aden, Taiz, Lahj, Aldhalea, and Abyan.	7,313
Children under 5 received vitamin A and micronutrient supplementation	2,901
Children received deworming capsules	4,020
Pregnant and lactating women received iron/folate supplementation	13,004

Since 9 January 2016, UNICEF is supporting the implementation and communication activities for the Polio and Measles-Rubella (MR) vaccination campaign. According to preliminary reports, as of 26 January over 3.9 million children have been vaccinated against Polio and about 2.3 against MR (see table), including almost 8,000 children in hard-to access locations and 3,000 displaced children.

Preliminary results vaccination campaigns (as of 26 Jan. 2016)		
	No. of children vaccinated	% Reached
OPV ⁶	3,954,405	78.5% 333 districts
MR	2,278,419	90% 62 districts

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

The ongoing conflict in Yemen has aggravated already existing vulnerabilities. As a consequence, about 19.3 million people - three in four Yemenis – are now unable to meet their basic WASH needs.

19.3 million people
with WASH needs

During the reporting period, UNICEF continued to provide support to local water corporations ensuring access to safe water to 1,285,987 people in Amanat Al Asimah (Sana’a city), Amran, Lahj, Sa’ada and Taiz. UNICEF continued providing fuel for the operation of 28 rural water projects in six districts of Sa’ada governorate, providing water supply to 147,397 persons. In addition, water trucking provided water for drinking and domestic use to 39,474 displaced people and their host communities in Amanat Al Asimah, Sa’ada and Taizz governorates. In Sa’ada governorate, 1,000 ceramic water filters were distributed benefiting 7,926 people.

In Sa’ada governorate, basic hygiene kits were distributed to 7,926 people, 900 basic family water kits were distributed in Khairan Al-Muharraq district targeting 6,300 IDPs.

School hygiene kits and hygiene awareness sessions reached 826 students of three schools in Hajjah governorate. In Hajjah governorate, 20 latrines were installed to serve 60 IDPs households. UNICEF also conducted hygiene awareness sessions focusing on personal hygiene, hand washing and safe water storage for 35,646 people in Hajjah and Sa’ada governorates.

UNICEF continued to provide support to Sa’ada Cleaning Fund with cleaning materials, incentives for 80 workers and maintenance of three cleaning vehicles for collecting and disposing of 560 tons of garbage and solid waste from Sa’ada town neighborhoods. UNICEF continues supporting Amanat Al-Asemah water corporation with the operation of wastewater treatment plant, benefiting 1,400,000 people in Sana’a city.

Education

After the escalation of the conflict in Yemen, over 1.8 million school-aged children were forced out of school due to the closure of 3,584 schools. In November 2015, schools reopened, but 1,600 remain closed, affecting about 387,000 children. In January 2016, deteriorating circumstances have caused the closure of nearly 100 additional schools, most of them in Sa’ada and Taiz.

+1.8 million children
forced out of school at the beginning of the crisis

+1,600 schools
remain closed

UNICEF continued to deliver a package of education support with focus on vulnerable IDP children. During the reporting period, UNICEF and the Governorate Education Offices (GEOs) in Hodeidah, Hajjah, Almahwit, Aden, Shabwa, Lahj, Aldhalea and Abyan, distributed school bags and school kits for 73,731 IDPs and other affected children. To date, UNICEF has

⁶ OPV: Oral Polio vaccine.

provided supplies to 152,831 affected children in 12 of the worst affected governorates, including the distribution of recreational kits -as part of psychosocial support activities - for 23,800 affected children. UNICEF has also ensured the continuation of education in Temporary Learning Spaces (TLS) for over 5,100 children in Ibb, Hodeidah, Hajjah and Sana'a. To improve the physical environment of affected schools, especially those that have been occupied by IDPs (who were re-located to other suitable shelters), UNICEF and the Ministry of Education have started rehabilitation activities, including the construction/ rehabilitation of latrines. Between 13 and 26 January, nine schools were rehabilitated in Hodeidah, and nine more are being repaired. In Ibb governorate, 16 latrines are under construction and 12 are being rehabilitated in 5 schools. In the coming weeks, 25 schools will be rehabilitated, 14 in Ibb and 11 in Taiz governorates.

UNICEF has also continued the Back to School (B2S) campaign and out-of-school children programmes. In Amanat Alasimah (Sana'a city), UNICEF and the GEO carried out morning assemblies focused on peacebuilding promotion, reaching over 6,350 children. In the Sana'a governorate, a local partner NGO organized consultative meetings involving education authorities and local community to ensure children were joining schools in safe environment, in Bani Matar district the local community signed codes of conduct not to use schools for any other purposes than education. UNICEF has supported the operation of non-formal education (NFE) and community-based classes, and has provided incentives for volunteer teachers, thanks to that over 4,800 out of school children have resumed education activities (1,650 in Hodeidah, 3,152 in Taiz). In Taiz city, learning materials have been distributed to 3,167 children. To minimize the risk for children during transportation to schools, 15 community classes were opened in remote areas of Hodeidah to ensure access to education for about 400 children.

Child Protection

As a result of the ongoing conflict in Yemen, it is estimated that 7.4 million children are in need of protection services,⁷ including psychosocial support.

+7.4 million children
in need of protection services

From 13 to 26 January, 46,732 people (including 45,305 children⁸ and 1,427 parents⁹) from conflict-affected populations, host communities and IDPs in Sa'ada, Ibb, Taiz, Hodeidah, Hajjah, Al-Amanah, Hadramout, Aden, Dhale and Abyan governorates, received Psycho-Social Support (PSS) via Community based and mobile Child-Friendly Spaces (CFS)' activities such as sports, arts and recreational activities. In the same areas, 6,225 people¹⁰ received information and skills on the protection of children in emergency, including prevention from being used or recruited by armed groups or armed forces.

Mine risk education (MRE) sessions were conducted in conflict-affected and displaced communities, reaching 7,553 people (6,252 children,¹¹ 1,301 adults¹²) in Amanat Al-Asimah, Sa'ada, Aden, Abyan, Dhale, and Hadramout governorates.

In Sa'ada, a four-day training was conducted for 25 MRE facilitators¹³ from ten conflict-affected districts bordering Saudi Arabia. The MRE campaign in these districts will start in the coming weeks. In an effort to strengthen the involvement and participation of adolescents, UNICEF supported the training of 67 adolescents¹⁴ and 20 adults¹⁵ on MRM (six grave child rights violations), PSS and other related issues, in Al-Amanh, Amran, Aden and Hadramout.

During the reporting period, the MRM¹⁶ network has monitored the situation of children in Taiz, Sa'ada, Amanat Al Asimah and Abyan. Children's rights continue to be affected by the on-going conflict, at least 11 children were killed and nine were maimed. In Abyan, UNICEF verified three incidents of recruitment affecting three boys, while one boy was verified to have been manning a checkpoint in Amanat Al Asimah. These incidents are consistent with the substantial increase of recruitment cases since the scale up of the conflict. During the reporting period, schools and hospitals continue to be attacked, in Sa'ada one school and three hospitals were physically destroyed.¹⁷

Social Policy

The current conflict has eroded traditional livelihoods and safety nets. Since March 2015, the suspension of the Social Welfare fund (SWF) - key government unconditional cash transfer programme – has affected over seven million direct and indirect beneficiaries.

UNICEF's unconditional cash transfers programme –launched in November 2015 - is underway in Taiz and Amanat Al-Asima, with a total of 12,327 vulnerable households (86,289

7 million direct & indirect beneficiaries
affected by the suspension of Social Welfare Fund programmes

⁷ Humanitarian Needs Overview – Yemen 2016.

⁸ Including 20,329 girls and 24,976 boys.

⁹ Including 1,406 mothers, 21 fathers.

¹⁰ Including 2,306 girls, 2,507 boys, 1,389 women, 23 men.

¹¹ Including 3,008 girls, 3,244 boys.

¹² Including 1,285 women, 16 men.

¹³ Including 17 male, 8 female.

¹⁴ Including 13 girls, 54 boys.

¹⁵ Including 14 women, 6 men.

¹⁶ Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) on grave violations of children's rights in situations of armed conflict.

¹⁷ Figures verified by UNICEF.

individuals) reached in both governorates. In Amanat Al-Asima, 4,927 families (34,489 individuals) have received three cycles of assistance (November, December 2015, January 2016). In Taiz (including hard-to-access districts), 7,400 families (51,800 individuals) received their first cycle of assistance and will be receiving their second one in February.

To monitor the programme, weekly coordination meetings as well as a robust Complaints & Appeals mechanism continue to function in both governorates, resulting in effective implementation. Some challenges continue to be faced, particularly the loss of beneficiaries' identification documents in Taiz. This is being addressed by review of alternative identification methods such as marriage certificates or verification forms developed by the Social Welfare Fund.

Communication for Development (C4D)

During the reporting period, UNICEF reached 104,077 individuals with critical information and promotion of positive behaviors in Taiz, Aden, Sa'ada, Aljawf and Amran. Such messages support and reinforce UNICEF's humanitarian and development actions. Since the beginning of 2016, at least 182,730 people have participated in counselling sessions, focus group discussions, theatre, and mosques speeches among other activities. Main themes include disease prevention, vaccination, exclusive breastfeeding and proper infant and child feeding practices, hygiene promotion and safe water use. UNICEF also continues to advocate for the safety of schools and spreading key messages on child protection issues, including child recruitment, child separation, child trafficking and mine risk education.

Supply and Logistics

Since the escalation of the crisis in late March 2015, over 3,600.3 metric tons of emergency supplies have been sent to Yemen, by sea (using dhows) and air (commercial charter flights) through the logistics transit platform in Djibouti. The Djibouti hub was set up to serve as a forward base from where supplies and equipment for emergency response as well as orders for regular programmes can be received, stored and shipped to different ports in Yemen. The operation of the hub is complementary to the Global Logistics Cluster operation in Djibouti, allowing UNICEF to reach secondary ports and airports. As part of the humanitarian response, UNICEF has procured 176,404 cartons of the therapeutic food Plumpy nut, 146,461 have been shipped to Yemen so far. This quantity is enough to provide treatment against severe acute malnutrition (duration of approx. 8 weeks) for 146,461 children. The shipment of vaccines has been extremely challenging as commercial airlines are not allowed to carry vaccines into Yemen. To address this challenge, UNICEF set up a new supply chain for the cold chain through the Djibouti logistics hub and managed to ship a total of 90,6 Mt of various vaccines through special charter flights for a total value of US\$16,5 million. Vaccines include OPV, IPV, Rotavirus, MR, pneumococcal vaccines and the 90 Mt of vaccines shipped to date are sufficient to cover a cumulative population of 19 million beneficiaries. Since April 2015, the logistics transit platform set up in Djibouti has allowed the shipment of all UNICEF's offshore procured supplies to Yemen as the access to commercial shipping lines is limited.

Funding

In line with the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), **UNICEF's Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) appeal for 2016 is US\$180 million**, UNICEF has received US\$3.4 million against the appeal, leaving a **98 per cent funding gap**.¹⁸ Additionally, US\$67.5 million have been rolled over, pledged against the 2015 appeal.

Sector	Requirements	Funding Received*		Funding Gap	
		US\$	%	US\$	%
Nutrition	61,500,000	-	0%	61,500,000	100%
Health	36,000,000	-	0%	36,000,000	100%
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	48,500,000	-	0%	48,500,000	100%
Child Protection	14,000,000	-	0%	14,000,000	100%
Education	14,000,000	-	0%	14,000,000	100%
Social Protection in Emergency	6,000,000	-	0%	6,000,000	100%
Being allocated		3,985,983			
Total	180,000,000	3,985,983	2%	176,014,017	98%

*Funds received do not include pledges.

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¹⁸ As of 24 January, 2016.

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SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME RESULTS

2016 PROGRAMME TARGETS AND RESULTS*	2016 Overall needs**	Cluster		UNICEF	
		2016 Target	Total 2016 Results	2016 Target	Total 2016 Results
NUTRITION	3 million²				
Number of children under 5 are treated for Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM)		178,562	3,742	178,562	3,742
Number of PLWs benefitted from the IYCF counselling		313,119	14,095	313,119	14,095
Number of children under 5 given micronutrient interventions ¹		276,000	7,601	4,000,000	7,601
HEALTH	14.1 million				
Number of children under 1 vaccinated against measles (MCV1)				770,000	1,155
Number of children under 5 vaccinated against polio				5,039,936	3,958,938
Number of children under 5 receiving primary health care				815,000	27,548
Number of pregnant and lactating women receiving primary health care				680,000	29,212
WASH	19.3 million				
Number of affected population (men, woman, boys and girls) provided with improved water sources and environmental sanitation services by developing, rehabilitating and maintaining the Public and community infrastructures ³		6,384,984	1,928,769	5,186,000	1,928,769
Number of affected people with access to safe water as per agreed standards (7.5-15L per person per day)		682,332	53,989	100,000	53,989
Number of affected people provided with standard basic hygiene kits		1,382,461	19,276	500,000	19,276
CHILD PROTECTION	7.4 million				
Number of children in conflict-affected areas covered by MRM interventions		1,372,933	11,000	1,373,933	11,000
Number of children in conflict-affected areas receiving psychosocial support		399,594	71,515	279,716	71,515
Number of children and community members receiving knowledge to protect themselves against injury/death of mine/UXO explosion		502,158	71,024	351,511	71,024
EDUCATION	3 million				
Number of affected school-aged children provided with access to education via Temporary Learning Spaces and School Rehabilitation		244,500	1,531	156,000	1,531
Number of affected children receiving psychosocial support services in schools		575,500	738	173,000	738
Number of affected children with access to basic learning supplies, books and classroom furniture to be integrated into education system		522,710	142,833	360,000	142,833
SOCIAL PROTECTION	8 million⁴				
Number of vulnerable households reached with humanitarian Cash transfer in Yemen				315,000	19,733
C4D					
Number of affected people reached through integrated C4D efforts				1,200,000	182,730

Footnotes:

(*) Indicators and results may change while the YHRP 2016 is finalized. Some programme results appear high as they are part of ongoing efforts initiated in 2015 (i.e. Number of affected population provided with improved water sources and environmental sanitation services—an indicator which measures large-scale urban and rural water programmes). Other results are expected to be achieved more gradually.

(**) According to Humanitarian Needs overview, Yemen 2016.

1. UNICEF's target for the indicator is 4,000,000 US children as Micronutrients interventions that UNICEF is supporting include Vit A supplementation and micronutrients sprinkles supplementation, while Nutrition cluster target did not include the Vit A supplementation and will consider only micronutrients sprinkles supplementation target: 276,000 children under 5.

2. Includes children under 5 and pregnant and lactating women.

3. Cumulative catchment number of people accessing safe drinking water through rehabilitation / repair of the existing urban water supply systems with established operations / maintenance routines, rehabilitation of rural and urban water and sewage systems infrastructure including supply of equipment, spare parts, fuel, chemicals for treatment and other operation and maintenance costs, and the cumulative catchment of number of people benefitting from support to solid waste management services with supply of equipment, spare parts, fuel and other operational costs.

4. Number of people in need of urgent social protection. Estimated by UNICEF, based on Social Welfare Fund Quarter 4, 2014 report.