SITE MANAGEMENT FOR IDPS IN YEMEN

May 2020

What is site management?
Out of more than four million Yemenis who fled and lost their homes due to conflict, an estimated one million live in makeshift camps. These range from a few families living together on a site with no access to basic services to hundreds of them living in more organised but still spontaneous settlements.

Displaced families living in these sites are under constant threats of being evicted and harassed and have difficulties accessing clean water, essential medical care and education.

Gaps and preparedness in IDP sites against COVID-19

Recent mappings show that close to one million displaced and vulnerable population live in some 1,700 IDP sites across Yemen. However, it is highly likely that many more exist which have not yet been identified by humanitarian partners. UNHCR as the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster lead, mobilised partners to conduct a series of surveys on sites to consult residents about their needs and ways they would like to see them addressed. CCCM activities support all humanitarian partners as they help identifying gaps in the delivery of key services such as shelter, WASH, protection, and solutions.

In 2020, 800,000 IDPs living in sites and surroundings will have access to improved living conditions through CCCM activities.
A Referral and Escalation System (RES) has been established as an online mechanism to monitor and address the IDP’s needs that fall short from agreed standards, such as the distance to the water points and the amount of food distributed regularly. Through this process, partners can better coordinate the provision of services across IDP sites of quality and in sufficient quantity.

**HOW DO WE ASSIST?**

The **CCCM activities ensure** IDPs’ well-being by equipping them to prevent accidents such as natural hazards and infectious disease, through mitigating measures against seasonal floods and improvement of sanitation and hygiene in IDP sites. Livelihood opportunities are provided to strengthen the IDPs’ resilience so that they do not need to resort to negative coping mechanisms. CCCM activities are also the entry point for assistance to vulnerable IDPs and surrounding communities. In addition to coordinating and managing basic services, partners support community-based projects that promote communal cohesion, local integration or return of IDPs where these solutions are acceptable and feasible. Through the CCCM, partners:

- **Strengthen safe, equal and coordinated access** of IDPs and those living in surrounding communities to multi-sectorial services (protection, WASH, health, education, livelihoods).
- **Improve living conditions** through site care, maintenance and upgrade of services. The programmes are also organised with the residents through **cash-for-work schemes** such as participating in the local production of shelters, repairs of communal facilities such as latrines, classrooms, water tanks and pipes, and drainage in the IDP sites that creates **livelihood opportunities**.
- **Strengthen individual and community resilience** through active participation to decisions that affect their lives and two-way communication that promote social cohesion between IDPs and the nearby impoverished communities. In **light of potential COVID-19 outbreaks in these sites**, community committees have been trained to be among the first key responders by referring in a safe and humane manner suspected cases to the Rapid Response Teams and if need be, isolate patients. Disinfection and cleaning items as well as awareness-raising material on physical distancing and handwashing were distributed.

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