

Overview

Airstrikes continued on 4 April, mainly affecting Sana'a, Sa'ada, Hajjah and Aden Governorates. Heavy clashes were also reported in Aden, particularly in Ma'ala area, where residents were advised to leave their homes. Local residents report that shelling hit numerous buildings in the area, including private homes. In Shabwah, four days of clashes between armed tribes and Houthi militants have reportedly ended. In Hadramaut, local tribes are reportedly mobilizing against militants of Al Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP), who have taken control of Mukalla City.

Casualties

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), 549 people have been killed and 1,707 injured in violence in Yemen since 19 March. This includes at least 217 civilian deaths and 516 civilian injuries, many of which occurred in bombings against two mosques in Sana'a on 20 March. Civilian casualty estimates are frequently underestimates, as many people do not have the means to seek treatment in hospitals, and families may bury their dead before reports can be collected. All parties to conflict are bound by international humanitarian law to do everything in their power to avoid civilian casualties.

Displacement

Displacement continues to be reported, but no verified estimates are available. In Hajjah Governorate, fewer than 30 per cent of IDP families remain in the Mazraq IDP camps, with most having fled following airstrikes in the area last week. Local sources also report that dozens of families from Haradh, Abs and Midi Districts have fled to neighbouring villages and Districts. Displacement from Sa'ada into Hajjah also reportedly continues. In Shabwah, unverified reports indicate displaced families from Aden and Mukalla have arrived in Ataq, Mayfa'a and Rawdah Districts. Large numbers of people from Aden and Sana'a are reportedly travelling to areas outside the city. Since 28 March, UNHCR has recorded 88 Yemeni nationals arriving in Somalia and Djibouti. More arrivals are expected.

Priority humanitarian needs

Priority needs remain concentrated in mass casualty management, protection and WASH. Medicine and life-saving equipment are reportedly running low in hospitals and clinics treating wounded people. Dead bodies remain uncollected, especially in Aden, posing a public health risk. In addition to these needs, IDPs and host communities in Abyan, Hajjah and Amran reportedly need WASH support, NFIs and food.

Local partners report increasing shortages of fuel and food in local markets. In the western Governorates, residents are facing a shortage of wheat flour, the price of which has reportedly increased by nearly 40 per cent. Local authorities and food production companies have ordered shop owners to keep prices at previous levels and not to hoard stocks.

The Government announced that schools in Governorates affected by airstrikes and continuing violence will remain closed for a second week.

Access and humanitarian response

Access

Ongoing conflict and airstrikes continue to restrict humanitarian access. Partners are working to import critical supplies – mainly to support hospital services – and deploy emergency medical teams. Authorization from parties to conflict is urgently required to enable these activities. The port in Al Hudaydah is reportedly still functioning amid an acute fuel shortage that is increasing commodity transportation costs.

Assessments

Humanitarian partners are mobilizing to conduct rapid needs assessments in areas where security conditions permit. In Sa'adah, a team is ready to undertake a rapid needs assessment once local authorities clear the mission. Rapid assessments are slated to begin in the next few days in Hajjah, Aden, Lahj, Abyan and Al Dhale'e Governorates. More details will be provided in the next Situation Report.

Response

Partners continue to focus response efforts on support for hospitals in treating casualties. This includes delivery of medical supplies. In Hajjah, partners delivered food aid to IDP families remaining in the Mazraq camps. Water trucking has begun in Aden (serving a hospital) and in Abyan (serving four schools hosting IDPs.). Partners continue to receive requests from foreign nationals seeking evacuation from Yemen. The International Organization for Migration is the focal point for organizing these efforts; [more details are available in their appeal](#). More details on cluster operations will be available in the next Situation Report.

Coordination

The Yemen Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) held its first meeting in Amman on 3 April; work continues to establish an operational hub in Amman to support ongoing operations in Yemen. This work will include de-confliction with parties to conflict in order to minimize the risks posed to humanitarian assets and sites.

OCHA will issue daily flash updates and a full Situation Report every five to seven days.

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