

KEY ISSUES:

- The Emergency Relief Coordinator, Mark Lowcock, reiterates call for a cessation of hostilities in Yemen.
- The Yemen Humanitarian Fund allocates USD4 million to support 105,000 people displaced by conflict in Al Hudaydah with winterization assistance.
- Polio campaign targets 5.5 million children under age 5 across Yemen.

EMERGENCY RELIEF COORDINATOR, MARK LOWCOCK CONCLUDES HIS VISIT TO YEMEN

On 1 December, the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) Mark Lowcock concluded a three-day visit to Yemen during which he met with de facto government authorities in Sana'a and the internationally recognized government of Yemen in Aden. At the end of the visit the ERC warned that conditions had deteriorated alarmingly since his last visit in 2017, but noted that he was encouraged to hear strong support for relief operations by all political stakeholders.

Throughout his visit, Mr. Lowcock reiterated his call for a cessation of hostilities, particularly in and around infrastructure critical for aid operations and commercial imports. "It is unacceptable to see men with guns inside

hospitals," he said. "Conflict and fighters must stay away from civilian facilities."

Noting that humanitarian agencies still face too many obstacles in their work, the ERC urged the parties to facilitate humanitarian assistance and to protect the supply of food and other essential goods.

The ERC warned that deteriorating conditions in Yemen mean substantially more resources will be required for the aid effort next year. Mr. Lowcock reiterated that only a political solution can end the crisis in Yemen, "this war needs to end. Yemenis deserve a brighter future".



USG arrives in Sana'a. ©OCHA

HUMANITARIANS PROVIDE WINTER SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE DISPLACED FROM AL HUDAYDAH

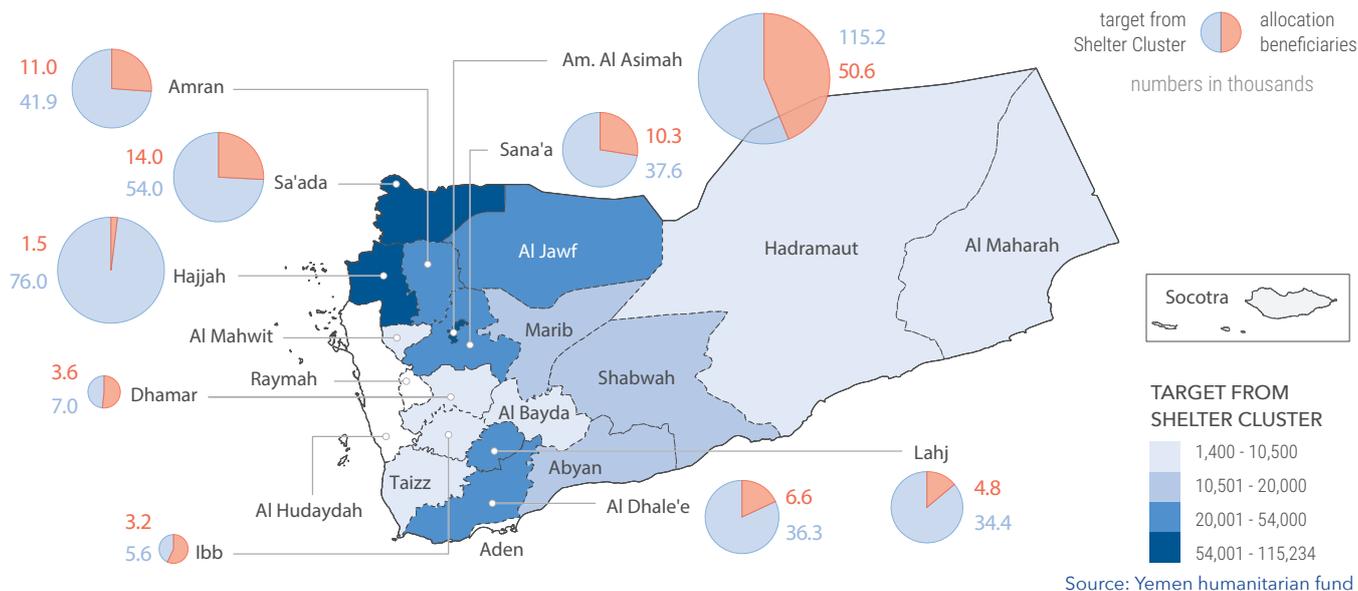
On 8 November, the Yemen Humanitarian Fund (YHF) launched a funding allocation of \$4 million to support winterization assistance for people affected by the crisis in Al Hudaydah. The allocation targets 15,000 families (105,700 people) who have been displaced by the conflict in Al Hudaydah Governorate in nine governorates (Amran, Amanat Al Asimah, Al Dhal'e, Dhamar, Ibb, Hajjah, Lahj, Sana'a, Sa'ada). Each family will be provided with a one-off grant of \$230. This funding allocation is in addition to the first standard allocation of 2018 for \$87 million, that was launched in August this year, covering seven clusters.

Allocation by partner type



As of 29 November, the YHF has allocated over \$188 million to 53 partners implementing 112 projects across Yemen. It has received over \$168 million in contributions and pledges from 24 generous donors, making it the largest country-based humanitarian fund managed by OCHA in the world.

YHF allocation beneficiaries towards cluster targets



UPDATES FROM HUBS

AL HUDAYDAH HUB

The Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM), headed by UNFPA reported that as of 29 November, 130,879 households displaced by conflict in Al Hudaydah Governorate had been assisted by RRM.

In a joint statement of 22 November 2018, the Emergency Relief Coordinator, Mark Lowcock, and UNICEF's Executive Director, Henrietta Fore, emphasized their concern for the protection of civilians and civilian infrastructure, particularly for health facilities that have been occupied by armed groups and damaged by crossfire, and urged all parties to the conflict to maintain the de-escalation in fighting in Al Hudaydah. Despite the unofficial pause in fighting starting on 12 November, sporadic artillery fire and airstrikes continued across Al Hudaydah Governorate affecting civilians and civilian infrastructure.

Since June 2018, UN partners registered some 19,000 displaced families in Hajjah Governorate who fled conflict in Al Hudaydah. Out of the total caseload registered, approximately 15,000 families were provided with RRM assistance however, due to lack of partners able to implement multi-purpose cash transfer (MPCT) only 3,706 families have received the MPCT so far. Humanitarian partners are looking at options to expand cash assistance.

Since mid-November when fighting escalated in Hajjah Governorate, thousands of people have fled the Al-Sheab area of Haradh District and the Al-Hamra area of Hayran District for neighbouring Abs District. An RRM partner in Abs district has distributed RRM kits to displaced families. Lack of non-food items (NFIs) and shelter supplies have been raised by partners and only 500 families have received NFI supplies. So far, UNICEF through OXFAM, have installed 1,600 emergency latrines of the 3,500 planned in Abs district. RRM partners are in the process of identifying and supporting newly displaced families.

On 30 November, UNICEF issued a statement warning that more than 60,000 boys and girls are out of school

because of the fighting in and around the port city of Hudaydah. The violence has forced over a third of all schools there to close; 15 closed schools were located along the frontlines and others were badly damaged or are being used as shelters for displaced families.

SA'ADA HUB

During the reporting period, armed clashes continued in conflict areas in Sa'ada and Al Jawf governorates causing civilian casualties and damaging farms and houses. To the west of Sa'ada Governorate, in areas that border Saudi Arabia, airstrikes were reported in a number of districts and artillery shelling hit houses and farms in Monnabih, Razih, Baqim, Al Dhaher and Sheda districts.

An INGO, is in the process setting up two community centres for displaced people in Majz and Sahar districts in Sa'ada Governorate. The centres will provide various services including legal aid, medical referrals and livelihood support for displaced people and vulnerable members of the host communities. Key humanitarian response efforts in the governorate include UNHCR completing the distribution of NFIs to 1,974 displaced families in Razih District and WFP completing the November food distribution to 103,401 people. The food ration distribution in Al Jawf Governorate is ongoing.

IBB HUB

During the reporting period, conflict areas in Taizz remained active. Clashes were reported on the eastern and western outskirts of Taizz City, in northwestern Maqbanah District and in the south along the border with Lahj. Artillery fire reportedly hit homes in villages to the west of the city and shelling injured six civilians. Security incidents were reported in Taizz City.

OCHA conducted a three-day field visit to Taizz City to review the humanitarian situation and response in the governorate and met with local authorities to discuss

opportunities to scale-up humanitarian operations through the establishment of two hubs in Al Mokha and Al Turbah. The visit to Taizz City, led by the OCHA Head of Country Office was the first mission by a senior UN official since April 2017. While in the city, the mission visited Al Jamhuri Hospital, the main health facility in the city, which is struggling to meet growing emergency and chronic needs, and Al Jahmalia neighbourhood, where fighting has destroyed parts of the neighbourhood.

The OCHA mission visited IDP settlements in Al Khawka where families who fled the fighting in Al Hudaydah desperately need humanitarian assistance. The Head of Office also met with NGO representatives in Al Mokha and Al Turbah, who underlined the importance of greater humanitarian presence on the ground.

Humanitarian partners report that as of 29 November, the number of households displaced by the conflict in Al Hudaydah reached 6,932 of whom 5,298 households have received RRM packages, while 1,973 have received NFIs. In Taizz, the number of displaced families reached 4,795 of whom 3,457 have received RRM packages and 399 have received NFIs. On 28 November, WFP launched a school meal project in Al-Mashannah District, which will provide all students in high schools in the district with a daily meal.

ADEN HUB

As of 28 November, the total number of families displaced from Al Hudaydah to the Aden area was 13,289 households. During the reporting period, WFP completed the distribution of food baskets to 55,992 HHs in Al Dhale'e, 96,828 HHs in Lahj and 7,440 households in Shabwah.

IOM reported the completion of the return of 141 Somalis from Aden to Somali under the Assisted

Spontaneous Returns programme on 20 November. This is the 17th evacuation to take place in 2018, and to date IOM and UNHCR have facilitated the return of 2,239 Somalis from Yemen to Berbera, Somalia.

On 29 November, UNICEF reported that 14 million doses of measles and rubella vaccine arrived at Aden Airport, enough to cover more than 13 million children between the ages of 6 months and 15 years.

A steep increase in number of containers cleared through the Aden port was reported. Following senior level advocacy by the UN, including by the Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator, the OCHA Head of Office in Riyadh, the Executive Director of WFP, and most recently by the ERC, Mark Lowcock, the number of WFP containers cleared through the terminal at Aden port climbed from between 20 to 40 containers per day to 187 on 1 December.

SANA'A HUB

No civilian impact incidents were reported during the week to 29 November. In Dhaher Governorate the authorities launched a cholera campaign on 25 November. A new Foodgrains Bank project, led by ADRA Canada, was launched to provide emergency rations of flour, beans, oil, sugar and salt to 1,100 vulnerable families in the Harib Alqaramish District of Marib.

During the reporting period, IOM assisted 418 Ethiopian migrants stranded in Yemen to safely return home under its Voluntary Humanitarian Return (VHR) operation in four airlifts between 26 and 29 November. These were the first IOM airlifts since the conflict broke out in 2015 and the largest VHR operation carried out by IOM in Yemen to date.

POLIO CAMPAIGN

On 26 November, local authorities supported by WHO, UNICEF, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, launched the second polio campaign of the year, targeting over 5.5 million children under age 5.

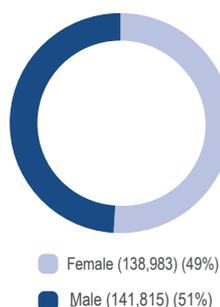
Health workers will go door to door to 3.5 million homes and will also administer the vaccine at health centres, schools and temporary sites through 2,650 fixed and 18,768 mobile vaccination teams. The campaign is a precautionary measure, as Yemen has been polio-free since 2006, but rising levels of malnutrition are likely to lower children's immunity levels.



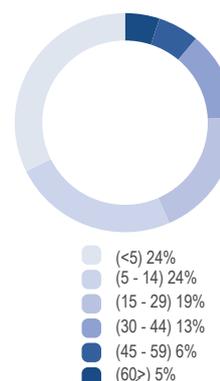
CHOLERA UPDATE

The latest cholera update from WHO indicated that the cumulative number of suspected cholera cases from 1 January 2018 until 11 November 2018 was 280,198 people with 372 associated deaths. Over the three weeks to 11 November, 225 districts reported suspected cholera cases and 32 per cent of all suspected cases were children under age 5. In the week to 11 November, the last week for which figures are available, 12,289 suspected cases were reported and there were 10 associated deaths. The districts that reported the highest number of suspected cases were: Monabbih in Sa'ada Governorate (459), Bani Al Harith (299) and Bani Hushaysh in Sana'a Governorate (290), Maghirib Ans in Dhahar Governorate (280), Hamdan in Sana'a City (236).

Cases by sex



Case by age



Source: WHO

LOGISTICS CLUSTER SCALES UP FOR 2019

The Logistics Cluster is scaling up its operations to meet increased needs in 2019.

This includes a long term agreement with Air Djibouti to airlift 800 metric tonnes (MT) of cargo in 40 rotations to Sana'a and Aden, and increasing offloading capacity at Aden airport. In terms of sea transport, the cluster will maintain two vessels, *VOS Apollo* and *VOS Theia* and increase offloading capacity at Aden seaport. For overland transport a dedicated fleet of 10 trucks will be provided in both Aden and Sana'a. Storage capacity in Aden is to be increased by 4,800 square metres (m²) and the construction of a 600 m² temperature-controlled warehouse. Ten mobile storage units will be available to partners operating from Aden (32 x 10 m), an increase of 45 per cent. In Sana'a storage capacity may increase to 6,000 m², an increase of up to 70 per cent.

At Al Hudaydah seaport, storage capacity may also be increased, if the security situation allows. The Logistics Cluster is planning to increase Aden port and airport and Al Hudaydah port capacity by procuring

extra handling equipment. Fuel tank capacity will be expanded in Aden and a mobile fuel station will be set up in Al Hudaydah at Bajil. A fuel station with a capacity of 100,000 litres is to be built in Ibb. The Logistics Cluster also plans to establish a one-stop shop to facilitate custom procedures, movement and access of relief goods by bringing all stakeholders together, ensuring that appropriate delegation of authority is granted, and by providing clear standard operating procedures for humanitarian actors.

Within the framework of the RRM headed by UNFPA, the Logistics Cluster takes lead in assembling RRM kits at three common warehouses in Al Hudaydah (Bajil), Sana'a and Aden and of dispatching them to implementing partners in field locations. Implementing partners undertake the "last mile" commodity delivery to beneficiaries. Since the RRM was established in June 2018, the Logistics Cluster has facilitated the delivery of over 200,000 kits to 39 locations across Al Hudaydah, Hajjah, Raymah and Al Mahwi governorates on behalf of UNICEF, UNFPA and WFP.



Aden Port. ©OCHA/Matteo Minasi.

UNVIM UPDATE

Al Hudaydah and Saleef ports remain operational. Between 21 and 27 November, three vessels berthed at Al Hudaydah port and one at Saleef port, discharging a total of 88,742 of cargo: 69,392 MT of food, down from 73,300 the previous week, and 19,350 MT of fuel, up from 7,998 MT the previous week. The Logistics Cluster continues to maintain two vessels in service, one in Al Hudaydah - in case of evacuation - and the other serving the Djibouti - Aden - Djibouti route. Cargo transport between Djibouti and Al Hudaydah is available by dhow.

As a result of the introduction of Article 75 by the internationally recognized Government of Yemen in October 2018 - the decree requires fuel imports to Yemen to be financed through the Central Bank - at 7 December, the Saudi-led Coalition's Evacuation and Humanitarian and Operations Committee (EHOC) was denying six vessels, permission to berth at Al Hudaydah ports. The vessels were carrying 71,517 MT of fuel, the equivalent of 58 per cent of monthly fuel imports over the past year and had been granted clearance certificates by the UN Verification and Monitoring Mechanism (UNVIM) in Djibouti.

Total cargo discharged in the period 21 - 27 November 2018



69,392 MT



19,350 MT

Al Hudaydah: 48,350 MT

As Saleef: 40,392MT

Total Cargo Discharged: 88,742 MT

Source: UNVIM

For further information, please contact:

Sebastien Trives, Head of Office, UN-OCHA Yemen | Tel: +967 712 222 800 | E-mail: trives@un.org

Federica D'Andreagiovanni, Head of Communication, UN-OCHA Yemen | Tel: +962 79 687 6082 | E-mail: dandreagiovanni@un.org

OCHA information products are available at: www.unocha.org/yemen | www.unocha.org | www.reliefweb.int