

Information bulletin No. 2 Yemen: Cyclone Mekunu

Date of issue: 31 May 2018

Date of disaster: 24 May 2018

Number of people affected: 2,765 people displaced

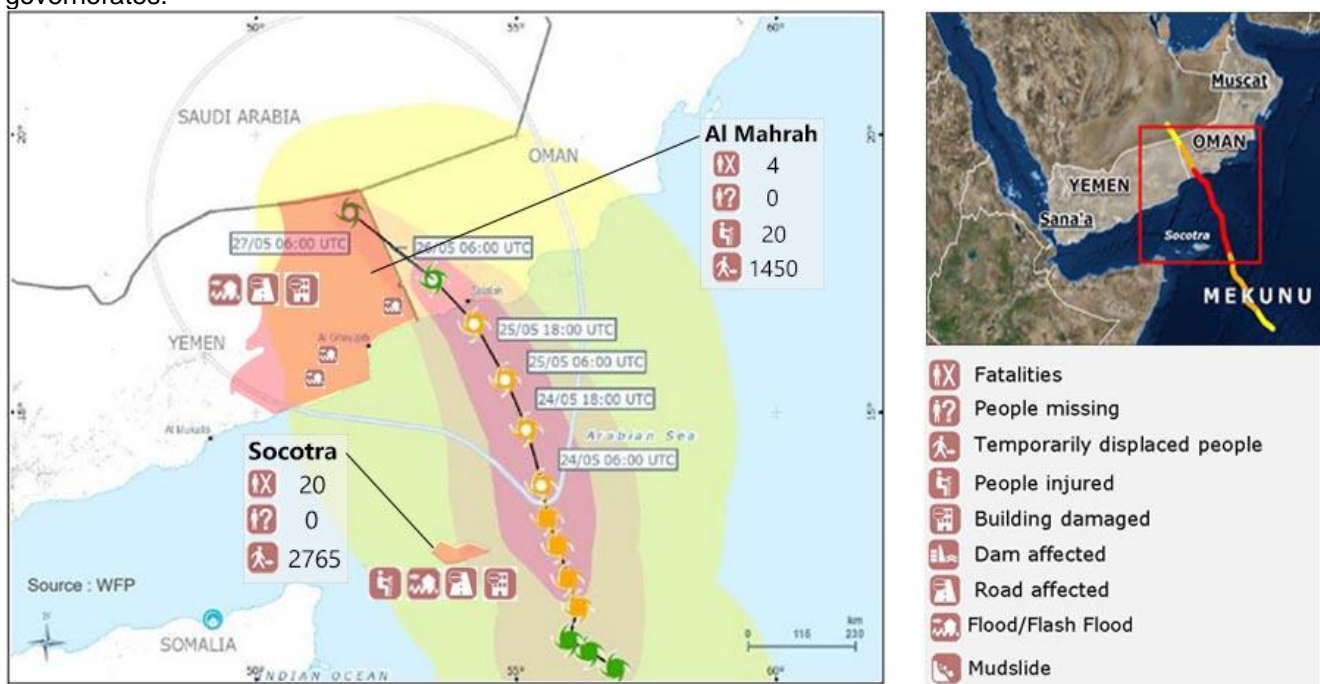
Host National Society(ies): Yemen Red Crescent Society (YRCS)

Number of other partner organisations involved in the operation: Emirates Red Crescent, King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre, UNHAS, WFP, WHO, UNICEF, IOM

This bulletin is for information only and reflects the current situation and details available at this time.

The Situation

Tropical cyclone Mekunu (22 - 27 May) has caused human casualties and loss of property in Socotra and Al Mahrah governorates.



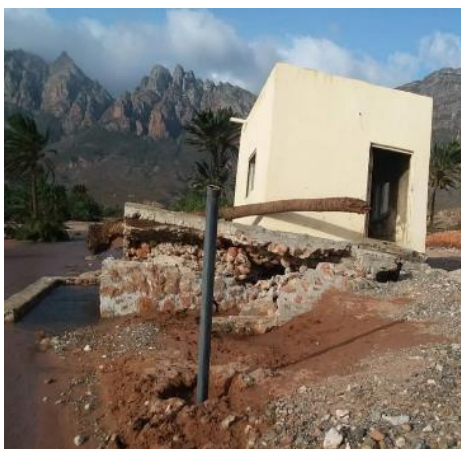
- I. **Socotra:** Now the situation in Socotra is in the phase of Rescue, Search and Response. The weather is calm. On 26 May, the airport and the port of Socotra resumed functioning. Authorities and several humanitarian organizations continue to monitor and respond to the situation.
- II. **Al Mahrah:** Since 29 May, the situation in Al Mahrah stabilized but some areas are still flooded. In Alaubri, for three days by 30 May, around 2000 persons have been isolated by flood water with no access to other areas. Authorities and humanitarian organizations reported this as a gap in emergency response.

Impact of the Disaster

- I. **Socotra:** After Search and Rescue failed to find the missing sailors, and after finding 5 more bodies, the missing people were considered dead. This increased the number of dead casualties in Socotra island to 20. Property and infrastructure on Socotra are badly damaged. Cattle, palms, fishing boats and nets are all around the island. Five cars were destroyed by water, many water wells and water networks in Haribo and Qalansiyah are partly damaged.



Flooded car - Socotra



Destroyed water well - Socotra



Damaged road - Socotra

- II. **Al Mahrah:** In Al Mahrah, 20 persons are reported injured and four dead (two in Hawf and two in Al Ghaydah). The roads in and between Hadhramaut and Al Mahrah governorates are partly damaged or blocked by floods, rocks or quicksand. In Alaibri, 2,000 persons have been isolated by flood for the last three days. Fifty persons are evacuated to a school in Alaibri. Floods damaged or destroyed many buildings and vehicles. A lot of agricultural equipment and warehouses were damaged in Al Gaydah. Large areas remain without electricity because power lines and generators are destroyed.



Ongoing Floods – Al Mahrah



Damaged building – Al Mahrah



Flooded car - Al Mahrah



Flash Flood - Al Mahrah

Needs

- I. **Socotra:** Evacuated and affected people are in need of NFIs, food baskets, shelter, drinking water, medical supplies and first aid kits.
- II. **Al Mahrah:** NFIs, food baskets, shelter, drinking water, medical supplies, first aid kits. Repair of roads and electricity generators is a matter of urgency.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

YRCS: Emergency response continues trying to reach out to the remote communities. HQ had employed more staff in DM and created a 24/7 work plan. Volunteers and staff in HQ and branches work in coordination with local authorities and UN Agencies. Socotra branch is conducting rapid assessment to identify the needs inflicted by Mekunu. HQ is in contact with the branches, providing financial and technical support. The branch staff and volunteers have been mobilized to alert and evacuate people from the coastal areas.

I. **Socotra:** YRCS Socotra branch is conducting a rapid assessment to identify the impact of Mekunu. There are two assessment teams deployed to Socotra Island, expected to produce results in a few days. The local authorities, YRCS-Socotra and the local societies were the first responders during the cyclone Mekunu since the first day.

II. **Al-Mahrah:** YRCS Al Mahrah branch is involved in distribution of relief items, such as water, drinking water and first aid service. At the time of writing this bulletin, one team from the Al Mahrah branch is with the people isolated by flood in Alaibri, providing emergency help (risk awareness and first aid services). They also help in food distribution and evacuation of people affected by floods and support authorities in clearing roads.



YRCS Al Mahrah branch helping clear the international road in Al-Ghaydah

III. YRCS Al Mahrah branch, with the coordination of local authorities, are still clearing roads from quicksand and rocks, doing their best to reopen the roads. Al Mahrah branch helped in food distribution in Hawf and Al-Ghaydah.

Emirates Red Crescent: Emirates Red Crescent (ERC) sent two planes to Socotra carrying more than 40 tonnes of humanitarian assistance, including food provided by the Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan Foundation. The aid was distributed by local authorities and ERC delegates. They also transported 17 persons injured in a car accident to receive medical treatment at UAE hospitals.

King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre: On Sunday, 27 May, first KS Relief plane landed on Socotra with emergency relief supplies, with 4 more planes to follow. They also provided urgent food aid to the city of Hof in the remote Al-Mahra Governorate in southeast Yemen.

United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS): the humanitarian community is planning to dispatch emergency assistance by air from Aden, using a WFP cargo plane. The shipment includes 4,000 hygiene kits, 500 shelter/NFI kits, essential medical supplies, nutrition supplementary items and 30 water tanks. An inter-cluster assessment team landed to Socotra on 29 May, with the support of UNHAS (30/05/2018, UNOCHA).

Gaps

- Local authorities and YRCS branches do not have enough resources to respond to emergency.
- Water, food, shelter, non-food and food items, medical supplies are obviously needed while complete details will be provided in the assessment team report, due in a few days because part of the island is out of access.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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