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23 September – 1 October 2015

Highlights

- Six months into the conflict in Yemen, the number of children under 5 at risk of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) has tripled, with 537,000 children now at risk in 2015, compared to 160,000 children before the conflict. Almost twice as many children under 5, a total of 1,293,500 children, are projected to suffer from moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) this year, compared to 690,000 before the crisis.
- Through 43 mobile teams, 6,057 children were screened for acute malnutrition in the governorates of Hodeidah, Taiz, Aden and Sada'a during the reporting period. 1,729 severely malnourished children were admitted in the feeding programmes in Ibb, Hodeidah, Hajjah, Lahj, Aden and Sa'ada.
- An airstrike that took place on 28 September 2015 at a wedding in Dhubab district in Taiz Governorate, killed 13 children (7 boys and 6 girls), 12 women and 1 man, while 10 more people (no children) were injured.
- UNICEF supported the collection of around 50,000 tons of garbage from temporary dump sites in the centre of Sana'a City and its disposal to the main landfill outside of the City; around 60 tons were collected and removed from Sa'ada City neighbourhoods.
- In preparation for the reopening of schools on 10 October, UNICEF has launched a Back to School (B2S) campaign in seven governorates during the reporting period. UNICEF has printed 260,000 copies of the compensational learning materials for catch-up classes planned to be launched with the reopening of schools.

Six months have passed since the escalation of the conflict in Yemen on 26 March 2015. These months of unremitting violence have left at least 505 children dead and 702 injured. Across the country, nearly 10 million children – 80 per cent of the country's under-18 population – remain in urgent need of humanitarian assistance. More than 1.4 million people have been forced to flee their homes.

The last six months have also seen a growing number of attacks on civilians and vital infrastructure such as schools, hospitals, bridges and roads. Verified reports show that since March 2015, 41 schools and 61 hospitals have been attacked or damaged as a result of the fighting. Furthermore, at least 606 children have been recruited by armed groups and armed forces, according to the UNICEF-led Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM). On 24 September, a suicide attack on the Balili mosque in Sana'a during Eid prayers killed at least 25 people and injured dozens. During the reporting period, MRM teams verified an airstrike that took place on 28 September 2015 at a wedding in Waheja area,

Yemen

Humanitarian Situation Report

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

People in need of urgent humanitarian assistance:

21.1 million people, of which:
9.9 million children and
1.4 million IDPs

505 children killed (MRM)
702 children injured (MRM)

20.4 million people in need of WASH assistance

15.2 million people in need of basic health care

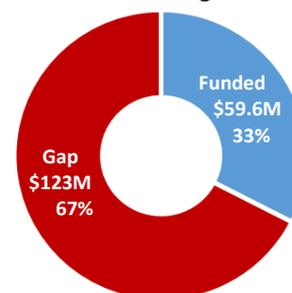
UNICEF 2015 Requirements:

US \$182.6 million

Funds received:

US \$59.6 million (67 per cent gap)

Overall Funding Status



Dhubab District in Taiz Governorate. The 36 verified casualties include 13 children (7 boys and 6 girls) 12 women and 1 man; 10 people (no children) were injured. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, in his [statement on 28 September](#)¹, condemned the airstrikes that struck the wedding party and once again “called on all parties involved in the Yemeni conflict, from inside and outside the country, to immediately cease all military activities and resolve all differences through peaceful negotiations facilitated by his Special Envoy.” [When addressing the UN General Assembly on the same day](#), he condemned the disregard for human life shown by all sides and called for an end to the bombings, and emphasized that “there is no military solution to this conflict”.

The security situation in Yemen remains fluid with heavy fighting continuing on the main fronts of the conflict in Marib and Taiz. Skirmishes are also breaking out in several other parts of the country, including on the border between Abyan and Al Bayda, along the border of Lahj and Taiz, and along the coastal areas in the west of Taiz. The high level of insecurity continues to take a heavy toll on civilians and daily life in many parts of the country and makes access for humanitarian actors to people in need increasingly difficult. Severe disruptions to the electricity supply continue, including but not limited to Sana’a.

Humanitarian leadership and coordination

UNICEF is working in coordination with the Yemen Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and is leading the national WASH, Education and Nutrition Clusters and the Child Protection Sub-Cluster. UNICEF has also established Sub-Clusters for WASH and Education in Aden and Nutrition Sub-Clusters in all field office areas, and continues to be an active member of the Health Cluster. UNICEF with other UN partners is preparing two missions in early October aimed at re-establishing and strengthening coordination of field operations in Adnan and Hodeidah. UNICEF is taking the lead in two of five Humanitarian Hubs² (in Taiz and Sa’ada) to ensure programmes can reach vulnerable children and families in these areas. UNICEF is also diversifying partnerships to include local NGOs with proven capacity to deliver emergency and humanitarian programmes on the ground.

Humanitarian Strategy

In response to the deepening humanitarian crisis in Yemen, UNICEF’s humanitarian strategy is focused on delivering lifesaving services and supplies in line with UNICEF’s Core Commitments to Children in Emergencies. This includes providing an integrated package of health, nutrition and vaccination services to mothers, new-borns and children, preparing for potential outbreaks of childhood diseases, expanding treatment services for children with malnutrition and supporting displaced families through provision of safe water and hygiene facilities. UNICEF and partners are scaling up efforts through all field office areas to reach the most vulnerable children and their families especially internally displaced persons (IDPs). UNICEF continues to gather evidence-based data about geographic risks, effectiveness of early relief efforts and remaining gaps in lifesaving interventions. While relief efforts seek to save children’s lives, UN leaders continue to advocate for a rapid and peaceful solution to the conflict and negotiate for the protection humanitarian supplies and sites, regular and sustained humanitarian pauses and days of tranquillity as part of a broader strategy.

UNICEF continues to work closely with local government providers to improve their capacity to respond to the ongoing crisis. UNICEF’s humanitarian strategy ensures that supplies and services are directed to governorates with high levels of population displacement. On 6 July, 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 health sector in Yemen is collapsing as a result of the ongoing conflict that has left over 15.2 million people in need of access to basic healthcare. The number of children under 5 at risk of SAM has tripled in 2015, with 537,000 children now at risk, compared to 160,000 children before the conflict. Almost twice as many children under 5, a total of 1,293,500 children, are projected to suffer from MAM this year, compared to 690,000 before the crisis.³

¹ Early media reports indicated that as many as 135 people might have been killed at the event, hence the Secretary-General’s reference to that number in his statement. The MRM verified number of casualties is 36.

² In June 2015, the HCT developed a six-month operational plan that prioritizes the establishment of new permanent Area Offices (AOs) also known as ‘hubs’ in Aden, Hodeidah, Sa’ada and Taiz to support the rapid scale-up of relief and recovery operations across Yemen. Establishing the hubs is a key benchmark identified in the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) L3 activation document.

³ The SAM and MAM figures are estimates based on the forecasting exercise conducted by the Nutrition Cluster in July 2015. They will be revised by end of October 2015 when new survey results will be available.

The second round of the joint UNICEF, WHO and GAVI integrated outreach campaign took place in most governorates between 12 and 17 September 2015; the number of children reached have yet to be confirmed. The campaign is aiming to provide health and nutrition services to mothers and children including antenatal and postnatal care, immunization, screening and treatment of childhood infections and malnutrition, deworming and micronutrient supplementation. A number of governorates (including Aden, Laj, Shabwa, Al Dhale, Abyan and Al Bayda) were not able to conduct the campaign activities prior to the Eid holiday; activities in these governorates started after Eid and progress will be reporting on during the next reporting period.

1,910 out-patient therapeutic programmes (OTPs) are currently functioning across the country, representing 42 per cent geographic coverage, while only 700 supplementary feeding programmes (SFPs), representing 17 per cent geographic coverage, are running.

Through 43 mobile teams, 6,057 children (577 male, 531 female, 4,949 unspecified) were screened for acute malnutrition in the routine nutrition services in the governorates of Hodeidah, Taiz, Aden and Sada'a during the reporting period. 1,729 severely malnourished children (294 male, 407 female and 1,028 unspecified) were admitted in the feeding programmes in Ibb, Hodeidah, Hajjah, Lahj, Aden and Sa'ada. 891 mothers of children under 5 received infant and young child feeding counselling in Sadah, Hodeidah, Hajjah, Mahweet and Raymah. 699 children under 5 received vitamin A supplementation and 881 received deworming capsules. 2,217 pregnant and lactating women received iron/folate supplementation. 891 care givers of children under 2 received infant and young child feeding (IYCF) counselling sessions.

Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)

Over 20.4 million people in Yemen face challenges accessing safe water and sanitation due to fuel shortages and ongoing fighting. UNICEF's response in the WASH sector to date has included the provision of temporary latrines for IDPs, water trucking, hygiene kits, and fuel for water supply and solid waste management. During the past two weeks, conditions in Taiz Governorate remained very challenging with the heavy fighting severely limiting access and, consequentially, fuel support from UNICEF still not being able to reach the water pumps of Taiz City; the over 360,000 people previously served by the network have now been without access to safe water since mid-August. In the cities of Sana'a and Sa'ada, UNICEF continued to provide support to local water corporations, reaching a potential 1,090,000 people connected to the network; fuel support to the wastewater treatment plant in Sana'a also continued. UNICEF further continued to support 10 rural water supply systems to pump water in Sa'ada Governorate, reaching 70,070 displaced people and host communities. During the reporting period, UNICEF distributed hygiene kits reaching 9,522 people in Taiz and Ibb Governorates. UNICEF supported the collection of around 60 tons of accumulated garbage from all Sa'ada City neighbourhoods and the disposal to the main landfill in Sa'ada by providing fuel, 60 workers for two weeks and cleaning materials for one month. Similarly, thanks to the UNICEF fuel support to the cleaning fund in Sana'a, 50,000 tons of garbage were transported from the temporary dump site in the city centre to the main landfill outside of Sana'a City.

Education

Across the country, 34 per cent of Yemen's school-aged children have been out of school since the conflict started. 1.8 million children are currently missing out on education. The conflict has left close to 1,000 schools not fit for the resumption of school on 10 October. This includes 398 schools partially damaged, 146 schools totally damaged with an additional 439 schools being used by IDPs as temporary shelters. Due to shortage of funds, lack of fuel and logistics constraints caused by the conflict, the Ministry of Education (MoE) has not been able to print textbooks for over 5.4 million school children, expected to return to schools on 10 October.

In preparation for the staggered reopening of schools on 10 October, UNICEF has launched a Back to School (B2S) campaign in seven governorates during the reporting period. In Aden, Abyan, Al Dhale and Shabwa, UNICEF organized Community Puppet Shows for conflict affected children; the shows included messages on returning to school. So far, over 3,800 children (54 per cent girls) have attended the puppet shows with B2S focus. Similar messages targeting parents and community members were also delivered in Friday sermons and community meetings organized in affected neighbourhoods in the four governorates with 8,900 parents and community members (28 per cent female) having been reached to date. Radio spots with messages encouraging the return to school have also been broadcasted in Hadramout, Alamanah, Sana'a and Marib.

Furthermore, UNICEF printed 260,000 copies of compensational learning materials for catch-up classes planned to be launched with the reopening of schools. Teachers in 16,000 schools will refer to these materials for the first month of school to provide catch up classes and guidance for students in preparation for the new school year.

Child Protection

Children in Yemen are severely impacted by the ongoing conflict with over 7.3 million children in need of protection services according to the Yemen Humanitarian Needs Overview (YHNO). During the reporting period, 1,309 adults (992 women and 317 men) from conflict affected and displaced communities in six districts of Sana'a and Hodeidah Governorates received awareness raising sessions on key child protection issues. In addition, 23,910 children (11,461 girls and 12,449 boys) from conflict affected populations, host communities and IDP families in 22 districts of Sa'ada, Al-Amanah, Sana'a, Hodeidah, Mukalla and Aden Governorates received psychosocial support through sport, arts and recreational activities community-based as well as mobile Child Friendly Spaces. Mine risk education sessions were conducted and reached 50 children (25 girls and 25 boys) and 60 parents and community members (30 women and 30 men) in Aden and Mukalla Governorates. The limited reach for MRE sessions over the reporting period stems from the fact that most government and non-government counterpart offices were closed for two weeks around the Eid holiday.

Communication for Development (C4D)

UNICEF reached 11,395 people through counselling sessions, home visits, community meetings and the dissemination of information, education and communication (IEC) materials during the reporting period. This brings the total number of people reached through interpersonal C4D such as counselling sessions, home visits, focus group discussions and participatory community activities since the escalation of the crisis to 366,528 people, including IDPs and host communities. Over the last few weeks, greater focus has been placed on community outreach promoting the B2S campaign (also see 'Education' above for details on the B2S support activities) in the lead-up to the 10 October planned start of the school year. In addition, C4D messages and activities focused on support to routine and special immunization; safe household water storage and use; management of SAM and MAM; prevention of and response to Dengue fever (particularly in Taiz Governorate); as well as on prevention of recruitment and child trafficking, mine risk awareness and avoiding separation of children from their families. In Al Jawf and Sa'ada 78,952 people were reached with life-saving messages; 92,235 people in 7 districts of Ibb and Taiz; 65,726 in Raymah and Hodeidah; 80,529 in Dhale (Hysah and Sannah), Abyan, Shabwa, Aden and 49,086 in Sana'a, Dhamar, Marib, Amran and Al Bayda.

Challenges faced during the reporting period include limitations in reaching people through radio given that many stations remain closed due to the fuel shortages or because they have been damaged in the fighting. Furthermore, shifts in the security situation have made it necessary to adjust the target areas for the C4D activities in order to reach as many IDPs as possible.

Supply and Logistics

Since the escalation of the crisis in late March, a total of 1,822 metric tons (MT) of emergency supplies have been sent to Yemen. UNICEF has established a logistics hub in Djibouti from where all the offshore supplies are dispatched to Yemen, either by air or sea. The below table summarizes the number of shipments per destination from Djibouti.

Summary shipment (air and sea) per destination from Djibouti	Number of shipments	Weight in metric tons	Volume in cubic metres
Sana'a	5	102	388.5
Aden	7	296.1	917.13
Hodeidah	11	653.7	1,959.53
Mokha	9	736.5	1874
Mukalla	2	34	148
TOTAL	34	1,822.3	5,287.16

Funding

In line with the revised Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), UNICEF's updated [Humanitarian Action for Children \(HAC\)](#) appeal is US\$182.6 million. To date, UNICEF has received US\$59.6 million against the appeal, leaving a 67 per cent funding gap.⁴ Additional funds are urgently needed to help scale up the response to the increased humanitarian needs of crisis-affected children and their families.

Sector	Original HAC Requirements (Jan – Dec 2015)	Revised 2015 HAC Requirements	Funds Received ⁵	Funding Gap	Per cent of funding gap
Nutrition	20,000,000	41,500,000	16,446,829	25,053,171	60%
WASH	7,000,000	58,000,000	18,795,792	39,204,208	68%
Health	10,000,000	34,000,000	14,514,636	19,485,364	57%
Child Protection	12,600,000	12,600,000	6,191,574	6,408,426	51%
Education	10,500,000	10,500,000	691,235	9,808,765	93%
Social Protection	0	26,000,000	1,265,700	24,734,300	95%
Being allocated			1,687,313		
Total (US\$)	60,100,000	182,600,000	59,593,080	123,006,920	67%

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⁴ In addition to the above, approximately USD\$17 million from the development programme for education has been re-programmed to the emergency appeal, out of which an estimated 6 million is expected to be used in 2015. An additional \$2.5 million is being shifted from development to emergency funds.

⁵ The funds reflected above do not include pledges.

SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME RESULTS

2015 PROGRAMME TARGETS AND RESULTS	Cluster		UNICEF	
	2015 Target	Total 2015 Results	2015 Target	Total 2015 Results
HEALTH				
Number of children under 5 vaccinated for measles and polio (OPV3/MCV) ¹			2,730,000	676,467*
Number of pregnant and lactating women provided antenatal, delivery and postnatal care ²			590,000	39,299
WASH				
Number of affected people provided with access to water as per agreed standards ³	4,364,179	5,083,247	3,971,800	3,063,070
Number of affected people with access to basic hygiene kit ⁴	973,785	386,085	650,000	308,977
NUTRITION				
Number of children under 5 with Severe Acute Malnutrition admitted to therapeutic care (OTP/TFC/Mobile) ⁵	214,794	95,190	214,794	95,190
Number of children under 5 given micronutrient interventions ⁶	1,600,000	1,176,269	1,198,059	1,176,269
CHILD PROTECTION				
Cases of grave child rights violations monitored, verified and documented ⁷		658		658
Number of affected children benefiting from psychosocial support ⁸	548,168	261,287	328,900	261,287
Number of people (children and adults) reached with information on protecting themselves from physical injury/death due to mine/UXO/ERW ⁹	500,000	358,254	357,161	358,254
EDUCATION				
Number of affected school-aged children with access to education via Temporary Learning Spaces and school reconstruction ¹⁰	126,748	13,631	77,000	13,631
Number of out-of-school children supported for reintegration into education system (including provision of books and supplies and compensational learning opportunities) ¹¹	904,326	114,398	542,000	114,398
SOCIAL PROTECTION				
Number of affected people assisted with cash transfers (including rental subsidies)	356,917	0	245,000	0
C4D				
Number of affected people reached through integrated C4D efforts			834,000	366,528

*This is the figure for # of children between 6 and 59 months provided at least one Measles dose since January 2015 - for the age group 6 months to 15 years, the total number of children reached is 962,172. More than 4.4 million under 5 children have been vaccinated against polio during the same period.

¹ Original UNICEF target following flash appeal was 2.4 million

² Original UNICEF target following flash appeal was 384,000

³ Original UNICEF 2015 target following flash appeal was 2,953,852; includes access to water via water trucking, piped water systems, and short-term fuel for local water corporations.

⁴ Original UNICEF 2015 target following flash appeal was 55,000 families; includes only hygiene kits that meet agreed standards

⁵ Original UNICEF 2015 target following flash appeal was 128,503; cluster target for this result in revised Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) is 144,000 as time frame was April – December 2015, while the target of 214,794 is for January –December 2015.

⁶ Original UNICEF 2015 target following flash appeal was the same (1,198,059); cluster target for this result in the revised YHRP is 913,652 as time frame was April – December 2015, while the target of 1,600,000 is for January –December 2015; original UNICEF 2015 target following flash appeal was the same (1,198,059).

⁷ This indicator describes the number of children verified, who have been affected by grave violations of child rights through the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) following the escalation of conflict beginning 26 March 2015.

⁸ Original UNICEF 2015 target following flash appeal was 320,000; includes PSS received through mobile and static Child Friendly Spaces.

⁹ Cluster target for this result in revised YHRP is 360,000 as time frame was April – December 2015, while the target of 500,000 is for January –December 2015.

¹⁰ Revised indicator. Original UNICEF target following flash appeal was 66,465

¹¹ Conflict-affected and other vulnerable out-of-school children.