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# Yemen

## Humanitarian Situation Report



### SITUATION IN NUMBERS

#### People in need of urgent humanitarian assistance:

**15.9 million** people in need of humanitarian assistance prior to current crisis, including **7.9 million** children

**150,000** internally displaced persons

**767** people killed, including **77 children** (WHO and UNICEF)

**2,906** people injured, including **44 children** (WHO and UNICEF)

**2 million** children out of school

#### UNICEF 2015 Requirements:

**US\$88.1 million**

## Highlights

- As the conflict reaches its fourth week, fuel, water, and food supplies are rapidly depleting and electricity and communications networks throughout the country are increasingly cut off for long periods of time. This is putting immense pressure on individuals as well as on the humanitarian response.
- UNICEF delivered 90,000 vaccines to Dhamar Governorate in the south as well as essential medications and emergency supplies to Sa'ada health office, intended to benefit 200,000 people for up to two months.
- UNICEF supported the reintegration of 1,358 IDP children into schools in 5 districts in Taiz.
- 2,200 affected people are receiving daily water supplies in Lahj Governorate through water trucking by UNICEF partners.
- During the reporting period, 971 children have received psychosocial support (PSS) through UNICEF-supported Child Friendly Spaces (CFS) in Taiz/Ibb, Amran and Al Bayda
- UNICEF continues to support MRE messaging including through TV and radio broadcasts and social media.

## Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

As the conflict reaches its fourth week fuel, water, and food supplies are rapidly depleting and electricity and communications networks throughout the country are increasingly cut off for long periods of time. This is putting immense pressure on individuals as well as on the humanitarian response. The situation in Sa'ada is deteriorating rapidly, with increasing reports of civilian areas being targeted, including 11 fuel stations, 3 large food stores, markets and 2 schools. Twenty-three civilians were killed including 8 children according to unverified reports. Most health facilities have been closed in Sa'ada. Those still functioning are unable to receive large numbers of casualties and have been forced to turn some injured people away. Security concerns and/or lack of fuel and transport have prevented some hospital staff and caretakers from coming to work. In Taiz, Hodeidah, Sana'a and surrounding governorates, electricity has been largely unavailable for a period of six days, with some areas suffering blackouts for over 120 continuous hours. Maintenance teams have faced problems accessing power lines in Marib due to the conflict, while several engineers were reportedly killed by snipers as they attempted to fix the lines in towns in the south. A temporary truce of 24 hours has been agreed in Marib to allow access and safety for maintenance engineers, as well as to allow much needed humanitarian supplies to move between governorates.

Fuel is in very short supply, and if sufficient quantities are not made available soon, cold chain and water service delivery are at risk of collapse, with disastrous results. Lack of fuel has forced many hospitals to cut

back services due, including in Abyan and Al Dhale where life-saving operations have been put on hold. Abyan has been without water, electricity or fuel for the past three weeks, and towns such as Hodeidah and Hajjah which currently have access to water, risk water supply shortages as a result of lack of diesel. Telecommunication networks have been damaged or disconnected in parts of the country, limiting mobile phone, landline or internet access. Wheat and flour are in short supply in Ibb, Taiz and al Dhale. In Aden, traders have provided bakeries with flour so bread is now available, although limited. Education authorities extended the closure of more than 3,750 schools across the country, affecting an estimated 2 million children. At least 48 schools (mostly in the South) have been damaged and an additional 49 are reportedly occupied either by armed groups (17) or are being used as shelters by IDPs, although the actual number is likely to be much higher. The movement of IDPs remains fluid and numbers are difficult to verify. A reported 4,456 families were displaced in the North while 6,434 families were displaced in Serwah District in Marib. The number of IDP families has increased by 775 in Hodeidah, by 463 in Taiz, and by 2,250 in Abyan.

## Humanitarian leadership and coordination

UNICEF is working as part of the Yemen HCT which has temporarily relocated to Amman following the crisis. Inside Yemen, Area HCTs (AHCT) in Sana'a/Amran, Hodeidah/Harad and Sa'ada have all been activated, with exception of Aden due to the volatile situation. UNICEF Yemen has established a hub in Amman supporting the emergency response in-country and ensuring staff safety. Cluster leadership is also ensured from the Amman hub with dedicated in-country focal points. Meanwhile the UNICEF team operating in Yemen have been involved in conducting assessments and responding to priority needs wherever security conditions permit.

## Humanitarian Strategy

UNICEF's humanitarian response to the recent crisis is being carried out under the framework of the inter-agency Flash Appeal (April 2015), responding to urgent humanitarian needs as identified through the 2015 contingency plan finalized in March, and an assessment of operational capacity to deliver against assessed and evolving needs. The Flash Appeal covers all vulnerable groups, including internally displaced persons (IDPs), host communities, migrants, refugees and other affected people and prioritizes life-saving and protection programmes.

## Summary Analysis of Programme response

### Health and Nutrition

In Abyan, UNICEF is supporting a mobile clinic to provide integrated services for IDPs. The first clinic carried out assessments of 129 children under 5, and detected 4 cases of severe acute malnutrition (SAM), 20 cases moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and many cases of diarrhea. UNICEF is supporting 2 mobile clinics in Al-Baidha, with plans of expanding to Amran and Marib. UNICEF is supporting partners to provide emergency health and nutrition services to 3,614 displaced families in 6 districts of Hajjah. UNICEF provided diesel to power generators in the main vaccine cold room in Raymah, delivered 90,000 vaccines to Dhamar Governorate in the south (including for measles/MR, OVR, Polio, Rota, Penta, pneumococcus and BCG), and delivered essential medications and emergency supplies to Sa'ada health office, to benefit 200,000 people for up to two months. The supplies contain enough medication and equipment for 500 normal deliveries by community midwives. UNICEF supported the transport of plumpy nut to Hajjah Health Office to treat malnutrition, and has provided 5 large and 2 small medical kits to Harad hospital along with emergency drugs and IV fluids. 40 community health volunteers were trained in Al Baydah Governorate, while first aid training is ongoing in Shabwa Governorate.

### Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)

Based on results of a MIRA assessment on the situation of WASH in five districts of Hajjah, priority interventions for affected IDPs include distribution of chlorine tablets, ceramic water filters, hygiene kits, water storage tanks, as well as water trucking and continued support to the water supply schemes. Meanwhile, 280 IDP families in Harad have received hygiene kits, five new water points have been constructed and connected to the Al-Qufi and Al-Madab water scheme. A further 480 IDP families in Hayran District are due to receive hygiene kits and 100 water filters, but due to challenges in finding fuel, UNICEF's partner is facing difficulties in transporting the supplies. Hygiene kits have also been provided by UNICEF for Saddakah Hospital in Aden, while hygiene kits and other non-food supplies for IDPs in Aden are being

supported. 2,200 affected people are receiving daily water supplies in Lahj Governorate with trucking by UNICEF partners. Additionally, 800 people in two villages (Al Wadi and Sufyan) have their minimum need for water met through UNICEF's support to the operation of water pumps. UNICEF supported Sana'a's local water authority with 25 liquid chlorine containers of 45kg capacity and 500,000 chlorine tablets, which is enough to chlorinate water for the whole of Sana'a City's population. Following the results of the water authority (GARWAP) assessment, UNICEF will provide three water tanks to Amran public hospital, which provides health services for around 4,000 patients per month.

## Education

1,358 IDP children (735 boys and 623 girls) have been reintegrated into schools in 5 districts in Taiz after having been displaced from Taiz, Aden, Lahj, Sana'a, Hodeidah and Ibb. Schools in Sa'ada are now scheduled to take their exams in mid-May, which means that they will only be assessed on part of the curriculum, as completed to date.

## Child Protection

971 children have received psychosocial support (PSS) through Child Friendly Spaces (CFS) in Taiz/Ibb, Amran and Al Bayda between 14 and 18 April. The voluntary Hadramout Child Protection initiative team continues to raise awareness on mine risk education (MRE) and PSS. There is an ongoing discussion with authorities in the north to start PSS and MRE in areas affected by conflict as well as areas where there are high reports of IDPs. Some CFSs are struggling to provide PSS amidst the clashes - some have closed as families have moved, while in other areas, new CFSs have been established in schools where IDPs are sheltering.

## Communication for Development (C4D)

TV and radio continue to broadcast MRE messages throughout the country, whenever possible. Radio Aden, Shabwa and Abyan had to halt broadcasts on 18 April due to clashes. Ten of UNICEF's partners in Aden, Abyan, Dhale and Shabwa have raised awareness about MRE using a UNICEF MRE video on social media. 35 community volunteers are going door to door and conducting group sessions on MRE, WASH and child protection in Dhale, Abyan and Lahj. The group of volunteers, which includes female religious influencers, have reached over 931 people to date.

## Supply and Logistics

Supplies of essential health, water and sanitation equipment arrived in Yemen on 10 April, with distribution starting the following day to Amran, Ibb, Sa'ada, Al Jawf, Hajjah, Mahweet, Raymah Hodeidah and Taiz. The second shipment arrived in Sanaa on 14 April, but could not be immediately moved due to continued airstrikes. Supplies for Aden, Al Dhale, Lahj and Al Bayda are in country but there are challenges in transporting these to Aden. UNICEF is looking at all possible options to get the supplies to the south, including exploring sea routes.

## Funding

On 17 April, the UN launched a Flash Appeal for Yemen, totalling nearly \$274 million for three months, out of which UNICEF is appealing for US\$27.98 million. This brings UNICEF's total revised humanitarian appeal for 2015 to US\$88.1 million.

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