

HUMANITARIAN UPDATE

Covering 16 - 23 January 2019 | Issue 2

KEY ISSUES:

- WFP is scaling up to reach 12 million people with life-saving food rations and commodity vouchers in January; 10 million severely food insecure people will receive in-kind food rations and 2 million will receive commodity vouchers.
- Humanitarian partners continue to provide rapid response assistance to people displaced by conflict in Al Hudaydah Governorate, reaching 105,846 displaced families with rapid response assistance as of 16 January.
- On 25 January, a fire at the Red Sea Mills in Al Hudaydah City damaged wheat stored in two silos. On 26 January, a collective centre for IDPs was shelled in Haradh District, Hajjah Governorate, killing 8 people and wounding 30 others.
- OCHA has launched a new online platform to help humanitarian partners submit deconfliction notifications to the Evacuation and Humanitarian Operations Committee in Riyadh.
- Five deminers were killed in an accident on 20 January. In 2018, Emergency Mine Action released around 6.3 million square metres of land through survey and clearance activities.

MONTHLY FOOD ASSISTANCE TARGET RAISED TO 12 MILLION PEOPLE

The UN World Food Programme (WFP) is in the process of scaling up to reach 12 million people with food assistance each month across Yemen. The scale up plan includes 8.2 million people who will receive in-kind food assistance, 2.8 million who will receive commodity vouchers and eventually a further one million people to will benefit from receiving cash-based transfers.

Food assistance has played a critical role in preventing Yemen slipping into famine. The current scale up is in response to increased needs caused by the ongoing conflict and exacerbated an economic decline that has resulted in food prices 66-162 percent higher than before the crisis. About 20.1 million people are food insecure, an astonishing two-thirds of the population and an increase of 13 per cent from 2018.

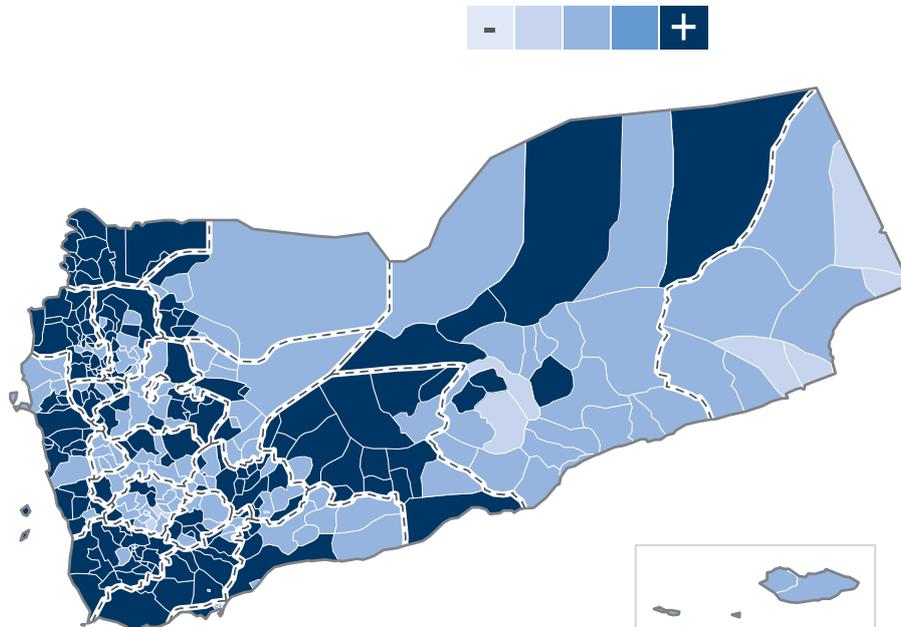


A mother feeding her children in an IDP camp in Lahj Governorate. Photo: Giles Clarke/OCHA

Nearly 10 million people are suffering from extreme hunger and close to 240,000 people are experiencing catastrophic food consumption gaps. An estimated 7.4 million people require services to treat or prevent malnutrition, including 3.2 million people who require treatment for acute malnutrition - 2 million children under 5 and more than one million pregnant and breastfeeding women.

the conflict in March 2015. Overall, 230 out Yemen's 333 districts are at risk of famine. An estimated 18.5 million people live in these districts, including 7.1 million who need life-saving food and livelihoods assistance, 6.6 million who need WASH support and nearly 8 million who need healthcare. With two-thirds of the population food insecure, Yemen is the world's largest food security crisis.

Currently, the people of Yemen are more vulnerable and hungrier than at any time since the escalation of



The severity of food security in various governorates. Source: IPC

HUMANITARIAN PARTNERS CONTINUE TO PROVIDE RAPID RESPONSE ASSISTANCE TO IDPS IN AL HUDAYDAH

Humanitarian partners continue to provide assistance across Al Hudaydah Hub area amid expectations that hundreds of thousands of displaced people may return to the governorate, if the situation continues to stabilize.

As of 16 January 2019, Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) partners in Al Hudaydah Hub identified 110,294 displaced families mostly, from Al Hudaydah Governorate, and hosted in various districts in the four governorates in the hub (Al Hudaydah, Hajjah, Raymah and Mahwit). Of these families, 105,846 were provided with RRM assistance. These include 38,269 families who received multi-purpose cash transfers; 26,526 families who received non-food item (NFI) packages, and 12,385 families who received emergency shelter kits (ESKs) in Al Hudaydah and Hajjah governorates.

Working with an implementing partner, WFP began a food distribution in At Tuhayat District, a district which had previously been unreachable. As of 16 January, 506,315 metric tons of food supplies had been distributed to 2,671 families.

On 25 January WFP suffered a setback when a fire at the Red Sea Mills in Al Hudaydah City damaged wheat in two silos. WFP has 51,000 metric tons of wheat stored at these mills, a quarter of its in-country wheat stock and enough to feed 3.7 million people for a month. WFP has been unable to access the mills since September 2018 because of fighting.

In Hajjah Governorate, escalating hostilities and civilian casualties continue to be reported particularly in Hayran and Mustaba districts as well as near Haradh Town. In the first three weeks of January at least 300 families were displaced to Abs District and to Haradh town, where living conditions are dire. Partners are providing assistance across the governorate.

Over the last two months, the civilian toll in Hajjah has risen significantly. On 26 January, a collective centre for IDPs was shelled in Haradh District, killing 8 people and wounding 30 others. The collective centre is located near an area where 6 children and 2 women were killed in another incident on 11 January. Hospitals and other public service providers in Haradh, the most affected district, have closed due to fighting.

Despite access and security challenges, 55 humanitarian partners were active in all the 31 districts of Hajjah Governorate as of November 2018; 9 UN, 17 international and 29 national NGOs; including implementing and programme partners. During December 2018, at least 191,800 families (over 1,131,400 individuals) received emergency food and livelihood assistance.

ONLINE DECONFLICTION PLATFORM LAUNCHED

On 15 January, OCHA launched a new online platform to assist humanitarian partners in creating and submitting deconfliction notifications to the Saudi-led Coalition (SLC) via the Evacuation and Humanitarian Operations Committee (EHOC). Following several months of testing, the online platform was created in response to growing demand from humanitarian actors in Yemen to deconflict humanitarian activities. The deconfliction mechanism notifies the SLC of

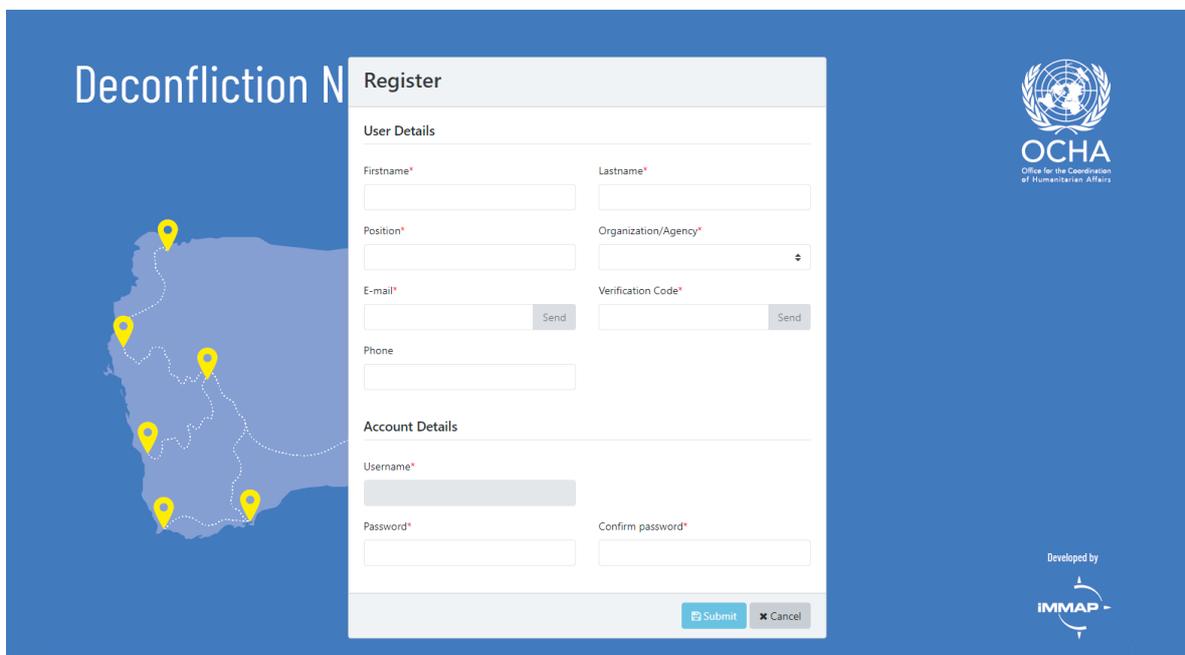
humanitarian movements and static locations in Yemen. The deconfliction mechanism was established in April 2015 at the request of the Humanitarian Country Team and aims to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian premises, personnel, equipment and activities in areas of active military operations including airstrikes and shelling.

Developed in partnership with iMMAP and managed by an OCHA deconfliction liaison team (DLT) based in Sana'a and Riyadh, the new platform provides partners with online mapping and data entry tools to easily create notifications and avoid misidentification and targeting of humanitarian activities, personnel and assets.

Partners were quick to adopt the platform. As of 28 January, partners have submitted more than 600 notifications via the new platform, and the total number of notifications on the platform continues

to increase. This indicates a growing trend among humanitarian partners who want to deconflict their operations. In 2017, for instance, the DLT processed roughly 3,600 notifications and in 2018, the number increased to over 11,300 or an average of 31 notifications each calendar day.

OCHA will continue to work closely with iMMAP and humanitarian operational partners to enhance the system, with regular updates planned in coming weeks to introduce new features that support partners' deconfliction requirements.



The screen-shot of the deconfliction platform. Source: OCHA.

EMERGENCY MINE ACTION RELEASES 6.3 MILLION SQUARE METRES OF LAND IN 2018

Emergency Mine Action has a critical role in facilitating humanitarian operations as fighting increases the risks of explosive hazards. Its programmes support technical, desk and non-technical surveys of landmines and explosive remnants of war (ERW) in priority locations to enable the movement of people and goods, as well as allowing access to livelihoods and basic services.

In 2018, Emergency Mine Action released around 6.3 million square metres of land through survey and clearance activities and removed 145,420 ERWs and landmines through explosive ordnance disposal in 57 districts across 15 governorates. Around 1,175,241 people directly benefitted from demining activities.



A deminer removing ERWs in Aden Governorate. Photo: Matteo Minasi / UNOCHA

Most of the ERW removed were from airstrikes and shelling.

Landmines and ERWs continue to pose a serious risk to millions of people in 19 governorates especially in areas of active conflict. Mine Action partners were particularly active in districts with high-intensity military operations, such as in Al Hudaydah, Taizz, Hajjah, Sa'ada and Sana'a governorates. The threat posed by landmines and ERWs is increasing in so-called stabilized locations, where land becomes accessible due to a decrease in or an end to hostilities, in areas such as: Amanat Al-Asimah, Dhamar, Aden, Ibb and Hadramaut governorates.

In the context of ongoing hostilities, Mine Action partners continue to implement spot task clearance, including survey activities, focusing on high risk and high impact locations and on critical infrastructure. Key mine action partners are UNDP and the Yemen Executive Mine Action Center. New partners include the Danish Demining Group and the King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre project to demine Yemen (MASAM).

On 20 January, MASAM lost five international demining experts in an accidental explosion in Marib Governorate. The incident occurred when a vehicle carrying mines and other devices exploded while en route to a remote location where the devices were to be destroyed.

SA'ADA HUB

During the reporting period, armed clashes continued in various districts in both Sa'ada and Al Jawf governorates. Casualties were reported. Despite the continuing violence, humanitarian partners continue to ramp up the delivery of assistance.

The INGO ACTED started the distribution of winterizations kits for 1,500 families in Al Jawf and 2,500 in Sa'ada. UNFPA distributed Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) kits to 646 IDP families in Sa'ada district through an implementing partner. UNFPA reported that it has received 7,000 Immediate Response Rations from WFP and 4,000 hygiene kits from UNICEF for RRM supplies in Sa'ada Governorate.

WFP reported that a general food distribution is ongoing in Sa'ada and Al Jawf governorates, to date, the distribution has reached 99,594 families (597,564 individuals) in Sa'ada and 17,508 families (105,048 individuals) in Al Jawf.

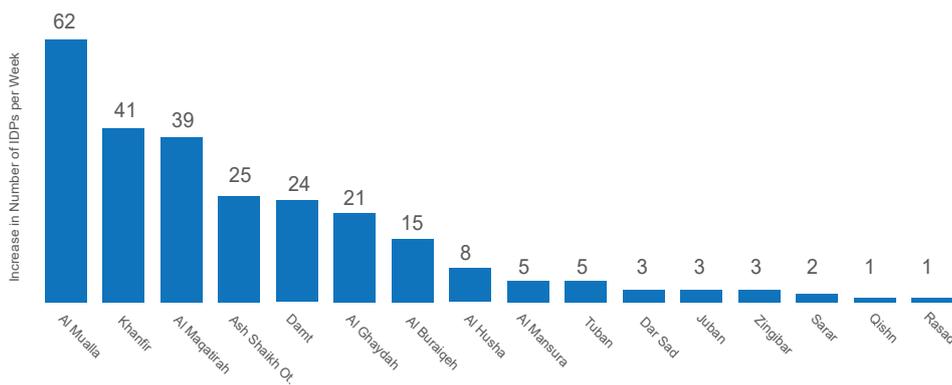
WHO delivered 18 metric tons of assorted medical supplies to Al Jamhuri Hospital in Sa'adah City and a similar quantity to Bart Al Anan Hospital in Al Jawf Governorate. Three basic medicine kits were delivered to Kitaf Rural Hospital in Kitaf District and Al Ameri Health Centre in Sahar District.

ADEN HUB

On 16 January, humanitarian organizations conducted a joint multi-sectoral assessment in Al Tuhaytah District, Al Hudaydah Governorate, covering the four coastal areas of Al Dhukhir, Al Saq, Al Baq'a and Al Haima. Findings will be shared shortly.

As of 16 January, 36,560 displaced families are staying in areas covered by the Aden hub. Most internally displaced people are arriving from Al Hudaydah Governorate, with a notable increase in arrivals from Taizz and Maqbona where fighting has escalated.

IDPs registered in Aden hub area 16-23 January.



Source: OCHA

IBB HUB

Armed clashes were reported in the north and east of Taizz City, and in Maqbanah District, causing an unknown number of civilian casualties. The main Aden-Al Dhale'e-Sana'a road remains closed to the public, requiring a long detour via Ibb city. Despite the security situation, RRM partners reached over 300 families with assistance. WHO provided medical supplies to the Ibb blood bank, enough to cover operational needs for three months, and sent 5 metric tons of medical supplies from Sana'a to Ibb. This was the first medical shipment in 15 months to cross conflict lines.

UNHCR with the Education Sub-Cluster provided rental subsidies to seven displaced families from Al Hudaydah enabling them to move out of Al Hurryah School in Ibb City so the school could be rehabilitated. Around 60 schools in Taizz and 8 in Ibb are providing shelter for displaced families.

On 22 January, as part of the re-alignment of the Ibb and Aden hubs, OCHA led an inter-agency mission to Damt District. This was the first such mission from Ibb to Al Dhale' Governorate and laid the ground work for the re-alignment of the hubs.

SANA'A HUB

On 19 January, several weeks after the last airstrike in the city, the SLC reportedly launched more than 20 overnight airstrikes on Sana'a City. A coalition spokesman said that the airstrikes targeted drone capabilities. The airstrikes reportedly caused two civilian deaths, but there was no significant impact on ongoing humanitarian operations.

During the reporting period, the authorities in Sana'a asked humanitarian partners to assist about 330 families that were recently displaced from Damt District in Dhamar Governorate to Amanat Al Asimah, and an unknown number of people displaced by conflict in Al Bayda Governorate to Sana'a City.

According to the Sana'a authorities, a total of 81,209 families who fled from different conflict-affected governorates are currently staying in Amanat Al Asimah. Most are in Bani Al Harath District (22,464 families) and As Sabain District (16,218 families).

UNVIM UPDATE

Al Hudaydah and As Saleef seaports are open and fully operational. Between 16 and 22 January; 5 vessels discharged 110,553 metric tons (MT) of cargo at Al Hudaydah port. In recent months, the volume discharged at Al Hudaydah and Saleef ports, the gateway for most food imports, dropped, and now is 20 per cent less than 2015 when conflict escalated across Yemen.



Al Hudaydah 110,553

Saleef 0

Source: UNVIM

All international sea and land ports within the Aden and Mukalla hubs are functioning. Both UNHAS flights and VOS Apollo voyages are on schedule.

FUNDING OF THE 2018 YHRP (AS OF 20 JANUARY 2019)

FUNDING STATUS

2.96 BN
REQUIREMENTS
(USD)

2.57 BN
FUNDED
(USD)

0.39 BN
STILL NEEDED
(USD)



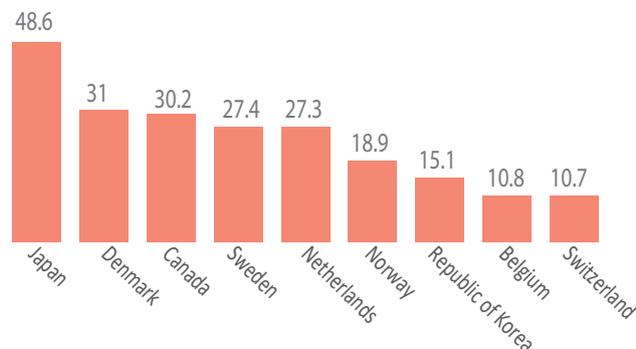
(as of 20 January 2019)

DONORS CONTRIBUTING MORE THAN \$50M



DONORS CONTRIBUTING MORE THAN \$10M

Contributions (in US\$ million)



DONORS CONTRIBUTING LESS THAN \$10M

AUSTRALIA	CZECH REPUBLIC	SLOVAKIA
FRANCE	IRELAND	SPAIN
LUXEMBOURG	PEACE BUILDING FUND	QATAR
ICELAND	FINLAND	LITHUANIA
PORTUGAL	KUWAIT FUND	MEXICO
KAZAKHASTAN	RUSSIAN FEDERATION	ESTONIA
MALTA	CYPRUS	PHILIPPINES
ANDORRA	MONTENEGRO	AUSTRIA
EDUCATION ABOVE ALL FOUNDATION		ITALY

Source: FTS

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