



Yemen Protection Cluster

## Daily Situation Update, No. 16 Covering the period of 15 – 18 April 2015

### Key Protection Points in Summary

- The electricity and fuel crisis in Yemen remains a challenge and impedes the ability of humanitarian organizations to monitor and report on the humanitarian situation (gaps and needs) in the affected areas. Following recent attacks on power stations in Mareb and Sa'ada, the majority of governorates have been without any power for the last two days
- Intensive airstrikes hit the military camps in Amant Al-Asimah for a second day resulting in huge explosions, which caused fear and horror amongst civilians, in particular children and women. Moreover, some houses and shops in nearby areas were partially damaged and windows shattered.
- During the period 12-15 April airstrikes and armed confrontations continued, resulting in an increase in the number of civilian casualties. At least 41 civilians were killed and 104 injured across Aden, Al-Dhalee, Amran, Sa'ada and Sana'a. This brings the total number of civilians killed since the start of the coalition led war on Yemen to 405 including 26 women and 86 children and the total number of civilians injured to 785, including 34 women and 62 children.

### Displacement Statistics

#### Aden governorate

Casualty figures as reported by **Yemen Women's Union** following clashes on 15 April indicate that 4 persons were killed and 51 injured. Figures from the beginning of clashes from 28 March 2015 to 15 April stood at 205 killed and 1,893 injured, excluding cases known to MSF and those that did not reach medical facilities.

According to a **OHCHR** report, 6 civilians were killed, including women and children, during ongoing clashes between popular committee forces affiliated to Ansar Allah and local armed groups. In a separate incident 16 volunteers who were engaging in the distribution of aid were arbitrarily arrested by members of Popular Committees under allegations of cooperating with terrorists such as the Islamic State.

#### Ibb governorate

In Ibb, **OHCHR** continues to verify the number of civilians killed as a result of a targeted airstrike on a sports Stadium on 13 April.

#### Sada'a governorate

According to a report by the **Yemen Women's Union** dated Friday, 17 April 2015, there is lack of food products, in particular wheat, in Sa'ada. In addition, a lack of petroleum is resulting in very limited movement and transport, which has almost paralyzed the governorate. In addition, it is reported that there is lack in children's materials such as milk and diapers. Few pharmacies remain open and all bakeries are closed. Gas

and water trucks are not available mainly because of lack of a lack of fuel. Thousands of families have fled from Sada'a city to villages inside and outside governorate such as Amran, Hajjah and Al-Hodiedah. On 18 April 2015 at 13h00, five raids hit two warehouses on Bin Salman Street. One of the warehouses contained electrical supplies belonging to the owner while part of it was used by Oxfam to store materials for their projects in Sada'a. One person died and one civilian were wounded by shrapnel.

**OHCHR** reported that that recent airstrikes caused the death of at least at least 32 civilians and injured 74. The airstrikes hit a gas station, where a large crowd had been queuing for fuel. Other attacks targeted public, which brings the total number of public buildings targeted since 26 March to a total of 60.

**UNHCR** reported that several fuel stations were targeted in Sa'ada during the intensive airstrikes on 16 April. While many families fled to other locations within the governorate or outside the governorate, some families were stuck in Sa'ada City and the districts of Al-Safara, Sahar and Majz due to shortage of petrol and the high prices being charged for transport. There is currently no public transportation available and the cost of hiring a vehicle is now YER 150,000 (approximately \$ 700). Petrol, where available, is being sold at YER 30,000 per liter (approximately \$ 140). In addition to the lack of electricity and water and increasing food surgical operations at Al Salam hospital where this service was available in the whole of Sa'ada, have ceased owing to the displacement of personnel.

#### **Amant Al-Asimah, Sana'a Governorate**

**UNHCR** flagged that more attention is needed to the situation of IDPs in Amant Al-Asimah, which is being overshadowed owing to the catastrophic situation and large-scale displacement in other governorates. In this context there is also a need for a more accurate estimate of the scale of displacement in Amant Al-Asimah so that the real level of need can be gauged. The IDP Community Center, which is run by UNHCR's partner, the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) is continuing to operate despite the current situation to the extent possible. At the same time members of Community-Based Protection Networks (CBPNs) are continuing to provide information to the best of their ability and have consistently identified that families have very limited ability to move outside Sana'a and are also not able to rent houses in safer locations because of a lack of financial means. These families move temporarily to the houses of relatives and friends during airstrikes seeking safety and then return to their homes once the situation calms.

#### **Taiz**

Hundreds of families have fled to safer areas such as villages surrounding Taiz. Due to the electricity problem in the country, access to information remains extremely limited.

#### **Protection Cluster Contacts**

**Charlotte Ridung | National Protection Cluster Coordinator**

**E-mail: [ridung@unhcr.org](mailto:ridung@unhcr.org)**

**Mobile: +962 798406456 (Jordan)**

**Skype: [charlotte.ridung66](https://www.skype.com/user/charlotte.ridung66)**

**Safa Algahoum | Protection Associate**

**E-mail: [algahoum@unhcr.org](mailto:algahoum@unhcr.org)**

**Mobile: +967 71 222 5041 (Yemen)**

**Skype: [safaalgahoum](https://www.skype.com/user/safaalgahoum)**