

HUMANITARIAN UPDATE

Covering 24 January – 19 February 2019 | Issue 3

KEY ISSUES:

- The Yemen Humanitarian Needs Overview indicates 24 million Yemenis will need some form of humanitarian assistance in 2019.
- Scale-up of the humanitarian operation in 2018 saved millions of lives.
- 2019 Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan released - humanitarian partners aim to assist over 21.4 million people this year.
- Weekly trend of suspected cholera cases remains stable at the country level.

THE HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN YEMEN REMAINS THE WORST IN THE WORLD

The recently released 2019 Yemen Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) indicates that four years into the crisis, conflict and severe economic decline are driving the country to the brink of famine and exacerbating needs in all sectors. Eighty per cent of the population, 24 million people, will need some form of humanitarian or protection assistance in 2019, including 14.3 million people in acute need. Two-thirds of all districts across the country are pre-famine

and one-third face a convergence of multiple acute vulnerabilities.

Overall, the number of people in acute need has increased by a staggering 27 per cent. Millions of Yemenis are now hungrier, sicker and more vulnerable than a year ago and greater numbers rely on humanitarian assistance, which is a lifeline for vast swathes of the population.

CLUSTERS/SECTOR	2018 HNO PEOPLE IN NEED			2019 HNO PEOPLE IN NEED		
	ACUTE PIN	MODERATE PIN	TOTAL PIN	ACUTE PIN vs HNO 2018	MODERATE PIN vs HNO 2018	TOTAL PIN vs HNO 2018
Food Security & Agriculture	8.4M	9.4M	17.8M	9.9M ↑18%	10.2M ↑9%	20.1M ↑13%
WASH	11.6M	4.4M	16M	12.6M ↑9%	5.2M ↑18%	17.8M ↑11%
Health	9.4M	7M	16.4M	14M ↑49%	5.7M ↓-19%	19.7M ↑20%
Nutrition	4.5M	2.5M	7M	4.4M ↓-2%	3M ↑20%	7.4M ↑6%
Shelter/NFIs/CCCM	2.6M	2.8M	5.4M	4.5M ↑73%	2.2M ↓-21%	6.7M ↑24%
Protection	6.5M	6.4M	12.9M	8.2M ↑26%	6.2M ↓-3%	14.4M ↑12%
Education	2.8M	1.3M	4.1M	3.7M ↑32%	1M ↓-23%	4.7M ↑15%
Early Recovery	8M	-	8M	NA	NA	=0%
Refugees & Migrants Multi-sector	0.02M	0.15M	0.17M	0.17M ↑Huge increase	NA	0.17M =0%
TOTAL	11.3M	10.9M	22.2M	14.3M ↑26%	9.8M ↓-10%	24.1M ↑9%

Source: Yemen HNO 2018 and HNO 2019

A comparison with data from the 2018 HNO indicates that across all sectors, humanitarian needs have both increased and deepened. The caseload of people in acute need has significantly increased across all cluster areas with the highest increases in education (up by 32 per cent); health (up by 49 per cent); shelter and non-food items (NFIs – up by 73 per cent). The Nutrition Cluster represents the only exception where the caseload of people in acute need decreased by 2 per cent.

data collection and enhance evidence-based needs analysis to inform the Yemen response. Consequently, in addition to cluster-specific assessments such as Famine Risk Monitoring (FRM), a WASH household assessment, Health Resources Availability Monitoring System (HeRAMS) and SMART surveys, and a nationwide Multi-Cluster Location Assessment (MCLA) were conducted to better understand the scale and scope of humanitarian needs.

The 2019 HNO analysis is informed by needs analysis conducted at both the cluster and inter-cluster level. In 2018, significant efforts were made to expand primary

As more granular information is required to better understand the specific needs of vulnerable groups, more frequent and enhanced needs assessments are planned for 2019.

SCALE UP OF YEMEN HUMANITARIAN OPERATION TO MEET INCREASED NEEDS

During 2018, the humanitarian operation in Yemen underwent a step-change in order to meet increasing needs, saving millions of lives and averting further catastrophe. Key milestones during the year included a massive, synchronized and rapid scale-up of all forms of humanitarian aid in 45 of the 107 districts out of the pre-famine category. WFP managed one of the largest, fastest and most difficult scale-ups, increasing the number of people provided with general food assistance from 3 million to a record 10.2 million people, including one million provided with voucher support and 800,000 people in Al Hudaydah who

received Immediate Response Rations and monthly food baskets. In 2019, WFP's operation is being scaled up to meet the needs of 12 million food-insecure people per month.

Despite a difficult operating environment throughout the year, 254 international and national partners actively coordinated to assist people with the most acute needs in priority districts across Yemen's 22 governorates. Together they assisted on average 7.9 million people per month with some form of humanitarian assistance.

People Reached (monthly average Jan to Dec 2018)

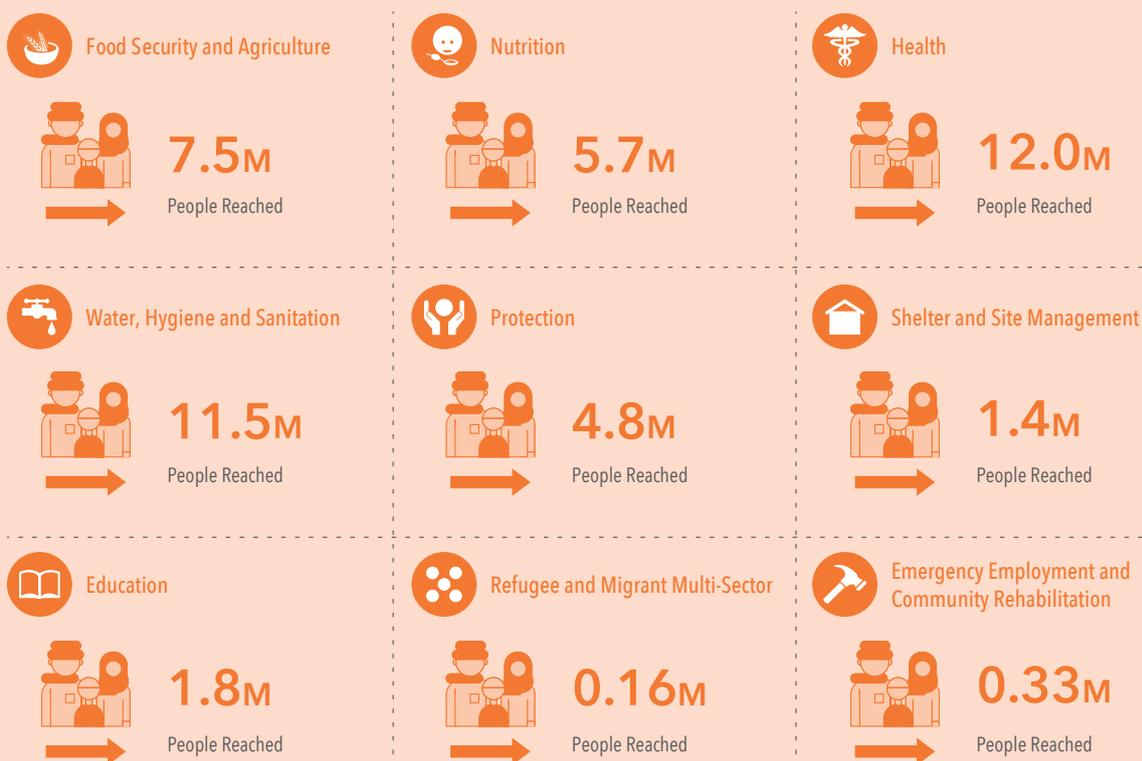


In the WASH cluster, 67 partners scaled up their operation across 22 governorates to reach an average of 11.5 million people with assistance per month, exceeding their target of 11.1 million people per month; this included support for water and sanitation systems which reached 6 million and 3.8 million respectively. The Nutrition Cluster also overreached its 5.6 million target, providing services to 5.7 million people. Health partners reached 98 per cent of the cluster target, including 12 million medical consultations, treating 36,491 trauma patients, providing the Penta vaccine to over half a million children and antenatal care to 1 million women. Protection services reached 4.8 million people, 97 per

cent of the target of 5 million people despite funding gaps and operational constraints. This included providing 81,000 people with life-saving services such as psychosocial support and legal assistance, and 2 million children and community members with information about how to protect themselves from mines and explosive remnants of war.

As part of the humanitarian effort, logistics support was expanded enabling the mass scale-up of assistance, and there have been major changes to the structure of the operation, including contingency planning and the pre-positioning of emergency supplies.

BENEFICIARIES BY CLUSTER (MONTHLY AVERAGE JAN-DEC 2018)



Source: OCHA.

2019 YEMEN HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE PLAN RELEASED

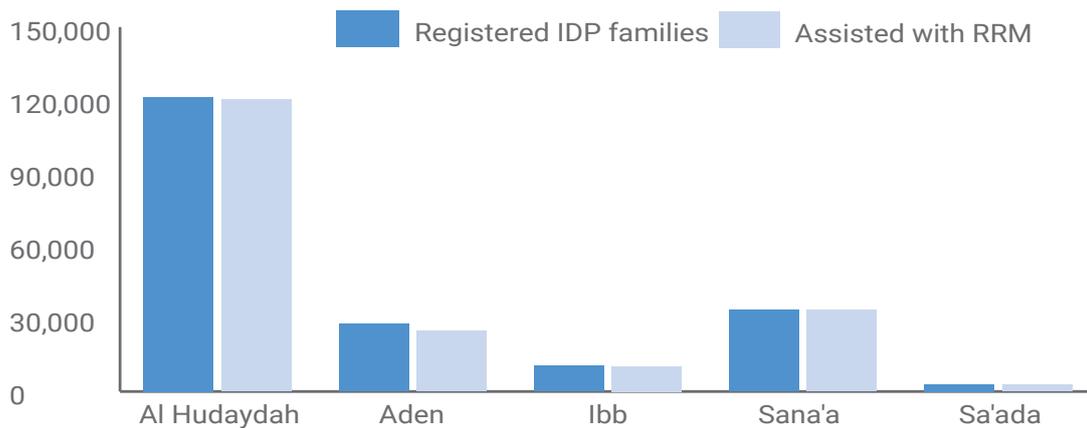
The Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan (YHRP) was released on 19 February, in advance of the High-Level Pledging Conference in Geneva, on 26 February, setting out needs, targets and requirements in 2019. A total of \$4.2 in funding is needed to support the plan, which aims to provide humanitarian assistance to 21.4 million people in 2019.

RAPID RESPONSE MECHANISM UPDATE

During the reporting period, partners continued to provide Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) kits to families displaced by conflict in Al Hudaydah. Between 15 January and 10 February 2019, RRM kits were provided to 17,584 families: 13,397 in the Al Hudaydah Hub area, 2,069 in the Aden Hub, 109 in the Ibb Hub, 411 in the Sana'a Hub, and 1,598 in the Sa'ada Hub.

Overall, in the period between mid-June 2018 - 10 February 2019 the RRM mechanism assisted more than 191,000 families more than 1.1 million people.

RRM response June 2018 - 10 February 2019



Source: OCHA.

UPDATES FROM THE HUBS

AL HUDAYDAH HUB

During the reporting period there were two inter-agency missions in the Al Hudaydah Hub. The first was to Al Laweyah Town in Ad Durayhimi District in Al Hudaydah Governorate, which had been inaccessible to partners for almost six months due to military operations. According to local authorities, an estimated 8,000 families live in the town and surrounding villages, this includes 1,350 displaced families, mainly from the coastal areas of the district, who are generally staying with relatives or other members of the host community. Local markets are functioning normally, however, civilian and commercial transport between Al Hudaydah City and Al Laweyah Town is affected by the closure of the Kilo 16 road.

The local health facility is not properly equipped or staffed and provides only basic healthcare services and complicated cases are transferred to Bayt Al Faqiah District. Most water stations and water projects are not operating due to lack of fuel and network maintenance. Following the mission, UNHCR provided 683 displaced families in Al Laweyah Town with emergency shelter kits (ESKs) and NFIs. UNFPA, working with a local implementing partner, will support the local health facility in Alluheyah through provision of medical kits, a generator, fuel and water supplies. In addition, ICRC has increased support to Bajil District Public Hospital and established a field office in the area.

The second inter-agency mission went to Al Jabeen City in Raymah Governorate. Local authorities

reported an estimated 6,400 displaced families live in the Governorate, the majority are staying with relatives or in unoccupied houses, and none of these families have received any shelter support or NFIs. About 70 displaced families were reported to be living in the open in Aljafariyah District and were in urgent need of shelter assistance. Local authorities agreed to share the lists of vulnerable internally displaced persons (IDPs) in need of support to facilitate assessment and follow up by partners. ACTED, the RRM partner in Raymah, is overseeing the dispatch of RRM supplies to distribution points in the governorate.

Hostilities continue to cause civilian casualties in Hajjah. The Protection cluster reported 42 civilian casualties in the last week of January. In the first week of February, in two separate incidents, airstrikes on two vehicles reportedly caused 10 fatalities. In addition, shelling hit Shalilah IDP hosting site injuring two women and two children.

ADEN HUB

During the reporting period, partners distributed RRM kits to 736 displaced families in Al Khawkha, Hays, Al Mukha, Dhubab, Shabwah and Al Mukalla. With support from WFP, implementing partners launched a food basket distribution in Hays for 2,250 host community families and 750 displaced families, and for 2,657 host community families and 4,000 displaced families in Al Mukha. In Dhubab District food baskets were provided to 3,499 host community

families and 1,000 displaced families. The King Salman Relief Center distributed 658 food baskets to displaced families in Qa'atabah District. Islamic Relief distributed food baskets to 1,300 displaced families in Tuban District in Lahj. The local authority in Al Hudaydah provided rice to 1,800 displaced families in the same area but living outside of hosting sites; and another partner distributed food baskets to 3,212 displaced people living both inside and outside camps in Lahj Governorate. A UNHCR implementing partner distributed NFIs for 415 displaced families in Al Mukha. Taizz General Health Office, supported by UNICEF, set up four mobile clinics to provide health and nutrition services, the host community and displaced people in Mawza, Al Wazi'yah, As Silw and Sama districts in Taizz. In Hays District, a UNHCR partner distributed NFIs to 998 families; NFIs were also distributed to 67 households in Hadramaut, 37 households in Shabwah, and 8 households in Al Maharah.

During an OCHA led inter-agency three-day mission to Taizz City and Al Turaba in the last week of January, an urgent need to scale up the humanitarian response was identified. IDPs need basic shelter support and NFIs as well as site management.

Key findings from a field mission to the west coast region, that visited Al Khawkhah and Al Mukha districts and two IDP hosting sites and a health centre in Al Khawkhah in mid-February, concluded that food, shelter, NFIs and WASH remain the main response gaps. An OCHA and UNFPA mission to Al Dhale'e indicated the need to activate the new RRM partner. The new partner's warehouse is not yet ready so new IDPs have not received assistance, and NFIs have not been distributed to IDPs in the Damt District or to IDPs in Qa'atabah District since December.

During the reporting period WHO, working through a partner, began the rehabilitation of Shoqra Hospital in Abyan Governorate; the hospital has not been functional for 11 years. CARE distributed hygiene kits to 1,300 displaced families in Al Bura'iq District in Aden Governorate. Generation Without Qat, a national NGO, distributed rental subsidies of \$50 to 100 displaced families in Al Mukha, and hygiene kits to 4,000 families and ceramic water filters to 2,000 families and host community in the four sub-districts of Al Mokha. A WFP partner completed the distribution of a two month food ration to 6,450 families in the coastal villages of At Tuhayat.

A decrease in hostilities in Al Dale'e and Lahj, the two areas of active conflict in the Aden hub, was reported by the Protection Cluster, though shelling and landmine explosions continued to damage homes and cause civilian casualties.

SA'ADA HUB

UNFPA reported that the RRM distribution in Haydan District reached 194 families, 250 families in Saqayn District, and 265 families in Al Hashwa District between 29 January and 1 February. In total, the RRM team has already reached 2,314 families in 5 districts since 6 January 2019.

On 5 February, a UNHCR implementing partner distributed NFIs to 820 households comprising displaced families and members of the host community in Al Humaydat District, Al Jawf Governorate; another partner distributed NFIs to 750 displaced families and ESKs to 250 displaced families

in Sa'adah District.

In the first week of February, with support from UNFPA, the Family Counselling and Development Foundation in partnership with Yemen SAED Foundation, ran a medical camp on mental health in Sa'adah District. The camp reached 372 patients, including 30 women, with diagnoses, mental health and psychosocial support, and provided medicine to cover patients' needs for three months.

On 14 February, WFP reported that their partners started a distribution cycle in all 15 districts of Sa'ada Governorate and has so far reached 49,671 families (347,697 individuals). In Al Jawf Governorate, a food assistance distribution had reached 24,092 families (186,644 individuals).

Airstrikes and shelling continued in the border districts of Sa'ada, causing civilian casualties, including fatalities, and damaging homes and farms.

SANA'A HUB

In the first week of February, in response to the soaring cost of gas, the Yemen Gas Company distributed 183 truckloads of domestic gas in Sana'a City. A single gas cylinder reportedly costs 8,000 Yemeni rials (YER) in the unofficial market.

Hostilities with a direct impact on civilians in the Sana'a Hub continued to fluctuate during the reporting period. The Protection Cluster reported six civilian casualties in the last week of January, three in an isolated incident of small arms fire in the capital, two from a landmine incident in Radman Al-Awad, and that an airstrike in Wusab As-Safil District in Dhamar caused one further casualty. Incidents damaged homes and roads.

IBB HUB

The local markets in Ibb and Taizz face an acute shortage of cooking gas while cooking gas stations are no longer operational. A small quantity is provided through neighbourhood sheikhs at the cost of 2,500YER for a 20 litre cylinder. Cooking gas where still available on the unofficial market is available at the exorbitant cost of 6,000YER for a 20 litre cylinder, up from 4,425YER at this time last year and from 1,925YER before the crisis.

On 3 February, the Yemen Women's Union distributed NFIs to 96 IDP families in Ibb City as part of a UNHCR-sponsored protection and shelter project targeting IDPs and conflict-affected individuals in Ibb. On 14 February, WHO Yemen delivered about 35 metric tons (MT) of medical equipment and supplies to 5 hospitals in Ibb and 5 hospitals in north Taizz.

The Protection Cluster reported two motorcycle IED explosions in the hub area during the reporting period, though there is no available evidence linking the incidents. In the last week of January, a motorcycle IED exploded outside a café in Al Mukha City reportedly killing 6 people, including 2 children, and injuring 36 others. The Protection Cluster reported another motorcycle IED explosion in the east of Taizz City in the first week of February. The explosion took place in front of a local government building killing two civilians and injuring two others.

CHOLERA UPDATE

WHO reported that in the first three weeks of 2019, the weekly trend of reported suspected cholera cases remained stable at the country level. However, the threat of cholera remains as 225 out of Yemen's 333 districts reported suspected cholera cases in recent weeks. Children under age 5 continue to represent 32 per cent of suspected cases and 3,481 cases were confirmed as cholera-positive. Between 14 and 20 January, 8,639 suspected cases of cholera and 5 associated deaths were reported. During the same period, the governorates most affected, and which reported more than 1,000 suspected cholera cases were Al Hudaydah, Amanat Al Asimah, and Arman. Overall, the cumulative total number of suspected cholera cases over the past year, from 1 January 2018

to 20 January 2019, is 396,507, with 531 associated deaths.

WHO continued to assist health authorities and partners to respond to the cholera outbreak through supporting clinical care delivery, including supervising and monitoring case management in cholera treatment centres. In January 2019, WHO helped 124 health facilities provide 18,40,000 litres of clean water in 20 governorates by conducting maintenance and rehabilitation of water sanitation and hygiene (WASH) components in Aljumburi and Qofl Shamr in Hajjah Governorate, and in Aljumburi and Bani Sa'ad health facilities in Al Mahwit Governorate.

UNVIM UPDATE

Al Hudaydah and Saleef sea ports are open and fully operational, though no cargo was discharged through As Saleef during the reporting period. Between 23 January and 19 February, 14 vessels discharged cargo at Al Hudaydah port, 134,000 MT of food 134,083 MT of fuel



134,000 MT



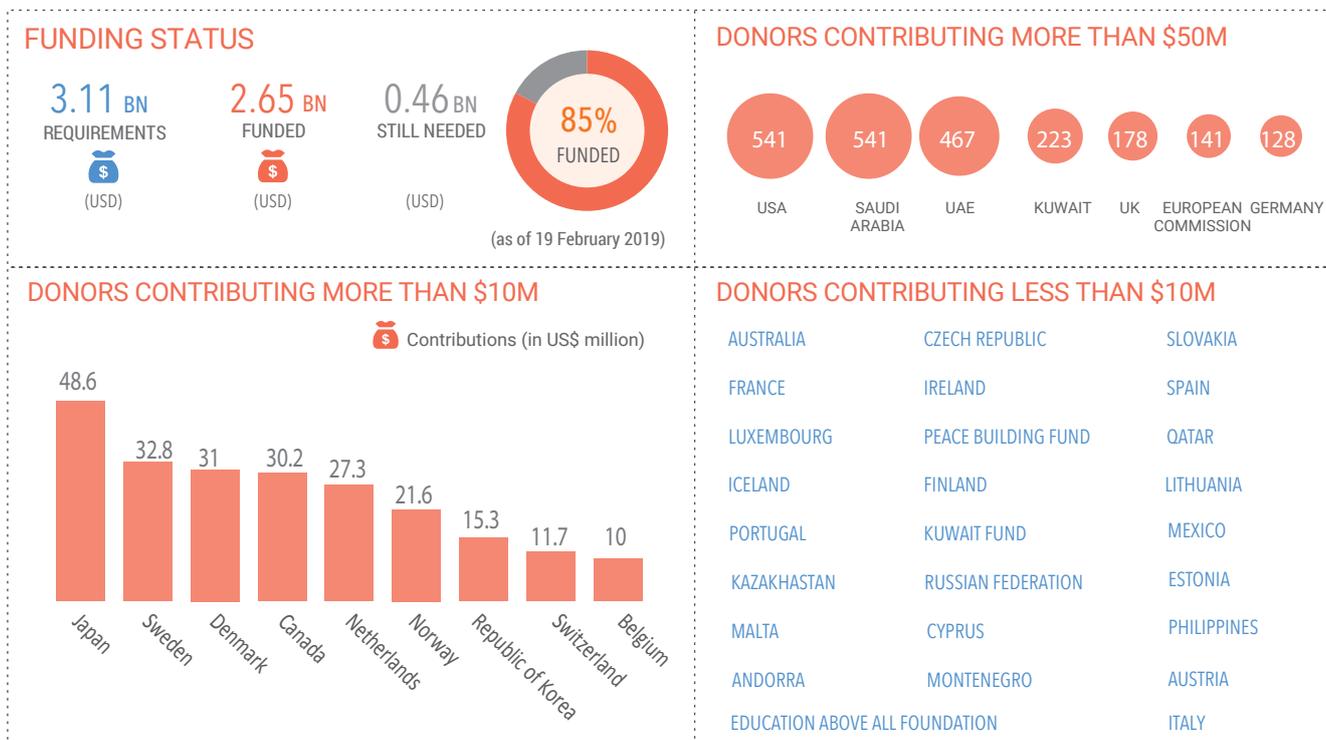
134,083 MT

Al Hudaydah 268,083 MT

Saleef 0 MT

Source: UNVIM

FUNDING OF THE 2018 YHRP (AS OF 19 FEBRUARY 2019)



Source: FTS

For further information, please contact:

Sebastien Trives, Head of Office, UN-OCHA Yemen | Tel: +967 712 222 800 | E-mail: trives@un.org
Federica D'Andreagiovanni, Head of Communication, UN-OCHA Yemen | Tel: +962 79 687 6082 | E-mail: dandreagiovanni@un.org
 OCHA information products are available at: www.unocha.org/yemen | www.unocha.org | www.reliefweb.int