



Yemen

Humanitarian Situation Report

26 August – 1 September 2015

Highlights

- On 29 August, the Ministry of Education launched the National Certification Exams targeting 600,000 children in grades 9 and 12. Due to insecurity, only 15 of the country’s 22 Governorates could hold the exams.
- During the past week, fighting in Taiz city and surrounding areas intensified. Water, sanitation and health services in the city have collapsed, depriving over 300,000 people of access to basic services.
- The number of closed Outpatient Therapeutic Care Centres (OTPs) has increased to 192 from last week’s report of 142. The additional 50 sites closed due to insecurity and relocation of personnel to safer locations.
- During the reporting period, as part of the ongoing national immunization campaign, UNICEF provided micronutrient supplements to 433,017 children under 5.
- During the reporting period, 18,054 children (8,074 girls and 9,980 boys) from conflict-affected populations received psychosocial support (PSS) via community and mobile based Child Friendly Spaces (CSF) and activities.

The situation in Yemen continues to deteriorate with no end in sight to the ongoing conflict. During the past week, fighting in Taiz city and surrounding areas intensified. According to UNICEF’s WASH and Health partners in Taiz, water, sanitation and health services in the city have collapsed, depriving over 300,000 people of access to basic services. Because of the fighting all of the 11 public health facilities in Tiaz city were closed last week. The two main hospitals (Althwra and Algamhori) are only providing emergency services. Eleven of the 22 private hospitals and clinics are not functioning. The water supply network in the city that usually services over 300,000 people stopped functioning last week. On 31 August, the Humanitarian Coordinator for Yemen, Johannes van der Klaauw, issued a statement calling for safe passage and predictable humanitarian access to Taiz.

Since the conflict escalated in late March over 4,500 people have been killed, including at least 402 children, and 23,000 injured, including at least 606 children, according to the UNICEF-led Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

People in need of urgent humanitarian assistance:

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

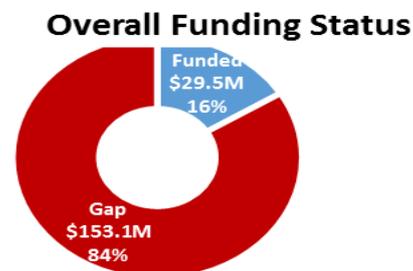
20.4 million people in need of WASH assistance

15.2 million people in need of basic health care

1.8 million children at risk of becoming malnourished

UNICEF 2015 Requirements:
US \$182.6 million

Funds received:
US \$29.5 million (84 per cent gap)



(MRM) (although these numbers are likely much higher as the process of verification continues). In many areas of the country, power supplies have reduced to one hour per day. Attacks on ports, including Hodeidah and Aden, have further delayed the delivery of life-saving food, medicines, supplies, and nutrition supplements for malnourished children. The severe shortage of fuel hinders humanitarian assistance, and the enduring conflict escalates the risks for serious public health outbreaks and water-borne diseases that will be deadly for children.

Humanitarian leadership and coordination

UNICEF is working in coordination with the Yemen Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and is leading the WASH, Child Protection, Education and Nutrition Clusters based in Sana'a and sub-clusters for WASH in Aden. UNICEF is also an active member of the Health cluster. The UN has increased the presence of international staff inside Yemen in order to facilitate the scale-up of the humanitarian response throughout the country. UNICEF is also lead agency for the reopening of the UN Humanitarian hubs in Sa'ada and Taiz Governorates. For both hubs, UNICEF has led assessment missions to explore opportunities for an expanded presence. Follow-up missions scheduled for this past week did not take place due to deteriorating security. UNICEF is also considering to review its humanitarian footprint in Hodeidah and Aden Field Offices.

Humanitarian Strategy

In response to the deepening humanitarian crisis in Yemen, UNICEF and partners are scaling-up efforts to reach the most vulnerable children and their families. Partners are conducting rapid assessments in highly affected areas to strengthen the evidence base for targeting the humanitarian response and to address any gaps in lifesaving interventions. This includes providing an integrated package of health and nutrition services to mothers, newborns and children through community health workers and mobile health teams, putting in place preparedness measures to respond to potential outbreaks of childhood diseases, expanding treatment services for children under 5 with severe and acute malnutrition (SAM), delivering vaccinations for measles and polio to millions of the most vulnerable children, supporting displaced families through water trucking and public water storage tanks and providing fuel and maintenance support to the municipal cleaning funds and local water corporations. UNICEF is also providing conflict-affected children with psychosocial support, life-saving mine risk education and appropriate referrals to child-friendly victims' assistance programmes. In the education sector, UNICEF and partners will try to ensure that the most vulnerable children who were forced out of school are able to re-enrol in the new school year. On 1 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 Polio and Measles Rubella (MR) campaign launched on 15 August has so far reached more than 3.9 million children under 5 for Polio and over 960,000 children between 6 months and 15 years for MR. In some areas, the campaign has been delayed due to insecurity and / or population displacement. In seven districts in Taiz, no vaccination activity has taken place in nearly three months except at three private hospitals last week for a small number of children. In Sa'ada, the Polio campaign in two districts had to be postponed and in Al Jawf, the campaign was conducted this week.

Over 1.8 million children in Yemen are at risk of malnutrition as a result of the ongoing fighting. There is an urgent need for updated data on the nutrition situation in the most affected governorates. However, data collection has been constrained due to insecurity. UNICEF is planning to conduct at least seven nutrition surveys in the most conflict-affected governorates but this plan is constrained by the insecurity level in some areas.

Considering that nutrition has been identified as one of the main risk for children, the response efforts have been scaled up and prioritized accordingly. A total of 46 mobile clinics continue to provide health and nutrition services to displaced families and host communities in the most conflict affected areas of the country. During the reporting period, the mobile clinics screened 4,343 children (1,414 boys, 1,453 girls, and 1,476 unspecified) for severe acute malnutrition (SAM). Additionally, 2,666 (1,518 boys and 1,148 girls) severely malnourished children were admitted to feeding programmes in the most affected governorates. A total of 861 women received infant and young child feeding counselling. During the reporting period, as part of the ongoing national immunization campaign, UNICEF provided micronutrient supplements to 433,017 children under 5 and 223 pregnant and lactating women.

The number of closed Outpatient Therapeutic Care Centres (OTPs) has increased to 192 from the last's week report of 142. The additional 50 sites, located in Al Dhale, Ibb, Sa'adah, Marib and Sana'a Governorates are closed due to insecurity and relocation of personnel to safer locations. A total of 159 metric tons of ready-to-use therapeutic food was distributed in the most affected governorates during the reporting period to benefit 10,500 children for one month.

Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)

Over 20.4 million people in Yemen continue to face challenges accessing safe water and sanitation. In addition to a lack of funding to procure fuel to pump water, the intensifying conflict in Taiz is hindering the transportation of fuel from the warehouse to the water pumping stations. Furthermore, generators that are used to pump water have been damaged in Taiz and Marib. UNICEF and partners are looking for ways to support the water corporations to solve these problems. During the past week, UNICEF continued to provide support to local water corporations in Al-Bayda, Sana'a, Hodeidah, and Sa'ada Governorates, to help provide a total of 1,610,000 people with access to safe water. So far, 2,993,000 people were reached with access to safe water by providing fuel for cities in 10 Governorates in the country. UNICEF also continued water trucking to reach 17,055 displaced people and host communities in Amran, Sana'a, Abyan, Aden, and Taiz Governorates. UNICEF distributed 711 hygiene kits in Al-Bayda, Al Dhale, Ibb, Hodeidah, and Taiz Governorates, reaching 4,977 people. In addition, 60 latrines were installed, and hygiene awareness sessions were conducted reaching around 8,000 people in Hajjah and Al Dhale. UNICEF continued to support the collection and disposal of accumulated garbage in Sana'a and Aden. Fuel support to the wastewater treatment plant in Sana'a also continued.

Education

Since the escalation of conflict in late March, 3,584 schools have shut down, interrupting the education of over 1.8 million children. Additionally, 315 schools have been partially damaged, 114 schools totally damaged, and 360 schools have been used as shelters by displaced families.

On 29 August, after several weeks of delay, the Ministry of Education launched the National Certification Exams targeting 600,000 children in grades 9 and 12. Due to insecurity and other related challenges, only 15 of the country's 22 governorates could administer the exams. As of 31 August, 15 governorates successfully administrated the exams for three subjects, two for grade 12 and one for grade 9, with the participation of an estimated 65 per cent of the 600,000 children. Since the beginning of the exams on 29 August, UNICEF has been helping the MoE to identify critical needs to ensure a smooth administration of the exams.

Child Protection

UNICEF's Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) is currently verifying a reported airstrike on three schools in Hodeidah Governorate. To date, this system has verified 402 children killed and 606 children injured, and an additional 377 children recruited by armed groups and armed forces, although actual numbers are likely to be much higher.

Recent child protection rapid assessments indicate that up to 80 per cent of affected children continue to feel fearful while playing in their community and on their way to school. This calls for an urgent need to provide psychosocial support. During the reporting period, 18,054 children (8,074 girls and 9,980 boys) from conflict-affected populations received psychosocial support (PSS) via community and mobile based Child Friendly Spaces (CSF) activities, such as sport, arts and recreation. Some 584 adults (282 women and 302 men) from conflict-affected communities received awareness raising sessions on key child protection issues. A total of 17,402 individuals (11,219 adults and 6,183 children) from conflict-affected host communities received key messages on mine risk education.

Social Protection

UNICEF is prioritizing the provision of unconditional humanitarian cash transfers to enable most vulnerable, conflict affected families to procure life-saving and essential goods and services according to their priority needs. Distribution of cash transfers is expected to begin early October, after the completion of a household mapping survey of beneficiaries. In July, UNICEF completed a rapid profiling exercise covering *Muhamasheen*¹ communities in 11 districts in Sana'a City. The profiling results show the highest concentrations of *Muhamasheen* as well as the areas that are most affected by death, injury or displacement. To date, US\$3 million has been pledged towards UNICEF Yemen's Social Protection programme. Opportunities for scale-up could only be explored after implementation begins and after securing additional funding.

¹ The *Muhamasheen* communities are the most vulnerable in Yemen. They have been suffering from social exclusion and poor living conditions even before the conflict. The current airstrikes and armed conflict have further exacerbated their suffering.

Communication for Development (C4D)

UNICEF continues to scale up community engagement and outreach through C4D. During the reporting period, UNICEF reached 11,663 people through counselling sessions, home visits, community meetings, theatre, and other participatory activities. Since the conflict escalated in late March, C4D interventions reached a total of 268,887 displaced people and community members through an integrated package of life saving, care and child protection messages.

Social mobilization continued in support of the on-going polio and MR campaign in accessible areas. An estimated 2.8 million people were reached through regular radio programmes in three radio stations focusing on Dengue fever and cholera/acute watery diarrhoea prevention and control, polio and measles vaccination, exclusive breastfeeding and appropriate infant and young child feeding, nutrition services, prevention of child trafficking and child recruitment, as well as mine risk awareness. A C4D strategic plan to support the roll-out of nation-wide Back-to-School campaign targeting over 4 million primary and secondary school pupils was also completed last week.

Supply and Logistics

Since the escalation of the crisis in late March, a total of 1,603 metric tons of emergency supplies have been sent to Yemen. A shipment carrying 120 metric tons of nutrition supplies and four metric tons of Oral polio vaccines is scheduled to be dispatched soon. UNICEF has established a logistics hub in Djibouti from where all the offshore supplies are dispatched to Yemen. During the reporting period, supplies worth \$430,000 reached Yemen. These included ready to eat therapeutic food (RUTF) for approximately 10,424 malnourished children for one month. Since recent airstrikes on Hodaidah have limited access to one of the country's major ports, UNICEF has revised its supply strategy to send sea shipments via Mokha port, from where supplies are trucked directly to partners around the country. UNICEF has also assessed the possibility of using an alternate port "Al Salif", which is 100 km north of Hodeida. However, it seems that Hodaidah port is slowly resuming its operations, and UNICEF is planning to resume sea shipments there as soon as possible.

Funding

In line with the recently revised Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), UNICEF's revised [Humanitarian Action for Children \(HAC\)](#) appeal is US\$182.6 million. To date, UNICEF has received US\$29.5 million against the appeal, leaving an 84 per cent funding gap². 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 ³	Funding Gap	Per cent of funding gap
Nutrition	20,000,000	41,500,000	9,570,851	31,929,149	77%
Water, sanitation and hygiene	7,000,000	58,000,000	9,430,842	48,569,158	84%
Health	10,000,000	34,000,000	5,250,343	28,749,657	85%
Child Protection	12,600,000	12,600,000	4,210,043	8,389,957	67%
Education	10,500,000	10,500,000	596,222	9,903,778	94%
Social Protection in Emergency	0	26,000,000	309,032	25,690,968	99%
Being allocated			420,213		
Total (US\$)	60,100,000	182,600,000	29,787,546	152,812,454	84%

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² 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.

³ 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 (OPV ₃ /MCV) ¹			2,730,000	673,206*
Number of pregnant and lactating women provided antenatal, delivery and postnatal care ²			590,000	31,655
WASH				
Number of affected people provided with access to water as per agreed standards ³	4,364,179	4,718,811	3,971,800	2,993,000
Number of affected people with access to basic hygiene kit ⁴	973,785	333,904	650,000	264,734
NUTRITION				
Number of children under 5 with Severe Acute Malnutrition admitted to therapeutic care (OTP/TFC/Mobile) ⁵	214,794	73,474	214,794	73,474
Number of children under 5 given micronutrient interventions ⁶	1,600,000	1,172,942	1,198,059	1,172,942
CHILD PROTECTION				
Cases of grave child rights violations monitored, verified and documented ⁷		648		648
Number of affected children benefiting from psychosocial support ⁸	548,168	201,402	328,900	201,402
Number of people (children and adults) reached with information on protecting themselves from physical injury/death due to mine/UXO/ERW ⁹	500,000	300,319	357,161	300,319
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	4,398 (1,197 boys & 2,451 girls)	542,000	4,398 (1,197 boys & 2,451 girls)
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	268,887

*This is the figure for # of children between 6 and 59 months provided at least one Measles dose since January 2015. More than 3.9 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