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Yemen

Situation Report

23 – 30 April 2015



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SITUATION IN NUMBERS

Highlights

- UNICEF delivered 78 metric tonnes of emergency medical supplies to Aden port which are being distributed to local hospitals in the Aden area. A further 32 metric tonnes of UNICEF supplies arrived at the Hodeidah port a couple of days later with enough therapeutic food to meet the needs of 4,500 children under 5 with severe acute malnutrition over a one month period.
- UNICEF is providing nearly 420,000 litres of fuel to ensure that municipal water systems supplying over 2 million people in the worst affected regions of the country continue to run.
- Since 26 March, UNICEF has provided nutrition and health services to 1,300 children at the therapeutic feeding centre and paediatric wards in Al Jomhory hospital in Sa'ada City.
- Between 20 March and 25 April, 3,633 children (including 1,542 girls) from Sa'ada and Al Jawf Governorates received psychosocial support through mobile teams, while 2,679 parents and community members received awareness on child protection issues, including on child recruitment and child marriage.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

The humanitarian crisis in Yemen is deepening as fuel shortages are reaching critical levels, and access to food and clean water are becoming more difficult by the day. Sana'a international airport was bombed on 28 April leaving both landing and takeoff runways destroyed, which has prevented humanitarian supplies from getting into the country by air. Hodeidah airport was also attacked on the same day causing the same level of damage. Seaports are now the only viable entry point for humanitarian supplies. On 28 April, UNICEF delivered 78 metric tonnes of emergency medical supplies to Aden port for immediate distribution to local hospitals. A further 32 metric tonnes arrived at the port of Hodeidah a couple of days later with enough therapeutic food to meet the needs of 4,500 children under 5 with severe acute malnutrition for one month. While sea ports are gradually opening up to allow essential humanitarian supplies into critical areas, transport within the country is increasingly difficult, as many roads and bridges linking main cities have been destroyed during the conflict.

The cost of fuel on the black market is sky rocketing across the country. Lack of fuel has devastated the transportation industry and has had significant impact on powering generators for hospitals and on water pump systems. In coastal Hodeidah, bakeries have been unable to produce bread, and there is a lack of fish in the market as fishermen are not able to fuel their boats. In addition, job losses as well as food insecurity are becoming increasingly dangerous. The Yemen Telecommunications Company issued an official letter on 28 April announcing that due to the lack of fuel, telecommunications would not work within a week. A telecommunications sub-cluster has been established to work on this issue as the implications of a total blackout of communications are dire.

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 (OCHA, WHO, UNICEF)

300,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) (OCHA)

1,244 people killed, including **115** children (OCHA and UNICEF)

5,044 people injured, including **172** children (OCHA and UNICEF)

1.84 million children out of school, and **3,684** schools affected

UNICEF 2015 Requirements:

US\$88.1 million

The conflict has not abated, despite the coalition's transition to 'restoring hope,' and in the neighbourhoods of Asamat Al Asima an increasing number of check points run by armed groups are being set up, causing increasing concern among citizens that they may be the target of an attack. Increasingly, attacks are affecting health and education facilities. The main hospital in Aden is reportedly now closed and under control of an armed group, while the second hospital has limited capacity and is distant from the main areas of conflict. A further 13 schools were reported damaged this week due to armed confrontations or airstrikes, resulting in a total of 79 schools damaged since the start of the conflict. In addition, 48 schools have been newly reported as being used as shelters by IDPs (33) and occupied by armed groups (15). These are unverified figures and the actual numbers may be higher due to the lack of information in some places, such as in Aden.

Humanitarian leadership and coordination

UNICEF is working in coordination with 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 & Nutrition

Mobile clinics are currently providing integrated health clinics in many areas of the country (including Abyan, Al Dhale, Shabwa, Amran, Al Bayda, Marib, Sana'a, Dhamar and Sa'ada) with many others planned in additional regions. The clinics follow up and treat illnesses, deliver C4D messages and identify cases of malnutrition among IDPs as well as those in hard to reach areas. Three mobile teams are supporting the Haradh hospital this week after continuous attacks on Haradh led to a significant shortage in human resources. 2,200 cartons of UNICEF's therapeutic food which arrived at Hodeidah port this week will be distributed to Hodeidah, Hajjah and Raymah Governorates to support mobile teams and health facility interventions.

In Amran, 10 outpatient therapeutic programmes have been opened and equipped, while 133 health workers have been trained (31 per cent of which are female).

There are reports of people increasingly being fearful, especially in the north, of going to public health facilities due to insecurity. UNICEF has supported the Government Health Office to establish 20 temporary health locations, which have been opened in the homes of community midwives in six of the most affected districts in the north. These temporary health locations provide mainly maternal health care, community management of acute malnutrition (CMAM) and, immunization and treatment of childhood diseases such as diarrhea and respiratory infections. These temporary facilities have been provided with midwifery kits for 500 deliveries, nutrition supplies, equipment and essential medications.

Since 26 March, 1,300 children have received nutrition and health services at the therapeutic feeding centre and paediatric wards in Al Jomhory hospital in Sa'ada City, which is entirely supported by UNICEF.

Nutrition Cluster

62 mobile clinics are providing integrated health and nutrition services (an additional 37 since the beginning of the conflict) including management of severely malnourished children for IDPs and the conflict affected population. 1,377 severely malnourished IDP and conflict affected children under 5 were enrolled in therapeutic feeding programmes in April. In total, 34.7 metric tonnes of nutrition supplies for the management of 10,000 severely malnourished children for one month have been delivered to Yemen since the beginning of the conflict.

Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)

UNICEF is providing nearly 420,000 litres of fuel to ensure that municipal water systems supplying over 2 million people in the worst affected regions of the country continue to run. Sana'a Water Corporation has now received 62,875 litres of fuel to support water pumping in the capital, however water cannot be distributed through the water scheme, so water supply has been distributed through the existing eight water distribution points, serving 90,000 people per day. In the south, water trucking continues to provide daily water supply in Al Hota District in Lahj for 1,350 IDPs, though water points, while diesel for water pumps in two villages of Lahj ensures water for a further 800 people. Meanwhile, UNICEF is providing water to three hospitals in Taiz City as well as two hospitals in Sana'a City and Governorate.

In Harad, Hairan, Mustaba and Khairan Districts, 3,179 IDP families have been provided with basic hygiene kits, while 40 families in Hairan have received ceramic water filters. Twenty temporary latrines have also been completed in Hairan for 180 IDP families, with another 40 in the process of construction. Twenty-one water points have been connected to the existing water schemes in villages of Harad and Hiran where around 623 IDP families have moved.

WASH Cluster

1,141,183 IDPs and conflict affected people have benefitted from clean water supply for drinking and personal hygiene through water trucking, the delivery of fuel to local water corporations, as well as water storage interventions supporting health facilities. Over 14,000 IDPs and conflict affected people have benefitted from UNICEF's hygiene assistance, which includes the distribution of basic hygiene kits, hygiene promotion campaigns and the distribution of cleaning materials to health facilities.

Education

UNICEF is providing technical support on the ongoing decisions on school closures and end of year exam schedules, and in addition, continues discussions to ensure that as many children as possible can continue their right to education. As a result of advocacy by UNICEF, a total of 3,418 IDP pupils have been integrated into schools in Hodeidah and Taiz.

Education cluster

The Education Cluster has been activated and plans are being developed to respond to the educational needs of the millions of children who have been affected by this conflict. As a result of UNICEF and partner's advocacy and support, 3,418 IDP pupils from various governorates were integrated into schools in Taiz (3,053) and Hodeidah (365). Over 150,000 pupils have returned to school in three districts of Ibb Governorate and at least 270,000 pupils were provided with food assistance in Hodeidah, Hajja, Mahweet, Amran, Dhamar and Sana'a by partner WFP (considered as an intervention under the Food security cluster).

Child Protection

Gathering information on child protection issues in Yemen is proving to be increasingly difficult as communication systems continue to break down and power continues to be cut for hours on end. Despite these difficulties, the monitoring and reporting mechanism continues to function and verify reported cases as swiftly as possible. In the south of the country, at least 18 more children have reportedly been killed or injured this week, seven of whom were shot by snipers. In the north, 24 children have been reported as killed and 37 maimed since 26 March. These incidents are in the process of being verified through the MRM reporting mechanism. Unfortunately, due to the deterioration of the security situation in Aden, partner YEMAC has had to stop demining activities.

Psychosocial support (PSS) activities continue in many areas of the country, with more planned for Hadramout and other areas. Between 20 March and 25 April, 3,633 children (including 1,542 girls) from Sa'ada and Al Jawf Governorates received PSS through mobile teams, while 2,679 parents and community members received awareness on child protection issues, including on child recruitment and child marriage.

Child Protection sub-cluster

The MRM mechanism is actively reporting against grave child rights violations in 15 of the 19 governorates affected by the conflict. Challenges related to movement and connectivity are slowing down timely verification.

30,000 people have been reached with mine risk education (MRE) so far in Aden, Amran, Abyan, Sana'a and Amanat al Sama. MRE messages are also repeatedly broadcast on local and international media.

400 children per day per governorate are reached with psychosocial support (PSS) in Al Bayda, Amran, Taiz and Abyan.

Communication for Development (C4D)

Volunteers across the southern region of the county are carrying out a door to door and group session campaign disseminating emergency messages, including mine risk education (MRE). These include 20 community volunteers in Azarak and Hysha who are aiming to reach 3,000 people by the end of May; and 13 volunteers in Shabwa who plan to

target approximately 450 people by the 3rd of May. MRE messages continue to be broadcasted on Lana Radio, however, Radio Aden, Shabwa and Abyan have not been able to resume their broadcasting yet due to conflict. In addition, two mosques in Shabwa are helping to education parents on the importance of immunizing their children safely by announcing messages after their daily prayers.

Supplies

On 28 April, UNICEF delivered urgent medical supplies that will cover the medical needs of more than 500,000 people, mostly women and children, over a 3 month period. The supplies, which arrived by boat in Aden, will replenish the rapidly depleting lifesaving supplies in hospitals and health centres in Aden, Al Dhale, Lahj, Abyan and Shabwa governorates. The supplies include medicines to treat up to 7,000 children for acute watery diarrhoea and 50 midwifery kits that will support the safe delivery of 2,500 babies. A further 32 metric tonnes arrived at the port of Hodeidah a couple of days later with enough therapeutic food to meet the needs of 4,500 children under 5 with severe acute malnutrition over a one month period.

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. Projects will be signed off by the Humanitarian Coordinator on 1 May to ensure the rapid disbursement of funds.

Sector	Original HAC Requirements (Jan – Dec 2015)	UNICEF Flash Appeal (1 Apr – 30 Jun 2015)	Revised 2015 HAC Requirements	Funds Received	Funding Gap	% Gap
Nutrition	20,000,000	5,420,000	25,420,000	14,086,081	11,333,919	44%
Health	7,000,000	10,300,000	17,300,000	5,984,632	11,315,368	65%
Water, sanitation and hygiene	10,000,000	10,453,241	20,453,241	9,420,299	11,032,942	53%
Child Protection	12,600,000	1,810,000	14,410,000	4,635,645	9,774,355	67%
Education	10,500,000	--	10,500,000	2,361,192	8,138,808	77%
Total (US\$)	60,100,000	27,983,241	88,083,241	36,487,848	51,595,393	58%

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Who to contact for further information:

Rajat Madhok
Chief of Communications
UNICEF Yemen
Jordan
Tel: +962 798270912
Email: Rmadok@unicef.org

Jeremy Hopkins
Deputy Representative
UNICEF Yemen
Jordan
Tel: +962 798263037
Email: jhopkins@unicef.org

Helene Kadi
Chief of Field Operations and
Emergency
UNICEF Yemen
Jordan
Tel: +962 798270937
Email: hkadi@unicef.org

Kate Rose
Reports & Communications
UNICEF Yemen
Jordan
Tel: +962 798270701
Email: krose@unicef.org