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Yemen

Humanitarian Situation Report



Highlights

- UNICEF doubled efforts to provide immediate solutions to ease recent supply disruptions, including the provision of fuel and water trucking.
- 93 mobile teams provided a package of health and nutrition services to mothers and children mainly in areas with internally displaced populations, reaching over 35,000 children and more than 43,000 pregnant women.
- To alleviate potential consequences of the ongoing violence, including stress and long-term mental health issues, UNICEF provided Psychosocial (PSS) to or more than 20,000 children.
- As part of UNICEF’s Back to School programme, 27,000 school bags have been given to affected children, distribution of 237,000 more school bags is underway.
- 34,153 people in Sana’a City have received cash transfers as part UNICEF’s humanitarian cash transfers programme. A further 10,000 households in Taiz are expected to be reached by the end of the year.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

Since March 2015, at least 21.1 million people, including 9.9 million children, are in need of humanitarian assistance due to the escalation of the conflict in Yemen. Continued air strikes, shelling and ground fighting have resulted in the destruction and damage of civilian infrastructure and a collapse of public services, particularly national health, water and sanitation services.

Yemen’s health system remains on the verge of collapse with over 15 million people currently lacking access to basic health services.

In addition to the consequences of the ongoing conflict, several regions are still recovering from the two cyclones that made landfall in November. According to reports from the International Organization for Migration (IOM), it is estimated that by the end of November, 3,322 families remain displaced in Hadramaut, Shabwah and Socotra after being hit by the two cyclones.

As a result of positive developments in recent weeks, food imports have gone up by 24% compared to last month; however, commercial supplies of food, fuel and medicines are still insufficient to meet the demand. It is estimated that only 46 per cent of fuel imports needs are being met. The continued lack of basic goods such as water, electricity and medicine is aggravating already poor living conditions. The sharp increase in prices of food coupled with loss

People in need of urgent humanitarian assistance:

21.1 million people, of which:
9.9 million children and
2.5 million IDPs (Protection Cluster, includes prior to and since the conflict escalated)

0.3 million children under 5 at risk of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM)
1 million children under 5 projected to suffer Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM)

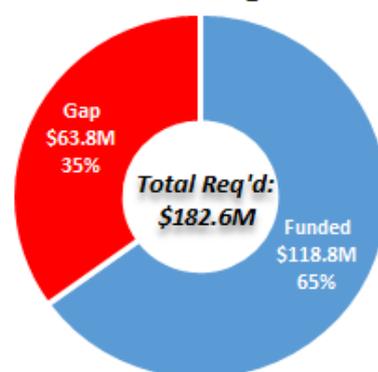
20.4 million people in need of WASH assistance

15.2 million people in need of basic health care

UNICEF 2015 Requirements:
US \$182.6 million

Funds received:
US \$118,756,957 million (35 per cent gap)

Overall Funding Status



of jobs and lack of work opportunities continues to increase poverty and malnutrition among the most vulnerable. To mitigate the grave humanitarian situation, UNICEF continues to provide support across different sectors, including, but not limited to, health and nutrition, WASH, education, and child protection.

Humanitarian Leadership and Coordination

UNICEF continues to work in coordination with the Yemen Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and is leading the WASH, Education and Nutrition Clusters and the Child Protection Sub-Cluster. UNICEF has also established Sub-national level Clusters for WASH, Child Protection and Education in Aden and Nutrition Sub-Clusters in all field office areas, and continues to be an active member of the Health Cluster.

In addition to the hub in Ibb, which has been operational since November 15, UNICEF continues taking the lead for the humanitarian hub in Sa'ada. UNICEF continues to review and monitor programme implementation through local partners, remote monitoring and some innovative use of electronic technology. Efforts continue to diversify and expand partnerships with local NGOs with the capacity to deliver emergency and humanitarian programmes on the ground.

Humanitarian Strategy

UNICEF's humanitarian strategy remains focused on delivering lifesaving services and supplies in line with UNICEF's Core Commitments to Children in Emergencies. This includes providing an integrated package of health, nutrition and vaccination services to mothers, newborns and children, preparing for potential outbreaks of childhood diseases, expanding treatment services for children with malnutrition and supporting displaced families through provision of safe water and hygiene facilities. UNICEF supports government partners to re-open schools, provide catch up classes, provide school supplies and encourage strategies for alternative accommodation for displaced persons occupying schools to enable children's return to school. Acknowledging the psychological distress experienced by children, UNICEF supports partners to provide psychosocial support through schools and community facilities including child friendly spaces (CFS). UNICEF and partners are scaling up efforts through all field office areas to reach the most vulnerable children and their families especially internally displaced persons which have now reached 2.3 million (IDPs)—roughly 10 per cent of the population. In light of the huge impact of poverty on children, targeted cash grants reach thousands of the most vulnerable families in Yemen. UNICEF continues to generate new evidence on geographic vulnerabilities, effectiveness of early relief efforts and remaining gaps in lifesaving interventions. While relief efforts seek to save children's lives, UNCT continue to advocate for access to isolated areas, especially where blockades exist. UN leaders at country, region and HQ level remain committed to a peaceful solution to the conflict and negotiate for the protection of humanitarian supplies and sites. The Yemen HCT is currently developing its Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for 2016 to be released in mid-January. UNICEF and all clusters are actively involved in this process.

In response to the urgent needs and the deterioration of the situation after two cyclones impacted Yemen by the end of November the Humanitarian Coordinator launched a fourth reserve allocation of the Yemen Humanitarian Pooled Fund (YHPF) to allow for a speedy and coordinated procurement of supplies in the prioritized clusters. UNICEF will be part of these allocations.

UNICEF continues to work closely with local government providers to improve their capacity to respond to the ongoing crisis. UNICEF's humanitarian strategy prioritizes actions in such a way that supplies and services are directed to governorates with high levels of population displacement. On 6 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 ongoing conflict has led to the collapse of Yemen's health system including infrastructure, leaving over 15.2 million people in need of access to basic healthcare. UNICEF is providing an integrated package of health and nutrition services. During the reporting period, 93 mobile teams provided a package of health and nutrition services to mothers and children mainly in areas with internally displaced populations, reaching over 35,000 children and more than 43,000 pregnant women (see Table).

+15.2 million people
in need of access to basic
health care

Health and nutrition services provided by mobile teams MTs (2 – 15 December)	
Children provided routine vaccinations	15,564
Children received integrated management of childhood diseases (IMCI) services (2,723 treated for diarrhea, 3,766 treated for pneumonia, 1,667 treated for Dysentery, 813 treated for Malaria, 6,915 treated for Deworming, 4,691 treated for others).	20,575
Pregnant women provided reproductive health services (3,577 provided antenatal care, 1,825 provided postnatal care, 32,629 provided iron folate supplements, 5,577 vaccinated against Tetanus).	43,608
*Partial reports from 72 Mobile teams: 13 MTs in Aden (2 - Aden, 5 - Abyan, 2 - Shabwa, 2 - Al-Dhale, 2 - Lahj); 25 MTs in Al-Hodeida (6 - Al-Hodeida, 11 - Hajjah, 6 - Raymah, 2 - Al Mahweet); 17 MTs in Sana'a (2 - Sana'a, 2 - Al-Baida, 9 - Amran, 4 - Dhamar); 13 MTs in Taiz; 4 MTs in Sa'ada (4 - Al-Jawf).	

The situation is particularly critical for children. As a result of the current crisis, the number of children under 5 at risk of SAM has tripled in 2015. To prevent and reduce the number of cases, UNICEF has screened¹ 19,875 children² for acute malnutrition in the routine nutrition services in the governorates of Sana'a, Hodeidah, Taiz, and Aden; 2,135 severely malnourished children³ were admitted into feeding programmes⁴; 4,732 mothers of children under 5 received infant and young child feeding counselling⁵; 4,588 children under 5 received vitamin A and micronutrient supplementation; 6,130 received deworming capsules; 29,686 pregnant and lactating women received iron/folate supplementation; and 12,000 cartons of Plumpynut therapeutic food were distributed⁶ during the reporting period.

319,966 children under 5
at risk of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM)

1,000,064 children under 5
projected to suffer Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM)

In order to build capacity of local actors and partners, UNICEF is training and monitoring community health volunteers (CHVs) in targeted zones. During the last two weeks, 120 CHVs were trained⁷. Aiming at improving national capacity for effectively manage nutrition programmes, 184 health workers⁸ were trained in community management of acute malnutrition (CMAM) and infant & young child feeding (IYCF), while two training workshops were conducted in Sana'a and Amran targeting district health offices and nutrition zonal supervisors to build the capacity of nutrition districts monitors on CMAM reporting tools.

Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)

The collapse of water and sanitation services and infrastructure has left more than 20 million people in need of access to safe water and sanitation. UNICEF remains committed to improving water supply and sanitation services, and providing hygiene kits. About 3.5 million people have been provided with access to water and over 650,000 have received basic hygiene kits. However, significant needs remain due to the lack of fuel and the continuity of armed activity.

+20 million people
lack access to safe water and sanitation

+52% ↑
Increase since the beginning of the crisis

Water infrastructure has been damaged in six communities in Sa'ada, limiting access to water for more than 40,600 people. UNICEF has doubled efforts to provide alternatives and immediate solutions, including the provision of fuel and water trucking. In partnership with Oxfam, UNICEF is planning to transport four water tanks⁹ to replace the damaged tanks. The current ceasefire has allowed the transportation of the tanks from Harad (Hajjah Governorate) to Sa'ada.

During the reporting period, over 1.8 million people were reached by UNICEF support to local water corporations in Al Bayda, Hodeidah, Amanat Al Asimah, Amran and Sa'ada Governorates (1,790,987 people) and 15 rural water projects in Sa'ada (92,973 people). In addition, 29,562 displaced people and their host communities received water for drinking and domestic use by water trucking provided in Amanat Al Asimah, Sa'ada and Taiz Governorates.

Poor hygiene and sanitation conditions remain of concern as one of the main causes of diseases. Between 2 and 15 December, family hygiene kits were distributed to 3,087 people in Al Dhale Governorate, consumable hygiene kits were provided to 13,351 individuals in Aden, Ibb and Taiz Governorates and 5,920 people received basic family water kits in Hajjah Governorate. UNICEF also completed distribution of Latrine materials for installing 270 latrines to serve 668 households in Hajjah Governorate. 760 ceramic water filters were distributed reaching 5,320 people in Taiz Governorate. UNICEF also conducted hygiene awareness sessions focusing on personal hygiene, hand washing and safe water storage for 79,972 people in Hajjah Governorate. Solid waste collection and disposal continued in Aden and Sa'ada. UNICEF helped provide fuel which supported the operation of a wastewater treatment plant in Sana'a enabling them to sustain services for 1,400,000 beneficiaries.

Education

The escalation of the conflict forced at least 1.8 million school-aged children out of schools. Over 3,584 schools in conflict-affected areas were closed for over two months due to intensive airstrikes and street fighting.

+1.8 million children
forced out of school since the beginning of the crisis

¹ Through 73 reporting mobile teams.

² Including 9,804 male, 10,071 female.

³ Including 1,010 male, 1,125 female.

⁴ In Alhodidah, Hajjah, Almahwit, Raymah, Lahj, Aden, Shabwah, Aldhalea, Abyan, Ammant Alasimah, Sana'a, Ammran, Albaydha, Dhammar and Taiz.

⁵ In Sana'a, Ammran, Albaydha, Alhodidah, Raymah, Aden, Lahj, Aldhalea and Taiz.

⁶ In Hodeidah, Sana'a and Sa'ada targeted zones.

⁷ 40 in Ammran, 40 in Sana'a, 40 in Dhammar.

⁸ 80 in Hajjah governorate, 104 in Dhammar, Sana'a and Mareb.

⁹ Four water tanks, 45,000 liters capacity each.

Schools officially opened on 1 November but attendance in some areas remains low. In the 14,500 schools that have reopened, attendance ranges from 35 per cent in around seven districts in Hajjah, Ma-rib and Taiz, to over 90 per cent in relatively stable areas such as Ibb and Alamanah. In most other governorates, school attendance is between 60 and 80 per cent. To date, around 1,094 schools remain closed due to insecurity or damages on their structures, mainly in Sa'ada and Taiz Governorates, affecting about 383,000 children. Additionally, an estimated 1.6 million school-aged children that were already out of school before the conflict, are not yet enrolled.

+1,000 schools affected
by ground fighting, shelling, airstrikes, used as shelter for IDPs or occupied by Armed Groups

1,500 schools
remain closed due to insecurity or damages

The conflict has left over 1,000 schools inadequate to resume lessons at the beginning of the new school year, including 216 that are still being used by IDPs as temporary shelters as of December 15 (down from over 400, thanks to efforts by UNICEF and partners).

As part of UNICEF's efforts to support the Back to School programme, 27,000 school bags packed with stationery items have been given to affected children in Ibb and Sana'a Governorates during the reporting period, distribution of 237,000 school bags is underway in 11 additional governorates. 1,482 teachers, 75 school administrators, 681 members of father and mother councils and 725 members of student councils in Amanat Al Asima, were trained in providing psychosocial support and promoting violence free schools. In addition, 197 education supervisors and trainers in Hodeidah and 59 school principals and supervisors from Al-Jawf were trained on providing support to school teachers.

Child Protection

Ongoing violence continues to have dramatic ramification for children causing urgent needs for psychosocial support as well as other urgent child protection concerns, leaving over 7.3 million children in need of protection services.

+7.3 million children
in need of protection services

UNICEF promotes Psycho-Social-Support (PSS) via community based and mobile child friendly spaces (CFS). During the reporting period, 20,418 children¹⁰ from conflict affected populations, host communities and IDPs in 36 districts of Ibb, Taiz, Marib, Sana'a, Hodeidah, Amran, Hajjah, Hadramout and Aden Governorates, received PSS via CFS' activities such as sport, arts and recreational activities.

Mine risk education (MRE) sessions conducted for conflict affected population and displaced communities reached 36,430 people including 28,953 children¹¹ and 7,477 adults,¹² in 11 districts of Mukalla and Hajjah governorates.

Since 29 November 2015, the Country Task Force on Monitoring and Reporting of Grave Child Rights Violations in Armed Conflicts and their networks were able to verify 62 out of 73 MRM reported incidents in eight governorates. The majority of the verified incidents took place in Sa'ada (28) and Aden (15). Documentation and verification on attacks on schools and hospitals has improved in Sa'ada where three attacks on schools and 13 attacks on hospitals were reported and verified. The Task Force verified the killing and maiming of 44 boys and 26 girls, most of them in Sa'ada (34).¹³

Social Policy

The continued deterioration of the security and socio-economic situation in Yemen has left many households prone to poverty. The current context has strongly affected the ability of households to pay for their daily needs and expenses. With unconditional cash transfers, UNICEF is supporting the most vulnerable families to cover their basic needs including food, water and shelter. By mid-December, UNICEF has reached 4,879 vulnerable households (about 34,153 individuals) in Amanat al-Asima (Sana'a City) with cash assistance (YR 21,500, approximately \$100 for each household), in order to help strengthen their resilience against further economic shocks.

About 10,000 households in Taiz are expected to be reached by the end of December 2015. Partners from Taiz (Social Welfare Fund, Al-Amal Bank and Hemmat Shabab Foundation) attended preparation meetings and training to learn from the experience of the cash transfers programme in Amanat al-Asima.

Communication for Development (C4D)

During the reporting period, UNICEF reached 58,425 people with critical information and promotion of positive behaviors, bringing the total number of people engaged through outreach activities to 638,130 since the escalation of conflict. Through counselling sessions, home visits, theatre shows, focus group discussions (FGDs) as well as through education and communication (IEC) materials, UNICEF was able to engage with individuals and families around critical lifesaving

¹⁰ Including 9,907 girls, 10,511 boys.

¹¹ Including 12,636 girls, 16,317 boys.

¹² Including 2,693 women, 4,784 men.

¹³ Including 25 children killed (10 boys, 15 girls) and nine maimed (5 boys, 4 girls).

practices and messages including disease prevention/outbreak (malaria, Dengue fever, diarrhoea/cholera), vaccination, exclusive breastfeeding and proper infant and child feeding practices as well as hygiene promotion hand washing, safe water use, keeping clean environment, as well promoting care and protective behaviours. A heightened Back to School Campaign has seen a vast improvement in the number of children currently enrolled in schools (see Education section). Child protection issues, especially prevention of child recruitment, avoiding child separation, and child trafficking, mine risk education and prevention of injury are also being prioritized. In addition, over a million listeners have been reached by the broadcast of the Back to School campaign, as well as health and nutrition messages, through Sanaa Radio and Radio Sayoun.

Supply and Logistics

Since the escalation of the crisis in late March, 3,026.7 metric tons of emergency supplies have been sent to Yemen. During the reporting period, 59,800 school bag kits (school bag plus stationeries), 215 schools in box, 30 tents, and 119 recreation kits were brought to the country to be distributed as part of the Back to School campaign. 2,963 cartons of Plumpy'nut and 300 cartons of formula (F100 - F75) were distributed to implementing partners. The last charter flight for 2015 carried 22.1 Mt of rota, penta and BCG vaccines from Djibouti to Sanaa.

Funding

In line with the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for 2015 (revised in June 2015), **UNICEF's updated Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) appeal is US\$182.6 million**. To date, UNICEF has received US\$118.76 million against the appeal, leaving a **35% funding gap**.¹⁴ In particular, funding that would allow cash transfers to the poorest families to enable purchase of basic survival supplies for their children is still urgently needed.

Sector	Requirements	Funding Received*		Funding Gap	
		US\$	%	US\$	%
Nutrition	41,500,000	37,979,083	92%	3,520,917	8%
Health	34,000,000	26,154,405	77%	7,845,595	23%
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	58,000,000	31,971,139	55%	26,028,861	45%
Child Protection	12,600,000	8,696,911	69%	3,903,089	31%
Education	10,500,000	6,809,818	65%	3,690,182	35%
Social Protection in Emergency	26,000,000	6,075,859	23%	19,924,141	77%
Being allocated	-	1,069,741	-	-	-
Total	182,600,000	118,756,957	65%	63,843,044	35%

*Funds received do not include pledges.

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Who to contact for further information:

Rajat Madhok
Chief of Communications
UNICEF Yemen
Sana'a
Tel: +967 712223001
Email: rmadok@unicef.org

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

¹⁴ 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.

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 (OPV3/MCV) ¹			2,730,000	4,408,314*
Number of pregnant and lactating women provided antenatal, delivery and postnatal care ²			590,000	206,746
WASH				
Number of affected people provided with access to water as per agreed standards ³	4,364,179	4,251,203	3,971,800	3,555,128
Number of affected people with access to basic hygiene kit ⁴	973,785	496,419	650,000	411,541
NUTRITION				
Number of children under 5 with Severe Acute Malnutrition admitted to therapeutic care (OTP/TFC/Mobile) ⁵	214,794	117,676	214,794	117,676
Number of children under 5 given micronutrient interventions ⁶	1,600,000	4,086,627	1,198,059	4,086,627
CHILD PROTECTION				
Cases of grave child rights violations monitored, verified and documented ⁷		1074		1074
Number of affected children benefiting from psychosocial support ⁸	548,168	348,182	328,900	348,182
Number of people (children and adults) reached with information on protecting themselves from physical injury/death due to mine/UXO/ERW ⁹	500,000	408,050	357,161	408,050
EDUCATION				
Number of affected school-aged children with access to education via Temporary Learning Spaces and school reconstruction ¹⁰	126,748	31,690	77,000	17,677
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	555,001	542,000	371,639
SOCIAL PROTECTION				
Number of affected people assisted with cash transfers (including rental subsidies)			245,000	34,153
C4D				
Number of affected people reached through integrated C4D efforts			834,000	638,130

Footnotes:

**The initial target was based on plans for a Sub-National Immunization Days (SNIDs) for Polio targeting 2.7 million children; this was subsequently changed in favor of the National Immunization Days (NIDs) for Polio targeting 5 million children and hence the higher number than planned vaccinated (4.4 million). This includes 742,081 children provided at least one Measles dose since January 2015.

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