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Yemen

Humanitarian Situation Report



21 November – 3 December 2015

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

Highlights

- 2,100 more children are able to learn as 70 additional temporary classroom tents have been provided for IDPs and other affected out of school children in Ibb and Sana'a.
- UNICEF continues its first cash transfer activity in Sana'a reaching children from a total of 4,800 households with a one-time transfer of YR 21,500 (roughly \$100) for each family.
- A fourth round of integrated outreach began on 21 November in all governorates (except in Sa'ada where the third round began) targeting 1,510,611 children, including a package of health and nutrition services to mothers and children.
- 18,364 children from six conflict affected governorates received psycho-social support services (PSS) during this reporting period, bringing the total reached to 327,764.

The escalation of the conflict in Yemen beginning in March 2015, has left over 80 per cent of the population (21.1 million people) in need of humanitarian assistance, including 9.9 million children. Yemen's health system is on the verge of collapse with over 15 million people currently lacking basic health care and limited access to treatment of chronic diseases. Food security remains a concern, with 14.4 million people estimated to be food insecure. In addition to the desperate humanitarian situation and ongoing conflict, Yemen still struggles to recover from the two cyclones that made landfall during the first and second week of November.

The continued lack of basic goods such as water, electricity, medicine and fuel is causing more and more disruption to people's lives in other areas. In addition, the sharp increase in prices of food coupled with loss of jobs and lack of work opportunities continues to increase poverty and malnutrition among the most vulnerable groups in Yemeni society. 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

People in need of urgent humanitarian assistance:

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

637 children killed
927 children injured

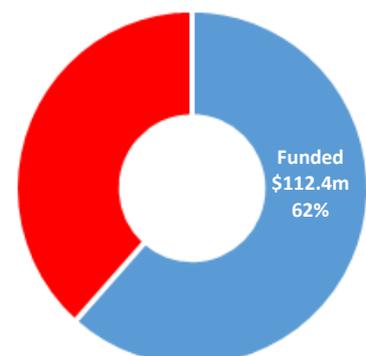
20.4 million people in need of WASH assistance

15.2 million people in need of basic health care

UNICEF 2015 Requirements:
US \$182.6 million

Funds received:
US \$112,407,750 million (38 per cent gap)

Overall Funding Status



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 new hub in Ibb, which is 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. During the reporting period, clusters submitted first drafts of activities and budgets for the Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan 2016 (YHRP).

Humanitarian Strategy

In response to the enduring and deepening humanitarian crisis in Yemen, 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 children's backpacks 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 percent of the population. In acknowledgement of the huge impact of poverty on children, targeted cash grants make up a part of UNICEF's humanitarian strategy recently reaching thousands of the most vulnerable children and families in Yemen. UNICEF continues to gather data and 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, UN leaders 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. Yemen Humanitarian Country Team is currently developing its Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for 2016, UNICEF is actively involved in this process.

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

Yemen's health sector continues to deteriorate due to the ongoing conflict which has left over 15.2 million people in need of access to basic healthcare, and caused widespread damage to the health system infrastructure. The number of children under 5 at risk of SAM has tripled in 2015, with 537,000 children now at risk, compared to 160,000 children before the conflict. Almost twice as many children under 5, a total of 1,293,500 children, are projected to suffer from MAM this year, compared to 690,000 before the crisis. It is also estimated that that 2.6 million children under the age of 15 are unprotected against measles – a potentially fatal disease that spreads rapidly in times of conflict and population displacement; some 1.3 million children are at risk of Acute Respiratory Infections (ARIs) and 1.8 million at risk of diarrheal diseases due to the prevailing situation.

This year, Yemen planned to conduct three national campaigns for Polio vaccination as recommended by the Technical Advisory Group for Polio Eradication. The first round was conducted in August, the second was conducted in early November. The second round could only be conducted in 17 governorates and had to be postponed in six governorates because of cyclones. During the reporting period, the second round of Polio campaign was conducted in the remaining six governorates, targeting 459,599 children under 5 years. This brings the total number of children vaccinated for Polio in November to 4,685,088, or 93 per cent of the target.

During 2015, Yemen attempted to conduct five rounds of integrated outreach activities (health and nutrition), as opposed to four every year prior to the conflict. The integrated outreach activities target remote areas in all governorates and provide a package of health and nutrition services to mothers and children, the first three rounds were conducted in July, September and October 2015. The fourth round of integrated outreach began on 21 November in all governorates (except

in Sa'ada where the third round began), targeting 1,510,611 children for screening and treatment of childhood illnesses and malnutrition, deworming, vitamin A supplementation for children, and 296,758 women with antenatal care including iron folate supplementation and TT vaccination, postnatal care, folic acid supplementation and IYCF counselling for women.

During the reporting period, UNICEF supported 95 mobile teams to provide a package of health and nutrition services to mothers and children mainly in areas with internally displaced populations. Sixty five of the 95 teams have reached 9,082 children were given routine vaccinations, 25,800 received services for community case management for childhood illnesses and 17,305 pregnant women received reproductive health services among others.

Community Based Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) continued to be provided throughout the country. During the reporting period, 77 mobile teams screened a total number of 22,448 children for acute malnutrition of whom 2,747 severely malnourished children were admitted to therapeutic feeding programmes. In addition, 26,557 mothers of children under 5 received infant and young child feeding counseling, 4,471 children under 5 received vitamin A, and micro-nutrient supplementation. UNICEF also provided deworming capsules to 8,039 children. Furthermore, 18,568 pregnant and lactating women received iron/folate supplementation.

Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)

The lack of water, sanitation and hygiene continues to be a major issue in Yemen, with 1.17 million children in need of immediate support. UNICEF remains committed to improving water supply and sanitation services, and providing hygiene kits. In the past two weeks, UNICEF continued to support local water corporations in six different governorates, reaching 2,651,987 beneficiaries. UNICEF also supported 15 rural water projects in Sa'ada Governorate, reaching 92,973 people. In addition, water trucking provided water for drinking and domestic use to 26,306 displaced people and their host communities in four different governorates, including Taiz. Family hygiene kits were distributed to 8,648 people in Amanat Al Asimah, Amran and Hadramaut Governorates, while consumable hygiene kits were also provided to 14,364 individuals in Amran and Taiz Governorates.

UNICEF also completed the installation of 170 emergency latrines benefitting 460 families in IDP settlements in Abs District during the reporting period. 1,833 ceramic water filters were distributed reaching 12,831 people in Al Dhale'e, Amran and Lahj Governorates. Moreover, two water tanks were installed in Amanat Al Asimah. UNICEF also conducted hygiene awareness sessions focusing on personal hygiene, hand washing and safe water storage for 67,480 people in Hajjah Governorate. Solid waste collection and disposal continued in Aden and Sa'ada benefitting 864,000 individuals. UNICEF helped provide fuel which supported the operation of a wastewater treatment plant in Sana'a enabling them to sustain their services to 1,400,000 beneficiaries.

Education

Across the country, 1.8 million school-aged children were forced out of schools since the conflict erupted, in addition to an estimated 1.6 million school-aged children who were already out of school prior to the escalation of the conflict. Schools officially opened on 1 Nov but attendance in some areas remains low, while in others, the conflict has left schools damaged or unable to reopen.

The conflict has left over 1,000 schools inadequate to resume lessons at the beginning of the new school year, including 238 schools that are still being used by IDPs as temporary shelters as of December 1 (down from over 400 due to efforts by UNICEF and partners). Despite the official reopening of schools on November 1 (after two months of delay), all schools in Sa'ada Governorate and a few districts in Taiz, Marib and Al Dhale are still unable to open due to continued insecurity. The overall attendance rate ranges from 35 per cent in Taiz to over 90 per cent in relatively stable areas such as Ibb. In most other governorates, school attendance is between 60 and 80 per cent.

As part of UNICEF's efforts to support the back to school programme, 18,000 school bags packed with stationery items have been given to affected children in Ibb and Sana'a Governorates during the reporting period, with distribution of 237,000 school bags 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. During the reporting period, UNICEF and the Governorate Education Offices (GEOs) in Ibb and Sana'a have installed 70 tents as temporary classrooms for IDPs and other affected out of school children, providing access to education for over 2,100 children.

Child Protection

The ongoing violence has exposed children to terrible suffering and resulted in a dramatic increase in the psychosocial needs as well as other urgent child protection concerns. The consequences for children living with and experiencing conflict and trauma include stress and long-term mental health issues. UNICEF promotes Psycho-Social-Support (PSS) via community based and mobile child friendly spaces (CFS). Activities include sports, arts, theatre and recreational activities that assist children to better cope with the challenges they face. Through these activities, UNICEF reached 18,364 children from conflict affected populations, host communities and IDPs in Marib, Sana'a, Hodeidah, Amran, Hajjah and Aden Governorates. 328 adults from conflict affected and displaced communities in five districts of Mukalla and Dhale Governorates received awareness raising sessions on key child protection issues. Mine risk education (MRE) sessions were also conducted for conflict affected populations and displaced communities, reaching 865 children in Aden and Al-Dhale Governorates.

Social Policy

The first cycle of cash transfers in Amanat Al-Asimah (Sana'a City), which began on 14 November 2015, is still underway and will remain open until all targeted households (5,000) are reached. Through Al-Amal Bank, UNICEF has thus far reached children from a total of 4,800 vulnerable households with cash transfers (YR 21,500, roughly \$100, for each family). Most of the beneficiaries collected their cash at distribution sites throughout the city. In some cases cash was delivered directly to the beneficiaries' homes to reach the most vulnerable, including those with disabilities, illnesses, and pregnant women. Delays in reaching beneficiaries were caused by challenges in data verification and in delivering cards to some beneficiaries. Led by the Social Welfare Fund, the Complaints and Appeal Unit continues to document and manage complaints and appeals.

Communication for Development (C4D)

UNICEF supported C4D interventions reached 47,421 individuals in the reporting period, bringing the total number of people reached to 579,705 since the escalation of conflict in March 2015. Through counseling 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 about critical lifesaving practices. Messages included disease prevention and outbreaks of Malaria, Dengue Fever, Diarrhoea and Cholera, as well as vaccination, breastfeeding, proper IYCF practices, hygiene promotion, handwashing, safe water use, the promotion of care and protective behaviours, including the Back to School Campaign, prevention of child recruitment, avoiding child separation, and child trafficking, mine risk education and prevention of injury. In addition, two radio stations broadcast Back to School as well as health and nutrition messages, reaching over a million listeners.

Supply and Logistics

Since the escalation of the crisis in late March, a total of 2,605.6 metric tons of emergency supplies have been sent to Yemen. During the reporting period, 30,800 cartons of Ready to Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) was distributed (1 carton serves 1 child for 1 month). In addition, 205 schools in the box and 105 recreation kits were handed over to the Ministry of Education and different NGOs. 294,630 vials of Measles and Rubella (MR) vaccines were airlifted from Djibouti to Sana'a and handed over to the Ministry of Health (MoH). As part of a UN convoy organized by UNOCHA and the logistics cluster for providing assistance to Taiz, UNICEF supplies/trucks got stuck at a checkpoint. Negotiations are on-going to facilitate their release.

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\$112.4 million against the appeal, leaving a 38 per cent funding gap.¹ 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	
		\$	%	\$	%
Nutrition	41,500,000	38,022,304	92%	3,477,696	8%
Health	34,000,000	26,179,665	77%	7,820,335	23%
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	58,000,000	32,001,127	55%	25,998,873	45%

¹ 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.

Child Protection	12,600,000	8,597,360	68%	4,002,640	32%
Education	10,500,000	1,191,582	11%	9,308,418	89%
Social Protection in Emergency	26,000,000	6,012,247	23%	19,987,753	77%
Being allocated	-	403,465			
Total	182,600,000	112,407,750	62%	70,192,250	38%

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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	739,048
Number of pregnant and lactating women provided antenatal, delivery and postnatal care ²			590,000	135,492
WASH				
Number of affected people provided with access to water as per agreed standards ³	4,364,179	4,228,096	3,971,800	3,551,918
Number of affected people with access to basic hygiene kit ⁴	973,785	493,332	650,000	408,454
NUTRITION				
Number of children under 5 with Severe Acute Malnutrition admitted to therapeutic care (OTP/TFC/Mobile) ⁵	214,794	115,541	214,794	115,541
Number of children under 5 given micronutrient interventions ⁶	1,600,000	4,082,039	1,198,059	4,082,039
CHILD PROTECTION				
Cases of grave child rights violations monitored, verified and documented ⁷		1,012		1,012
Number of affected children benefiting from psychosocial support ⁸	548,168	327,764	328,900	327,764
Number of people (children and adults) reached with information on protecting themselves from physical injury/death due to mine/UXO/ERW ⁹	500,000	371,620	357,161	371,620
EDUCATION				
Number of affected school-aged children with access to education via Temporary Learning Spaces and school reconstruction ¹⁰	126,748	24,690	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	415,694	542,000	361,639
SOCIAL PROTECTION				
Number of affected people assisted with cash transfers (including rental subsidies)	356,917	0	245,000	33,600
C4D				
Number of affected people reached through integrated C4D efforts			834,000	579,705

Footnotes:

*This is the figure for # of children between 6 and 59 months provided at least one Measles dose since January 2015. 4,408,314 children under 5 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