UNICEF Yemen Situation Report
Reporting period: September 2013

Highlights:

- 24 out of the 27 schools that were closed due to armed fighting in two districts of Amran Governorate in the north have now been re-opened and cleared of internally displaced (IDP) families, impacting 6,406 children (4,184 boys, 2,222 girls).

- An estimated 1,060,000 children under 5 are suffering from acute malnutrition in Yemen according to needs analysis conducted in preparation for 2014, while 7 priority areas have been identified for child protection work.

- Over two thirds of children who drop out of school in Lahj Governorate in the south of Yemen are girls, according to the recently completed Out of School survey.

An out of school child writes on the board during the accelerated learning programme supported by UNICEF in Taiz Governorate
Inter-Agency Collaboration, Coordination, Cluster Leadership and Key Partnerships

Nutrition cluster

- 1,060,000 children under 5 are estimated to be suffering from acute malnutrition, 279,146 severely so according to a regional consultation on 2014 needs. The consultation was carried out in Sa’ada and Haradh in the north and Aden in the south based on findings from more than 12 SMART nutrition surveys, and the World Food Programme (WFP) Comprehensive Food Security Survey (CFSS).
- 34 MOPHP survey field coordinators from Sa’ada and Al-Jawf in the north (18) as well as other governorates (16) were trained to conduct SMART surveys. The aim was to enhance capacity in general but also to access the hard to reach areas of Sa’ada and Al Jawf particularly.
- 16 MOPHP and partner staff were trained on SQUEAC\(^1\) methodology in Hodeidah Governorate in the west of the country, which was followed by an assessment to evaluate coverage of the community management of acute malnutrition (CMAM) programme in Al Qanawis District. The findings from the assessment are expected to identify major barriers and encouraging factors to accessing CMAM services.

WASH cluster

- NSTR

Education cluster

- 3 schools in Aden are still occupied by IDPs, which affects the new school year as they will need to be renovated before being used. UNHCR, UNOCHA and the Executive Unit are working towards a final verification for the 127 IDP families currently living in the schools, which may result in consolidation of the IDPs in fewer schools.
- 15,000 children in the south will soon benefit from ongoing renovation work in 64 schools supported by GPE in Aden, Lahj and Abyan. In Lawder District, 4 schools are still under the bidding process while 7 schools have now been approved for rehabilitation by Humanitarian Reform Yemen.

Child Protection sub-cluster (CPSC)

- 7 areas have been prioritized for child protection needs and a prioritization map has been created in preparation for the consolidated appeals process (CAP) 2014. This follows a series of three local consultations with a wide range of child protection partners (local and international) conducted in Aden, Sa’ada and Haradh.

UNICEF Response

Nutrition

- 68,658 people are set to benefit from integrated nutrition, WASH and health interventions in Hajjah and Hodeidah Governorates following a new agreement with partner Action Contre La Faim (ACF).
- 50 new outpatient therapeutic programmes (OTPs) were established for the treatment of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) of children under 5 during September (in Lahj, Al-Jawf, Sa’ada, Taiz and Ibb (in central/west Yemen)). 30 infant and young child feeding (IYCF) corners and 2 therapeutic feeding centres (TFC) were also established in Taiz.
- 757 health workers from across the country received training on various aspects of treating malnutrition: 200 received refresher training on SAM, 442 were trained on OTP, 40 on TFC and 75 on IYCF counselling.
- 2,000 people were given awareness raising on the importance of proper child feeding and caring practices through local partner Field Medical Foundation (FMF) in the south of the country.
- Through FMF, physical access to the most vulnerable women and children under 5 in the hardest to reach areas of Abyan, Shabwa and Al Dhale in the south was also secured for the first time. The targeted population received integrated health and nutrition services through fixed and mobile teams. With UNICEF support, FMF also furnished nine health facilities in Abyan and Shabwa to provide an enabling environment for service delivery.

\(^1\) Semi-Quantitative Evaluation of Access and Coverage
• 2,136 children under 5 were screened for malnutrition in the north of the country by volunteers in Al-Jawf, 166 of them were found to have SAM and were consequently referred to OTPs. In addition, 2,470 people benefited from awareness raising activities at community level.

• In preparation for the upcoming SMART survey in Sa’ada, 12 participants from Sa’ada and Al-Jawf were trained. Data collection for the SMART survey in Amran was also concluded this month.

Health
• 20 community midwives will soon begin a three year training programme at the Higher Institute for Health Sciences. The agreement, recently signed by the Sa’ada Governor and UNICEF Representative is intended to support the infrastructure of Sa’ada Governorate to ensure that female health workers will provide maternal and child care services in deprived communities.

WASH
• 5,459 emergency affected families in Sa’ada Governorate are set to benefit from the distribution of 278 water tanks and 527 ceramic water filters and hygiene kits through an extended agreement with partner Al-Amal.

• 8,982 students (4,453 girls, 4,527 boys) are now using 114 new or rehabilitated latrines in schools in Razeh and Saquim Districts. UNICEF’s partner Oxfam GB has completed a water supply network in the Haiden Central District of Sa’ada with almost 17,520 meters of pipes connected. Rehabilitation work on two reinforced concrete tanks is also nearly complete, and once finished, will reach up to 14,000 people with a safe and sustainable water supply.

• 47,175 IDPs and schoolchildren settled in and outside camps in Haradh District continue to receive a daily provision of water supply from UNICEF, while 31,795 IDPs in the district continue to be supported with sanitation and hygiene promotion activities.

• 48,360 bars of soap were handed out to promote hand washing to 4,836 IDP families.

• 545 families benefited from new latrines (15 families) or latrines rehabilitated following storm damage (530 IDP families), while 356 family latrine pits were emptied, for use by 2,330 people.

Education
• 2,446 out of 3,443 children who have dropped out of school in Lahj are girls, according to results of the now complete Out Of School children survey.

• 1,299 out of school children (213 boys and 1,086 girls) in two districts in Taiz are continuing their accelerated learning programme supported by UNICEF.

• 50 trained female teachers have begun teaching in girls’ schools in 5 rural districts, with ten teachers in each district (Baqim, Majz, Sahar, Al-Safra, and Sa’ada)

• A data collection survey has been completed in 18 child friendly schools (11 schools in Al-Jawf, 7 in Sa’ada), with a further 3 still to be surveyed in Sa’ada.

• 35 Surveyors (senior trainers) from Aden, Lahj, Al-Dhale, Al-Jawf, Amran, Sana’a, Damar and Al-Bayda have been trained on data collection for child friendly schools. Fieldwork for data collection is ongoing at 138 schools in these governorates.

• Parent-teacher Association members from 8 child friendly schools in Ibb have been trained on their tasks and roles to improve their schools.

Child Protection
• 403 conflict affected children in Aden (201 girls, 202 boys) have so far been given birth certificates through a campaign which began on 22 September, aiming to reach a total of 2,500 children. The Civil Registration
Authority (CRA) mobile teams are working in close coordination with MoSAL in Aden and NGO partners (SSA, Al Fardous, Save the Children, INTERSOS).

- 5,218 individuals (including 3,169 children, 57% girls) received mine risk education this month in Abyan Governorate in partnership with DRC/DGG and INTERSOS. This also includes community volunteers/NGO or governmental staff who received MRE training in Abyan.
- 29,153 children (12,634 girls, 16,519 boys) and 134 adults received psychosocial support services (PSS) through community and school based child friendly spaces in the governorates of Sana’a, Abyan, Aden, Amran, Shabwa and Sana’a City. A further 2,803 children received counselling through mobile child friendly spaces run by Intersos and DRC. Furthermore, 350 community members, including 226 children received awareness raising sessions on a variety of child protection issues such as child marriage, trafficking and violence against children by Al Ferdous, DRC, INTERSOS and Shawthab in Abyan, Aden, Sana’a city and Sa’ada.

- 89 unaccompanied migrant children, all boys, were returned to Ethiopia in October. UNICEF Yemen together with DRC in coordination with IOM and UNICEF Ethiopia ensured the safe return of these children, which included screening and interviewing the identified children. While they were in Yemen, MSF Spain provided group and individual counselling services and now that they are back in Ethiopia, they are being provided with psychosocial support and other services with a view to being reunified with their families where appropriate.
- At least 119 unaccompanied children remain at the Sana’a immigration centre in Yemen, MoSAL Attakaful Center in Aden and the IOM Response centre. DRC, supported by UNICEF is interviewing them and providing them with interim care while waiting for their safe return back to Ethiopia.
- 21 grave violations against children were reported in September, out of which 17 incidents have been verified and 4 need further information. Out of the verified incidents, one boy was killed and 22 children (20 boys, 2 girls) were maimed. 9 of the children were maimed in Amran due to a conflict between Al Houthi and Al Ahmar tribal groups. The verified incidents took place in the governorates of Abyan (2), Sana’a City (2), Amran (8) and Sa’ada (5).

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