Situation Update

From September 2021 until 29 January 2022, a total of 10,258 families (61,548 people) have been displaced within or to Ma’rib governorate due to active conflict. Of these, 396 families (2,376 people) – were displaced in January 2022 alone, including 161 Households (HHs) (966 people) that moved from Al Jawf and 21 HHs (126 people) from Shabwah to Ma’rib (RDT / DTM Report 2022)

Fighting continued in Ma’rib, Al Jawf and Shabwah governorates in December 2021 and January 2022, resulting in the displacement of thousands of people within and to Ma’rib Governorate and restrictions on civilian movement, with the impact most acutely felt by populations close to frontlines. Civilians living in affected areas continue to face heightened protection risks and are forced to contend with limited humanitarian assistance. Women, children, persons with disabilities, and people from marginalized groups continue to be disproportionately affected by the ongoing hostilities.

In response to the new displacement within and to Ma’rib governorate since September 2021, UNICEF continues to provide a multi-sectoral humanitarian response in the governorate through flexible and rapid approaches focused on providing access to uninterrupted lifesaving and essential services that meet the needs of vulnerable children and their families.

In line with OCHA’s updated Operational Response Plan (December 2021) to the new influx of IDPs within and to Ma’rib governorate, UNICEF, through implementing partners, continues to provide IDP children and their families, both in IDP sites and host communities in the governorate, with critical health, nutrition and WASH supplies and services as well as support needed to continue their education through formal and non-formal learning opportunities, and with psychological and physical wellbeing necessary to develop their critical knowledge, skills and resilience to prepare for a better future.

Key Achievements

Nutrition
484 under 5 year old children suffering from Severe Acute Malnutrition accessed curative services.

Health
4,271 under one year old children were vaccinated against measles.

Over 4,797 children and women accessed primary health care.

WASH
35,369 people accessed safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene.
81,073 people reached with critical water, sanitation and hygiene supplies (including hygiene items) and services and also with messages on appropriate hygiene practices.

Education
800 children accessed formal education, including early learning.

Child Protection
13,307 children and caregivers accessed mental health and psychosocial support.
25,632 children provided with explosive weapons-related risk education and survivor assistance interventions.

Rapid Response Mechanism
49,426 vulnerable displaced people received Rapid Response Mechanism Kits containing food, family basic hygiene kits and female dignity kits.
UNICEF continues to provide newly displaced families with critical water, sanitation and hygiene supplies and services including messages on appropriate hygiene practices. In January 2022, a total of 19,800 IDPs, including newly displaced people taking shelter in 9 sites, were provided with safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene needs in Ma’rib City and Al Wadi districts. Since November 2021, UNICEF has supported over 35,369 IDPs with access to safe water. As part of its focus on durable water solutions for the IDP community, UNICEF has completed a safe water network projects in 8 IDP sites where over 13,800 IDPs now benefit from piped water. To support continuous hygiene promotion and awareness programmes in the IDP sites, UNICEF distributed 5,097 Consumable and Basic Hygiene Kits in January 2022 supporting a total of 30,658 IDPs, including around 17,250 children in 14 IDP sites.

**Health and Nutrition** Throughout January 2022, UNICEF supported 5 mobile health teams and over 25 Health Facilities to provide integrated preventive and curative health and nutrition services in IDP sites in Ma’rib City and Ma’rib Al-Wadi districts. Through partnerships with the Governorate Health Offices (GHO), a total of 2,014 under 1 year olds were vaccinated against measles. Since September 2021, UNICEF has vaccinated over 4,271 under 1 year olds against measles in Ma’rib city and Al Wadi districts. In January 2022, 147 children aged 6 to 59 months with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) were admitted to therapeutic care. Since September 2021, UNICEF has supported the management of SAM for over 484 children.

**Child Protection** UNICEF, through implementing partners, continues to provide child protection activities targeting both IDP and host community children and their families in the Ma’rib governorate. Throughout January 2022, UNICEF reached 1,935 children and caregivers with mental health and psychosocial support activities and provided 25,632 children with explosive weapons-related risk education and survivor assistance interventions. Since September 2021, UNICEF has supported over 13,300 children and caregivers to access mental health and psychosocial activities.

**Education** In order to ensure support for continued learning for the 15,500 displaced school-aged children (SAC) in Ma’rib, UNICEF has delivered essential education supplies including 181 school tents, 15,500 school bags, 194 school-in-a-carton and 110 recreational kits to establish Temporary Learning Spaces (TLSs) in the IDP sites. The establishment of 100 TLSs in 13 IDPs sites in both Ma’rib City and Al Wadi districts has commenced, focused on providing 8,000 children with safe learning environments to resume primary and secondary education. UNICEF completed the establishment of 10 fully furnished prefab classrooms in Al Sowaida IDP site, providing 800 children with a safe learning environment.

**Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM)** As displacement continues towards Ma’rib governorate, UNICEF, in partnership with UNFPA and WFP, supported 14,791 newly displaced people including approximately 7,000 children with Basic Hygiene Kits, food and dignity kits throughout January 2022. Since September 2021 UNICEF has supported over 49,400 people through the Rapid Response Mechanism.

**Communication for Development (C4D)** UNICEF promotes behavior and social change through community engagement in collaboration with national and local actors. In January 2022, UNICEF supported the GHO with the provision of 11,350 posters, 200,000 cloth masks, 250 community volunteer guidance packages and 8 megaphones to support the COVID-19 vaccination campaign taking place in five IDP sites.

**Partnerships:** UNICEF’s response in Marib is possible due to support from and partnerships with several organizations. UNICEF partners with local authorities in Ma’rib including the GHO, GEO, MoSAL, the Executive Unit for IDPs Camp Management, GARWSP, NWSA, MOI, NRC, NFHDR, MDF, Tabassam Association and local and international NGOs. UNICEF’s programme is possible through the generous support from BHA/OFDA, KSrelief, Japan, World Bank, ECHO, UNOCHA, and FCDO. UNICEF also partners with the IDPs community in promoting accountability to affected populations.

**Who to contact for further information:**

**Gianluca Buono**
Chief, Field Operations and Coordination
UNICEF Yemen
Sana’a
Tel: +967 712223151
Email: gbuono@unicef.org

**Mohamed Aboelnaga**
Chief of Communications
UNICEF Yemen
Sana’a
Tel: +967712223161
Email: maboelnaga@unicef.org

**Anne Lubell**
Partnerships Manager
UNICEF Yemen
Amman Outpost, Jordan
Tel: +962798350402
Email: alubell@unicef.org