Yemen | 18 October - 9 November 2026

# HUMANITARIAN SITUATION UPDATE #2

## ESCALATION OF CONFLICT **IN YEMEN**

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Over 55,000 households (330,000 people), including an estimated 174,000 children, were displaced between 03 September and 10 November, approximately 20,000 more households than reported in Situation Update No. 1. (Source: IOM)
- Hostilities in Taiz and Lahj continue to restrict movement and disrupt the main southern supply corridor to Taiz City. More than 800,000 people in Taiz were reportedly cut off from assistance as of 23 October.
- At least 64 children have been killed and 64 injured in Yemen since hostilities escalated on 3 September.
- Over the past 48 hours, intensifying hostilities and shifting frontlines have heightened security concerns. The deteriorating situation in Lahj risks further mass displacement, civilian casualties and disruption of essential services, while severely constraining humanitarian access. UNICEF is scaling up life-saving response, strengthening emergency preparedness and pre-positioning critical supplies to respond to anticipated new arrivals and escalating humanitarian needs.
- Repeated missile attacks around Aden International Airport disrupted air traffic on 28 October. Operations resumed on 29 October, but further interruption threatens humanitarian movements.
- The Health Cluster reported 9,730 conflict-related casualties, including 1,771 people reported killed, as of 3 November. A reported attack on Al-Suqyah Health Centre in Lahj on 2 November has reportedly killed five people, including three Health workers.
- Abyan, Aden, Taiz, Lahj and Al-Dhale'e account for 87 per cent of suspected AWD/cholera cases and all reported confirmed deaths in the referenced surveillance period.
- UNICEF and partners provided emergency safe water to 77,817 people, while 300 displaced children resumed learning at Al Firdous camp.
- UNICEF requires US$8.5 million to deliver urgent humanitarian assistance to the 560,000 people affected and displaced by this escalation.



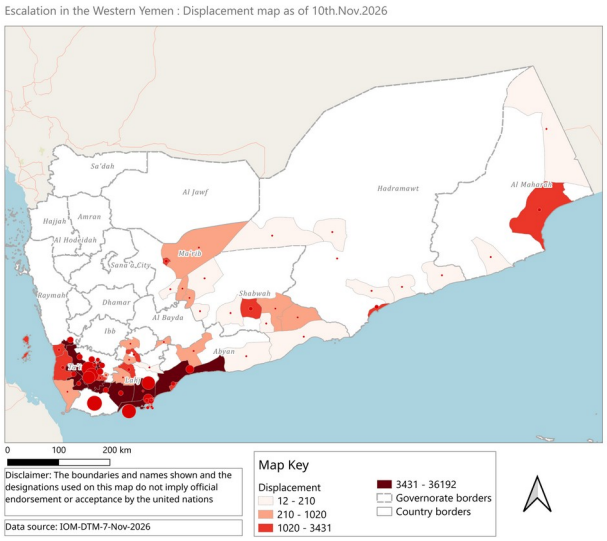
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A displaced girl fills a container with clean drinking water at a UNICEF-supported tap stand in the Al-Firdous IDP camp, Aden, Yemen.

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

Hostilities continue to intensify across multiple frontlines, particularly in Taiz and Lahj, with fighting also reported in Marib, Al-Dhale'e, Shabwah and Al Jawf. Ground clashes, shelling, and airstrikes in populated areas continue to cause civilian casualties, including among children, displacement and disruption of essential services. Fighting around Al-Maqatirah and Tur Al Bahah in Lahj and along the northern Al-Shaqb and Al-Aqroud fronts in Taiz have further constrained humanitarian access. Reported missile strikes near Aden International Airport, coupled with growing insecurity along the West Coast and Bab al Mandab corridor, threaten civilian movements, humanitarian operations and critical supply chains.

The situation in Taiz City is particularly alarming. Continued fighting, road closures and insecurity have severely restricted the main southern supply corridor from Aden, leaving hundreds of thousands of civilians increasingly isolated. More than 800,000 people were reportedly cut off from humanitarian assistance, including approximately 600,000 particularly dependent on such support to meet their basic needs. Water production has fallen by nearly 50 per cent, while food and fuel prices have more than doubled. Critical shortages of medicines, fuel, medical oxygen and electricity threaten lifesaving health services, including emergency, maternal and newborn care. With commercial supplies disrupted and household purchasing power declining, the risks of hunger, dehydration, disease outbreaks and preventable deaths are escalating. Further isolation could push already fragile essential services towards collapse, with devastating consequences for children, pregnant women and other vulnerable populations.




Displaced families in Taiz face increasingly challenging conditions, sheltering in unfinished or damaged buildings, resorting to hazardous coping mechanisms and struggling to access food, safe water and healthcare. Hospitals remain overwhelmed and face dwindling medical supplies. Despite UNICEF's delivery of health and nutrition supplies in late September, sustained humanitarian and commercial access remains critical to preventing further deterioration. Protection of civilians and essential infrastructure, restoration of access corridors and uninterrupted delivery of lifesaving assistance remain urgent priorities. Without immediate improvements in access, the humanitarian consequences could extend well beyond the direct impacts of hostilities.

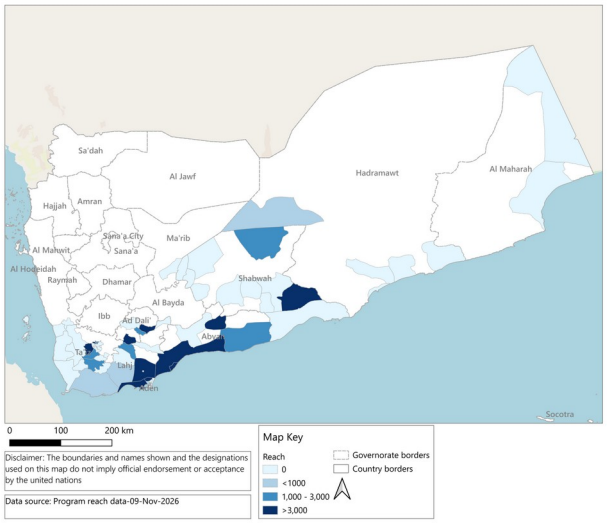
IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix recorded over 55,000 newly displaced households (330,000 people), including an estimated 174,000 children, between 03 September and 10 November 2026. This represents approximately 20,000 additional households compared with Situation Update No. 1, underscoring the accelerating displacement crisis and mounting pressure on overstretched services in receiving areas.

New displacement remains concentrated in and from Taiz and Lahj, with families also moving towards Aden, Abyan and other relatively accessible locations. These rapid and often repeated population movements are stretching reception arrangements and complicating the identification, registration and timely assistance of families in need.

The Health Cluster reported 9,730 casualties (1,771 killed and 7,959 injured) as of 3 November. On 20 October, the Health Emergency Operations Centre reported mortar-fragment damage to Al Arous Hospital in Taiz and an attack that destroyed an ambulance, killing its driver and a paramedic. On 2 November, an attack on the UNICEF-supported Al-Suqyah Health Centre in Lahj was reported to have killed five people, including three health workers. The facility serves approximately 1,700 people. WHO's Surveillance System for Attacks on Health Care (SSA) also recorded 17 attacks on health care since August 2026, with reported impacts on medical supplies in 15 incidents and warehouses in five incidents, further disrupting the availability and delivery of essential health commodities.

Abyan, Aden, Taiz, Lahj, and Al-Dhale'e account for 87 per cent of suspected acute watery diarrhoea/cholera cases, and all reported confirmed deaths in the available surveillance reporting. Population movements, overcrowding in displacement sites, insufficient latrines, limited access to safe water, and weak disease surveillance increase the risk of disease transmission and delay detection, particularly where insecurity constrains reporting. In Taiz, disruption of food and fuel deliveries, sharply rising prices and deteriorating water services threaten nutrition and household survival. In displacement sites, trucked water delivery is essential but costly and difficult to sustain at scale; urgent investment is also needed in water points, sanitation, desludging, and hygiene promotion. Unmet needs are increasing for children under five, pregnant and lactating women and other groups requiring sustained health, nutrition and protection services.

Escalation in the Western Yemen : Health & Nutrition Reach map as of 9.Nov.2026




Humanitarian access to Taiz City remains severely constrained by the closure of the Aden–Taiz road through Al Turbah, insecurity along alternative routes and restrictions affecting humanitarian and commercial supplies. The resulting interruption to fuel, food, water-related inputs, medicines and other essential commodities is compounding the humanitarian crisis. Humanitarian diplomacy and operational engagement continue at different levels, including UN advocacy with relevant authorities and parties, coordination through humanitarian leadership channels and engagement by the ICRC and other partners to facilitate humanitarian movements. On 20 October, the Humanitarian Coordinator publicly called for safe passage of commercial goods, food, medicines and humanitarian assistance; the ICRC's delivery of medical supplies in early November demonstrates the value of such engagement. However, isolated consignments cannot substitute for safe, predictable, sustained and principled access for humanitarian personnel and supplies, alongside civilian and commercial movement. Further engagement with all relevant parties is required to secure workable routes, consistent clearances, safety assurances and timely deliveries, while respecting humanitarian principles and the protection of civilians.

The Aden–Sana'a route through Al-Dhale'e remains open, although checkpoint restrictions limit travel by people from northern governorates to Aden. Shihn and Al Wade'ah border crossings also remain open. Air access through Aden International Airport was temporarily interrupted following the 28 October strike and resumed on 29 October. Repeated attacks and insecurity surrounding this critical entry point continue to pose risks to civilian travel, emergency personnel, and humanitarian supply movements. Humanitarian access arrangements must therefore address both road and air corridors, localized barriers at checkpoints, the safety of aid workers, and the continuity of deliveries to affected governorates, in line with established humanitarian coordination and security procedures.

## UNICEF'S HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

since 3 September 2026

### AT A GLANCE

**77,817**
People reached with safe water

**91,300**
People reached with health & Nutrition services

**58,671**
People reached with SBC messages

**79,029**
People reached with explosive ordnance risk education

The Rapid Response Mechanism assisted 25,480 households (178,416 people) from the start of the September escalation through 8 November. Child protection partners provided psychosocial support to 4,075 children and 113 caregivers, case management to 687 children and explosive ordnance risk education across 16 sites. A further 2,947 children received school-based psychosocial and recreational support in Aden, Lahj and Abyan.

UNICEF and partners are scaling up emergency assistance while strengthening access to sustained water, sanitation, education, health, nutrition, and protection services in displacement sites. Progress remains uneven, while new arrivals and insecurity continue to outpace available services.

As part of its emergency response in Yemen, UNICEF supports 25 mobile teams that provide a package of primary health care services to people

displaced by the ongoing conflict and to their host communities in southern governorates. A total of 434 sites were visited in 25 districts. The teams reached about 91,300 people and delivered 130,891 services, about 5,240 services per team.

### Aden

**WASH and community engagement.** At Al Firdous, daily safe-water trucking increased from 32,000 to 150,000 litres, with routine water-quality monitoring. Sixty of 100 planned latrines are complete; 250 hygiene kits and 250 jerry cans are planned for distribution. Across Al Firdous, Shaab 1 and Shaab 2, 60 volunteers reached 26,370 people with hygiene messages, and 100 mother-to-mother support clubs are providing nutrition awareness.

**Education and child protection.** At Al Firdous displaced camp, 300 children (160 girls, 140 boys) have begun temporary classes, where UNICEF provided desks and teacher incentives. At Al Nour School, 1,230 children received psychosocial and recreational activities. Across Aden, partners reached 1,793 children and caregivers with psychosocial support, 572 children with case management and 10,897 people with explosive ordnance risk education.

**Health and Nutrition Services:** A total of 13,135 people reached with primary health care services in 3 districts including 78 people with special needs and 1,304 children 6-59 months with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) admitted for treatment, and 1,003 caregivers for children 0-23 months receiving Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) counselling in addition to 2,269 children reached with micronutrient supplements and 1,127 women revived IFA/MMS for 6 months.

### Lahj




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UNICEF-supported assistance at a displaced site in Yemen

**WASH and community engagement.** At Otira 2, 30,000 litres of safe water are trucked daily, and 106 latrines are complete, pending handover. Rehabilitation of the water system is being contracted; 400 hygiene kits and 400 jerry cans are planned. The response is extending to 13 displacement camps in Tuban, including 220 additional latrines. Across Otira 1, Otira 2 and Rebat Gharby, 130 volunteers reached 32,301 people with hygiene messages, alongside 85 mother-to-mother clubs.

**Education and child protection.** At Otira 2, 563 children joined learning, psychosocial and recreational activities, while 375 received learning materials. Deployment of volunteer teachers and distribution of school bags were delayed by insecurity but are resuming. Partners reached 1,430 children and caregivers with psychosocial support, managed 138 child protection cases and provided explosive ordnance risk education to 13,316 people, including by radio.

**Health and Nutrition Services:** A total of 6,744 people were reached with health and nutrition services in 4 districts including 226 children 6-59 months with SAM admitted for treatment, and 276 caregivers for children 0-23 months receiving IYCF counselling. In addition,562 children were reached with micronutrient supplements and 498 women revived IFA/MMS for 6 months.

### Abyan

At Al Qarnah camp, UNICEF supports 38,000 litres of chlorinated water daily. Construction of 140 latrines is 90 per cent complete, and 450 hygiene kits and 450 jerry cans are planned. Across displacement sites, 300 community mobilisers are providing hygiene messages, with another 100 planned. At Abna'a Al Fallaheen School, 1,154 children received psychosocial and recreational activities. Partners trained 31 social workers on mental health and psychosocial support and reached 3,273 people with explosive ordnance risk education.

**Health and Nutrition Services:** A total of 18,646 people were reached with health and nutrition services in 4 districts, including 986 children 6-59 months with SAM admitted for treatment, and 1,638 caregivers for children 0-23 months receiving IYCF counselling. In addition, 5,454 children were reached with micronutrient supplements and 1,841 women received IFA/MMS for 6 months.

### Taiz

UNICEF handed over 20,000 litres of diesel to the Local Water and Sanitation Corporation (LWSC) and plans to deliver the remaining 130,000 litres

allocated in the coming days, to sustain city water services. Partners provided psychosocial support to 655 children and caregivers, case management to 108 children, gender-based violence prevention support to 249 people and explosive ordnance risk education to 768 people. A further 345 caregivers participated in child protection sessions.

**Health and Nutrition Services:** A total of 16,989 people were reached with health and nutrition services in 6 districts, including 399 children 6-59 months with SAM admitted for treatment, and 1,388 caregivers for children 0-23 months receiving IYCF counselling. in addition, 4,624 children were reached with micronutrient supplements and 3,022 women received Iron Folic Acid Multiple Micronutrient Supplements for 6 months.

### Marib and Al-Dhale'e

In Marib, supplies are pre-positioned for newly displaced families, including 260 water tanks of 1,000 litres, 260 hygiene kits and 260 20-litre jerry cans. Child protection partners reached 1,029 children and caregivers with psychosocial support, managed 35 cases and provided explosive ordnance risk education to 4,568 people. In Al-Dhale'e, explosive ordnance risk education reached 2,308 people across 15 sites.

**Health and Nutrition Services:** A total of 34,569 people were reached with health and nutrition services in 5 districts, including 653 children aged 6-59 months with SAM admitted for treatment, and 2,701 caregivers for children 0-23 months receiving IYCF counselling. In addition, 4,567 children were reached with micronutrient supplements and 3,280 women received Iron Folic Acid Multiple Micronutrient Supplements for 6 months.

## PRIORITY ASKS

- High-level advocacy for parties to uphold international humanitarian law, protect civilians and civilian infrastructure, and safeguard health workers, humanitarian personnel, schools, health facilities and water systems.
- Strengthen humanitarian diplomacy to secure safe, predictable and unimpeded passage for humanitarian assistance and essential commercial supplies, including food, fuel and medicines. One-off deliveries must translate into regular access, alongside safe movement for civilians seeking safety.
- Urgently facilitate the delivery of fuel, medical and nutrition supplies, and water-treatment inputs to sustain lifesaving services, particularly in Taiz. Support the continuity of essential health and water services, while scaling up cholera prevention, surveillance, and treatment in conflict-affected areas and displacement sites.
- Support the emergency response in Yemen with immediate, flexible funding**.** Donors are urged to support UNICEF's US$20.9 million escalation response, prioritizing lifesaving services, rapid assistance to newly displaced families and replenishment of emergency supplies. Predictable funding is essential to sustain the response and maintain readiness for further displacement.

## FUNDING NEEDS

UNICEF and partners continue to provide emergency health, nutrition, WASH, education, and child protection services to families displaced or otherwise affected by the conflict. In response to the growing number of displaced people, UNICEF reviewed and revised its appeal, bringing the total to $20.9 million. While this revised appeal increases the needs across all sectors, the WASH appeal has increased by 40 per cent, reflecting the specific challenges around water, sanitation and hygiene.

As of 11 November 2026, UNICEF's US$20.9 million response appeal had US$12.5 million in available funding, leaving a funding gap of US$ 8.5 million (59 per cent funded). Additional funding is urgently needed across all sectors to sustain lifesaving services, respond to new displacement, and ensure continued assistance for children and families affected by the conflict.

The sectoral breakdown of requirements, available funding, and remaining gaps is presented below:

| Sector / Component | Required (US$) | Available (US$) | Funding Gap (US$) | Gap % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **WASH** | 6,028,700 | 2,530,000 | 3,498,700 | 58% |
| **Health** | 3,718,000 | 3,373,404 | 344,597 | 9% |
| **Nutrition** | 2,166,615 | 2,255,404 | - | 0% |
| **Child Protection** | 1,732,000 | 1,087,312 | 644,688 | 37% |
| **Education** | 2,593,280 | 820,000 | 1,773,280 | 68% |
| **SBC/RCCE** | 290,000 | 100,000 | 190,000 | 66% |
| **Humanitarian Cash Transfers** | 1,900,000 | - | 1,900,000 | 100% |
| **Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM)** | 2,500,000 | 2,294,166 | 205,834 | 8% |
| **TOTAL** | **20,928,595** | **12,460,286** | **8,557,099** | **41%** |

Note: Figures represent programmable amounts and exclude cost recovery.

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