

HUMANITARIAN UPDATE



Al Tarbaih and Al Tahseen IDP site in Dhamar Governorate was impacted by recent heavy rains and flooding.
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Issue 7/ July 2022

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Inter-agency evaluation urges strengthening of humanitarian response in Yemen

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Funding gap impedes aid agencies' ability to scale-up response amid worsening needs

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YHF allocates US\$44 million for life-saving response

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EXTENSIVE FLOODING AFFECTS HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS

Heavy rains triggered extensive flooding across several governorates of Yemen since mid-July, affecting tens of thousands of people, mainly internally displaced people in hosting sites and settlements. According to local authorities, at least 29 people, including children, were reportedly killed by floods in Abyan, Al Mahwit, Dhamar, Raymah, Sana'a and Shabwah governorates in July. Houses and infrastructure, including roads, water sources and sewage systems, were damaged and public services were affected. The international road in Al Maharah Governorate, connecting Al Maharah and Hadramawt governorates, was reportedly cut off due to flooding for two days and later rehabilitated.

Initial reports from authorities and humanitarian partners indicated more than 28,000 households (approximately 201,000 people) across the country were affected by floods in July. While assessments were ongoing by the end of July, humanitarian partners had verified 15,000 households. Shelters and houses in several displacement sites in affected governorates were reportedly damaged, leaving some affected people stranded

in the rain without shelter. Initial rapid assessments were conducted in some of the affected locations, which were accessible, and as resources allowed, and humanitarian response was ongoing. Ma'rib and Hajjah governorates are the worst affected, according to estimates by authorities and partners.

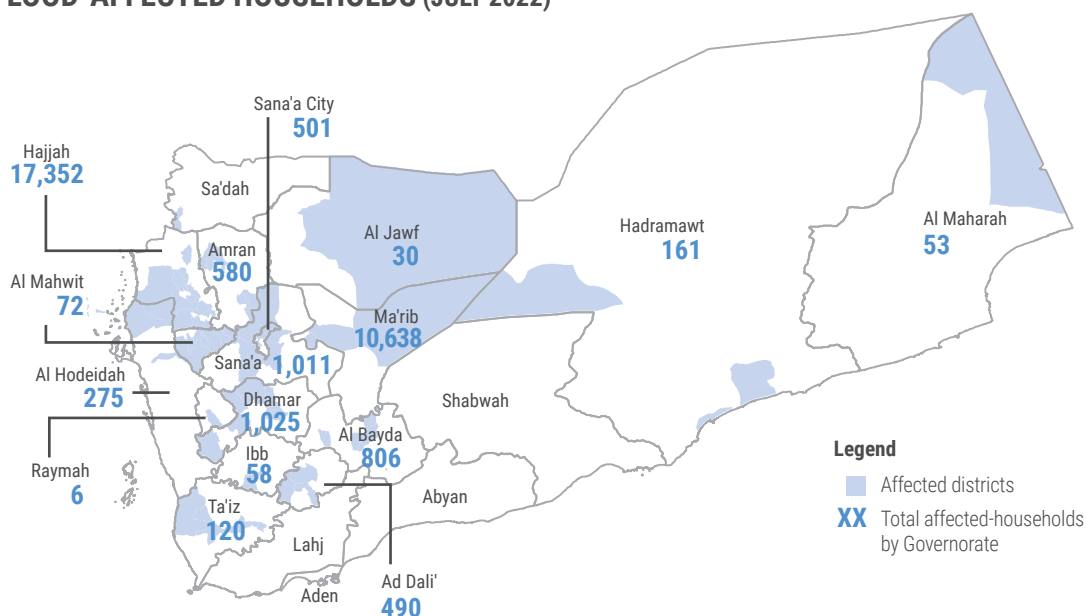
In the affected locations where partners have conducted initial needs assessments, the immediate needs included shelters, plastic sheets, food, household items and hygiene kits. Humanitarian partners, including national and international NGOs, UN agencies and the Yemeni Red Crescent, scaled up response to the urgent needs of the affected people. In some of the affected locations, partners reported access challenges to conduct assessments and coordinate a response. RRM kits, household items, plastic sheets, emergency shelter kits, water, food, cash assistance and other relief items were provided to displaced and affected people. RRM partners verified and provided assistance to nearly 2,000 households in 44 districts under 13 governorates in July. Verification and distribution were ongoing in other affected areas.



OCHA

YEMEN

FLOOD-AFFECTED HOUSEHOLDS (JULY 2022)





In Ma'rib, more than 2,000 households received shelter support, while food assistance was provided to some 1,500 displaced households. Partners distributed more than 1,000 RRM kits. More than 450 households received non-food items and some 230 families were assisted with water, sanitation and hygiene services. More than 700 hygiene kits and almost 1,500 jerry cans were provided to over 5,000 displaced people. Meanwhile, more than 3,000 households needed shelter assistance, some 250 families required RRM kits and about 230 families needed non-food items. In Abs District of Hajjah Governorate, the Red Crescent provided food baskets and non-food items to the most vulnerable 1,500 displaced households. Food Security and Agriculture Cluster partners distributed food

baskets to the most vulnerable flood-affected households across the affected areas.

In Al Bayda, Amran, Dhamar and Sana'a governorates, and Sana'a City, partners provided shelter kits to nearly 550 households, non-food items to over 600 households and RRM kits to more than 650 households, while Protection Cluster partners provided psychosocial support to some 450 people. Humanitarian partners were in the process of assessing the needs and supporting about

2,800 households with food assistance. Non-food items were provided to 50 families in Hat District of Al Mahara Governorate. In Al Mhawit and Hajjah governorates, the Yemen Red Crescent and an INGO provided shelter and non-food items to the affected households,

FLOOD RESPONSE BY CLUSTER (JULY 2022)

Clusters	Completed	Ongoing	Planned	Total Households
Shelter/NFI 	162	9,789	2,147	12,119
Food Security and Agriculture 	111	3,944	1,153	5,381
Water Sanitation and Hygiene 	167	237	3,017	3,421
Rapid Response Mechanism 	197	1,516	33	1,794

Response data from CCCM and Education was being processed by the time the update was released.

while the Shelter Cluster was coordinating with partners in Al Hodeidah for a response. In Ibb Governorate, aid agencies provided RRM kits and shelter materials, as well as education, protection and water, sanitation and hygiene services to affected people. Partners in Al Jawf and Sa'dah governorates conducted assessments

in affected locations and were coordinating responses based on the identified needs and available resources. More shelter and RRM kits were needed and partners were mobilizing resources. Funding gaps reportedly delayed resource mobilization and response in some of the affected areas.

INTER-AGENCY EVALUATION URGES STRENGTHENING OF HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE IN YEMEN

The inter-agency humanitarian evaluation (IAHE) – an independent assessment of the results of the collective humanitarian response by member organizations of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) – highlights that the humanitarian response has scaled up impressively between 2017 and 2021, with food assistance increasing seven-fold despite ongoing conflict and a very challenging operational environment. It also noted the indispensable support from aid agencies allowing hospitals and health centres to continue to function, the implementation of a large-scale nationwide nutrition programme targeting undernourished women and children, and huge efforts to ensure millions of people have access to safe drinking water and adequate sanitation and hygiene services, as well as various programmes providing protection services in an extremely challenging environment.

However, the evaluation found that the quality of the humanitarian response can be improved in some areas. It, for example, underscored the need for the mainstreaming of protection services across all operations and highlighted that protection remains one of the most underfunded sectors. It also underlined that livelihoods support has not been very well-resourced despite being a top priority for affected populations. Moreover, it noted challenges with data collection and analysis, and effective targeting of those in need. The evaluation noted that the lack of funding for key sectors such as protection, education and camp management has contributed to critical gaps, pointing out that humanitarian access challenges have also contributed to these gaps.

The IAHE report is an opportunity to improve the humanitarian response in Yemen, ensuring that humanitarian programming remains effective, accountable and principled. Aid organizations are cognizant of the report's positive findings – including highlighting massive humanitarian efforts over the past several years that saved lives, reduced suffering and preserved basic services. Nonetheless, the humanitarian community takes to heart many of the report's challenging findings, which highlight shortcomings in several areas, including inadequate field presence, erratic donor funding and policies, insufficient focus on protection, inadequate and under-resourced displacement and livelihoods responses, and a general over-reliance on humanitarian delivery modalities without a transition strategy.

Aware of some of the challenges and shortcomings highlighted in the IAHE report, aid organizations have already been working on developing strategies and innovative modalities to address them. In addition, the HCT, under the leadership of the Humanitarian Coordinator, has already integrated some of the early findings and recommendations of the IAHE into the 2022 Humanitarian Programme Cycle. Efforts are already underway to strengthen humanitarian capabilities through developing a localization strategy, identifying options and opportunities for resource-mobilization and policy measures for improving service delivery, increasing staff presence, reinforcing minimum standards and conducting better systematic analyses. The HCT is also working on streamlining the cluster coordination, developing an access strategy and reinforcing advocacy for the reduction of import

restrictions and strengthening the public sector. Additionally, the HCT is developing a Management Response Plan to implement the recommendations set out in the IAHE report.

A team of experts drawn from UN agencies, international and national NGOs is working on the plan, which is expected to be finalized by the end of August.

FUNDING GAP IMPEDES AID AGENCIES' ABILITY TO SCALE-UP RESPONSE AMID WORSENING NEEDS

Humanitarian needs across the country—including the risk of famine in some areas—could rise sharply in the coming weeks and months, unless additional funding is secured. With aid agencies facing unprecedented funding shortages, which have already impacted the delivery of lifesaving humanitarian assistance and services to millions of Yemenis, response scale-up to a rapidly deteriorating situation including the impact of flooding is unattainable.

By the end of July, the 2022 Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) has secured US\$1.24 billion or 29 per cent of the requested \$4.27 billion to provide lifesaving humanitarian assistance and protection services to 17.9 million people. This is the sharpest year-on-year decrease of any UN-coordinated plan in the world, which forced aid agencies to reduce assistance and close programmes. In June, the World Food Programme had to cut rations for millions of people as a result of critical funding gaps. That was the second major food cut in just six months.

All sectors are facing the impact of funding gaps, with life-saving activities either scaled back or completely ceased in some cases. By the end of July, a few sectors were funded about a quarter of the required funding, while many were strikingly under-funded. The Food Security and Agriculture Cluster received 26 per cent of the required \$2.1 billion to provide food assistance to some 17.4 million people. The Health Sector was funded 25 per cent of the asked \$398 million to deliver health care services to 12.6 million people. The Nutrition Cluster secured only 23 per cent of 442 million to assist some 6.5 million people with nutritional support.


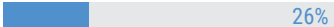

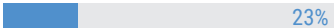

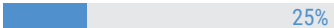

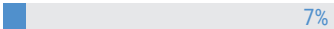

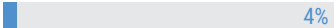

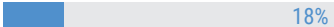

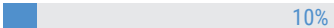

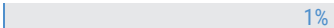

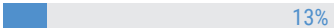

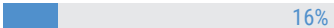



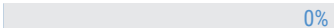

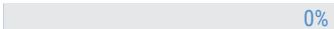
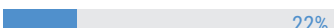
Meanwhile, the Shelter and Non-Food Items, the Coordination and Common Services, the Refugees and Migrants and the Protection sectors were funded at 18 per cent, 16 per

cent, 13 per cent and 11 per cent respectively. The most under-funded sectors were Rapid Response Mechanism (0 per cent), Education (4 per cent) and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (7 per cent).

Funding gaps and subsequent aid reductions or cuts have worsened people's humanitarian needs in Yemen. Recently, Oxfam interviewed several families on the deteriorating economic conditions and worsening humanitarian needs, and Majda's family was one of them. Majda*, a 17-year-old orphan, and her three siblings from Aden Governorate said they could barely afford two meals a day now. The siblings are living on their father's pension—YER28,000 (approximately \$23) per month—which could not cover their monthly food and other expenses. Majda used to receive food assistance which stopped in May. "Everything is expensive. We can now have only breakfast and rice with potatoes most of the time for lunch. We have to buy food and other items from a grocery store on credit. It frightens me to think one day we will not have anything to eat."

Unless additional funding is immediately made available food and nutrition assistance, and water and sanitation services to the most vulnerable people, mainly women and children, are at risk of further reduction, while several other critical programmes, including maternal and child health support, mine action, protection services, mental health and psychosocial support, and shelter and non-food items assistance to conflict- and disaster-affected and displaced people will be closed. This will reverse the gains made by aid agencies in 2021, including rolling back the severe hunger that loomed large at the start of the year, and lead to further deterioration of the humanitarian situation in Yemen. The international community must act quickly and decisively to stop this.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE PLAN FUNDING RECEIVED BY CLUSTER (AS OF 27 JULY 2022)

Sector/Cluster		Overall covered	Funding Received	Requirements	Unmet Funding
				US\$ million	
FSAC ¹		 26%	540	2,100	1,560
Nutrition		 23%	102	442	340
Health		 25%	100.6	398	297.4
WASH ²		 7%	20.5	302.2	281.7
Education		 4%	11.7	275.7	264.0
Shelter and NFI ³		 18%	40.0	224.9	184.9
Protection		 10%	20.3	202	181.7
CCCM ⁴		 1%	0.4	86	85.6
Refugees & Migrants ⁵		 13%	7.3	55.8	48.5
Coordination		 16%	7.7	47.3	39.6
Logistics		 78%	35.6	45.6	10.0
RRM ⁶		 0%	0.0	20	20.0
Emergency Telecom.		 0%	0.0	3.4	3.4
MPCA ⁷		 22%	15.2	69	53.8
Multiple Field clusters			172.4	NA	NA
Not reported			145.4	NA	NA

YHF ALLOCATES US\$44 MILLION FOR LIFE-SAVING RESPONSE

As the first standard allocation of 2022, the Yemen Humanitarian Fund (YHF) launched a US\$44 million allocation on 5 July to support the life-saving humanitarian response, targeting up to 1.7 million of the most vulnerable people across 17 of Yemen's 22 governorates. The allocation aims to provide emergency, life-saving assistance and protection services to the most vulnerable people, including internally displaced people, host communities, refugees and migrants, who are affected by conflict and subsequent displacements, and enhance people's access to food assistance and services to prevent further deterioration of food insecurity. The allocation came at a time when the funding levels to Yemen remain low.

Through consultations with cluster partners, the allocation prioritized an integrated response through the Integrated Famine Risk Reduction (IFRR) strategy to reduce food insecurity and malnutrition. A total of \$14.5 million out of the \$44 million will be provided to partners for an integrated intervention—food security and livelihoods, health, nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene support and services—in Ad Dali', Al Hodeidah, Al Mahwit, Amran, Hajjah and Ma'rib governorates.

The remaining \$29.5 million will be allocated for the provision of emergency, life-saving assistance and protection services to most at risk people in Abyan, Ad Dali', Aden, Al Bayda, Al Hodeidah, Al Jawf, Al Mhawit, Amran, Hadramawt, Hajjah, Ibb, Lahj, Ma'rib, Sa'dah, Sana'a and Ta'iz governorates, and Sana'a City. The provision of emergency assistance and services includes shelter support, as well as education, protection, rapid response mechanism, camp coordination and camp management, emergency telecommunications and refugees and migrants multi-sector services.

The allocation will pay particular attention to cross-cutting issues, encouraging partners to mainstream cash programming, accountability to the affected population, gender and protection against sexual exploitation and abuse in their programmes and activities. With a continued commitment to promoting localization, YHF will prioritize NGOs as frontline responders, with a particular focus on local and national NGOs, which are slated to receive 25 per cent of the total allocation.

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