SITUATION OVERVIEW

Torrential rains and flooding hit several areas across Yemen between 13 and 25 July, causing extensive damage to public infrastructure, shelters for displaced people and other private property. Initial reports also indicate that flash floods killed or injured tens of civilians.

Between 13-15 July, heavy rains and strong winds hit Ma’rib and part of Al Jawf governorates. In Ma’rib, floods damaged shelters in 54 displacement sites in Ma’rib City, Ma’rib (Al Wadi) and Sirwah districts, affecting at least 10,000 displaced families. In Al Jawf Governorate, floods damaged the shelters of 244 displaced families living in several displacement sites in Al Hazm District, including 51 displaced families in Al Harg displacement site in Khabb Wa Ash Sha’af District.

Heavy rains causing extensive flooding resumed over the period 22-24 July again, causing damage to public infrastructure, private property and shelters, mainly impacting Sana’a (where 431 shelters were damaged), Sa’dah (322 shelters damaged), Amran (172), Sana’a City (137) and Hajjah (99) governorates.

According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Agrometeorological Early Warning Bulletin, the forecasts for the period 18 to 31 July favour the formation of heavy rains, expected during the latter part of the month, especially affecting areas to the north of Ibb and central Hadramawt. By the end of the month, the whole country is expected to have received over 300 mm cumulatively.

HUMANITARIAN IMPACT AND NEEDS

Heavy rains and floods affected thousands – mostly internally displaced people – across the country, with their shelters, food and household items damaged. According to the local authorities, at least 29 people, including children, were reportedly killed by floods in Abyan, Al Mahwit, Dhamar, Raymah, Sana’a and Shabwa governorates. Houses and infrastructure, including roads, water sources and sewage systems, were damaged and public services were affected. Initial reports from various sources indicated more than 86,000 people across the country were affected by floods between 15 and 26 July. Initial rapid assessments were conducted in some of the affected locations, which were accessible, and as resources allowed.

In Ma’rib Governorate, displaced people in several sites have been affected, with reports of thousands of shelters of displaced families being destroyed. According to initial reports from the Camp Coordination and Camp Management Cluster (CCCM) partners, more than 10,000 families across 54 sites were affected by rains and floods between 13 and 15 July. The districts of Ma’rib City and Ma’rib (Al Wadi) have the highest concentration of affected families. In Al Mahrah Governorate, tents and houses of some 50 households in Hat District were damaged.

According to local humanitarian partners that conducted rapid needs assessments in the flood-affected displacement sites, some 890 displaced households in Ghamr, Sa’dah and Sahar districts of Sa’dah Governorate and Al Hazm, Al Matammah, Al Khalb, Al Maslub, Az Zahir and Kharab Al Marashi districts of Al Jawf Governorate were affected by floods, with their shelters, food supplies and household items damaged. Some affected families in Al Jawf who lost their shelters are reportedly staying in the open in the rains.

In Amran, Dhamar and Sana’a governorates, rains and floods have affected hundreds of families, mainly displaced people. Several shelters and houses in several displacement sites in these governorates were reportedly damaged, leaving some affected people to stay in the rain without shelter. According to local humanitarian partners, over 750 households in two settlements in Sana’a City, two sites in Amran Governorate and five districts in Sana’a Governorate were affected. The affected people from displacement sites in Amran Governorate were evacuated to safer locations.
Authorities reported that nearly 150 families, including displaced people, in several districts across Al Hodeidah and Hajjah governorates were affected by floods between 24 and 26 July. In Al Mahwit Governorate, authorities reported that a few houses and arable land were damaged by floods, with a small number of people displaced and crops destroyed.

In the affected locations where partners have conducted initial needs assessments, the immediate needs include shelters, plastic sheets, food, household items and hygiene kits.

**HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE AND GAPS**

Humanitarian partners, including national and international NGOs, UN agencies and the Yemeni Red Crescent, have been responding to the urgent needs of the affected people. Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) partners reached more than 7,800 people in Al Bayda, Al Hodeidah, Al Jawf, Amran, Dhamar, Hadramout, Hajjah, Ma’rib and Sana’a governorates between 1 and 26 July.

In Ma’rib, more than 1,600 households received shelter support, while food assistance was provided to some 1,500 displaced households. Partners have 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. Meanwhile, more than 3,500 households need shelter assistance, some 250 families require RRM kits and about 230 families need non-food items.

In Al Bayda, Amran and Dhamar governorates, the needs of some 130 affected households, including those evacuated to safer locations, have been assessed and provided with non-food items and/or RRM kits. 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 are providing shelter and non-food items to the affected households, while the Shelter Cluster is coordinating with partners in Al Hodeidah for a response. Partners in Al Jawf and Sa’dah governorates have conducted assessments in affected locations and are coordinating responses based on the identified needs and available resources.

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