Highlights:

- A number of districts in seven governorates have been inundated by severe flooding following heavy rains across Yemen.
- An estimated 4,000 families (24,000 people) have been affected and over 20 people are reported killed by flooding.
- Affected people urgently need shelter, food, non-food items (NFIs), water, sanitation, hygiene (WASH), and health assistance.
- Humanitarian partners are working alongside national authorities to assess and respond to the needs. The number of people in need may change as assessments are carried out.

Situation Overview:

Flash floods caused by heavy rains on 13 and 14 April have inundated a number of districts in seven governorates in Yemen – Al Hudaydah, Amran, Hajjah, Sana’a, Al Mahwit, Aden, and Marib affecting an estimated 4,000 families (24,000 people). While estimations of deaths are still being verified initial information indicate that at least 20 people have been killed.

Al Hudaydah, is the most affected Governorate with three people reportedly killed. Nineteen villages in Az Zuhrah District have been affected and at least 1,200 families (7,200 people) displaced. Seven villages have been affected in Alluheyah District and 900 families (5,400 people) displaced according to local authorities and community elders. The population living along the Wadi Mour dry river bed are particularly affected; internally displaced people are reportedly among this population. Eighty-seven families are reportedly living in the open in Alluheyah District, for whom the priority needs are food and shelter and NFI assistance. Al Safrah bridge in the Bani Matar District, Sana’a Governorate, which connects Al Hudaydah to the capital, has been severely damaged by the floods.

In Amran, more than 1,000 families (6,000 people) have been affected; many of which are now housed in public schools, including Aisha, Al Zubeiri, Muhsin Al Sa’ar, Al Habiq, Hurab, Al Hamzah and Al Hussein. Initial estimates indicate that 200 houses have been destroyed. Damage is also reported to agriculture, roads and water projects. Authorities have requested food and shelter assistance, as well as NFIs, health, water and hygiene assistance.

In Hajjah, local authorities report 20 people killed in Sharas District, 100 to 150 households (600 to 900 people) displaced, and eight houses destroyed. Initial reports indicate that 400 to 500 households are in need of immediate health, WASH, Shelter/NFI and food assistance. People living along the Wadi Sharas dry river bed are particularly affected. The water infrastructure of Hajjah Governorate is reported to be in need of immediate repairs as a result of the floods. In Sana’a, the Dhawaran area in Hamdan District is flooded. Initial assessments across the district indicate at least 200 households (1,200 people) affected and reported deaths are being verified. In Bani Dhayban District, 40 farms report significant impact and several water pumps used for irrigation and drinking as damaged. Those who are displaced need emergency shelter and NFI assistance.

In Al Mahwit, in the At Tawilah district, three houses have reportedly been destroyed and five partially damaged.

In Aden, several houses and telecommunications facilities in Al Mualla and Attawahi Districts are reported to be damaged by floods and heavy rains.

In Marib, Harib Al Qaramish District, initial reports indicate that one person was killed and houses, roads, and farms significantly damaged by the heavy rains.
Humanitarian Response

In Amran, an emergency coordination meeting in the Government Executive Unit Office (ExU) on 14 April attended by DRC, NRC, Yemen Red Crescent Society (YRCS), Save the Children and CARE established an emergency operations team. Assessments are ongoing. YRCS dispatched assessment teams to five affected areas in Amran City (Shararah, Sharab, Al Jaboobah, Al Widhah, and Harat Al Rahman) and will be assessing eight other areas in the city. YRCS distributed NFIs to 55 households on 13-14 April. UNHCR is leading the response for urgent shelter and NFIs and dispatched shelter materials for 400 households and NFIs for 1,000 households on 15 April from Sana’a. Their distribution started on 16 April. In close coordination with the agricultural office, local authorities and implementing partner, FAO is prepositioning agricultural inputs (seeds, farming hand tools and fertilisers) in Jibal Eyal Yazeed district.

In Hajjah, an assessment team organised by UNHCR’s partner, Al Amal, is responding in Sharas District. Oxfam is assessing the damage to the Hajjah City water supply, recently supported by Oxfam and the Mabiyan City Water Corporation. UNICEF partner, Al-Khair will assess water and sanitation needs in Hajjah City. UNICEF and OXFAM are mobilizing resources to respond. Local authorities are collecting information on needs and damages. The Health Cluster has deployed a rapid response team and distributed medicines. The Area Humanitarian Country Team (AHCT) is assessing response and gaps.

In Al Hudaydah, Al Amal and YRCS are conducting shelter and NFI assessments in Alluheyah and Az Zuhrah districts and sub-national clusters are consolidating information on priority needs. In collaboration with the local authorities, health cluster partners (WHO, ADO, MSF and UNICEF) are preparing a stock of medical supplies to respond to possible outbreaks of dengue and malaria, and the dispatch of medical supplies to Az Zuhrah Hospital. WFP partner, IRY, is conducting an emergency food security assessment in Al Zuhrah.

In Sana’a, the Executive Unit is undertaking needs assessment in the Dharawan area, Hamdan District.

In Aden, water and electricity emergency teams, part of the civil defense effort, are responding.

In Marib and Al Mahwit, further updates are pending ongoing initial assessments by humanitarian partners.