

HUMANITARIAN UPDATE

Nasser, a 6-year-old child sitting outside the shelter in Al Sumayah IDP site Marib, Yemen, 13 October 2022. Nasser and his family displaced three times during the years of war in Yemen. Photo: YPN/OCHA

Issue 10/ October 2022

HIGHLIGHTS

Without continued commitment from donors, millions of people will go hungry: ASG Joyce Msuya **P 02**

Aid agencies urge conflict parties to heed calls for truce extension **P 04**

Displaced people urgently need winter support **P 04**

Voluntary Humanitarian Return Movements for Ethiopian migrants re-start in Sana'a **P 05**

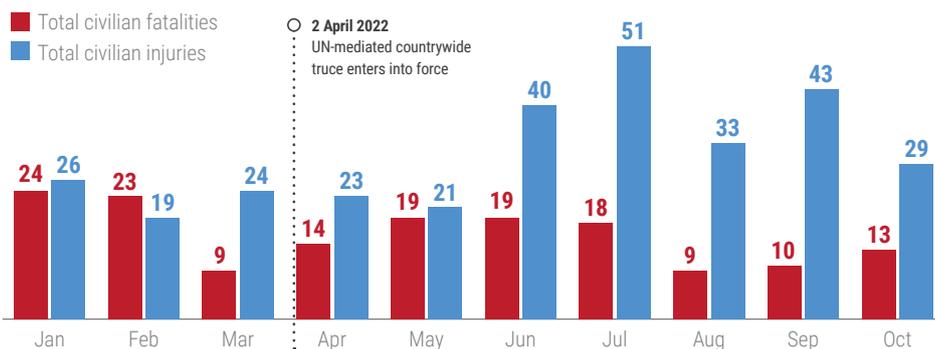
EXPLOSIVE REMNANTS OF WAR LEADING CAUSE OF CIVILIAN CASUALTIES

Explosive remnants of war are increasingly posing a grave risk to civilians across Yemen, emerging as the leading conflict-related cause of civilian casualties post-truce. Since the start of the nationwide truce on 2 April 2022, the number of civilian casualties related to explosive remnants of war (ERW) and landmines has increased by approximately 20 per cent compared to the six months prior, according to open-source reporting.

Between April and September 2022, landmines and unexploded ordnance

(UXO) reportedly caused about 300 civilian casualties, including 95 deaths and 248 injuries. The areas most affected are the wider frontline areas in Al Hodeidah and Al Jawf governorates. In comparison, in the six months before the truce, civilian casualties were significantly lower at 248 in total, including 101 deaths and 147 injuries. The lull in fighting has allowed civilians to move more freely, which has increased their exposure to landmines and UXO.

ERW CIVILIAN CASUALTIES - 2022



Source: CIMP



YEMEN

Torrential seasonal rains and flooding have also reportedly exacerbated these threats, with devices drifting into new areas, warning signs being destroyed, and increased population displacement into potentially contaminated areas. Widespread contamination prevents safe movements and restricts engagement in livelihood activities. In addition, the humanitarian community has experienced physical access constraints due to contamination risks. In the third quarter of 2022, 58 access restraints related to the presence of mines and UXO were reported.

Mine action in Yemen is now at a critical point. A well-coordinated, timely scale-up will save lives and promote economic activity, contribute to durable solutions for internally displaced persons (IDPs), and support the facilitation of humanitarian access. Increased funding, programmatic reach, coordination, and advocacy are critical. Humanitarian mine action, which requires \$25 million in 2022 to reach 5.3 million people in the response plan, is only 48 per cent funded by the end of October.

WITHOUT CONTINUED COMMITMENT FROM DONORS, MILLIONS OF PEOPLE WILL GO HUNGRY: ASG JOYCE MSUYA

Wrapping up a nine-day visit to Yemen, Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator Ms. Joyce Msuya stressed that life-saving humanitarian assistance and protection in Yemen must be ramped up to protect the lives of millions of vulnerable people, most of them women and children.

The Yemen humanitarian appeal, which seeks \$4.2 billion to help 17.9 million people, has only received \$2 billion (only 48 per cent funded) - less than two months left in the year - more than half of which has been provided by a single donor, the United States. Some \$20 million was allocated from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) in September to support underfunded sectors. This brings total CERF funding for Yemen to \$60 million for 2022.

Ms. Msuya called on donors to provide additional funding. "There is no doubt: without continued commitment from donors, millions of people will go hungry and the lives of millions of malnourished children will be put at risk," she said. "This is a critical time for Yemen and humanitarian donors cannot take their foot off the pedal."

She also paid tribute to the humanitarian community and aid workers in Yemen who are working every day to deliver life-saving assistance. "It was extraordinarily inspiring to see the work that the humanitarian

community is doing here," Ms. Msuya said. "I am deeply grateful to all humanitarian workers who are doing everything possible to help displaced people and host communities."

As a result of these efforts, some gains have been made in preventing famine. According to new estimates released in October, 17 million people will be facing acute food insecurity during the last three months of this year. This represents an improvement from the previous projection (June to December 2022), where over 19 million people were estimated to be food insecure, including over 160,000 people classified in IPC Phase 5, Catastrophe.

During her visit, Ms. Msuya visited Aden, Marib, Sana'a and Al Hodeidah. She met displaced and conflict-affected people who urgently need humanitarian assistance, as well as Yemeni officials and aid partners. She also met with displaced women and girls who spoke to her about gender-based violence, early marriage and the lack of privacy and safety, and the economic hardship of living in displacement sites, among other protection challenges. Aid agencies have provided livelihood opportunities for many of these women, who are often the main breadwinners of their families.



17M

people will be facing acute food insecurity during Sep-Dec 2022

19M

people were estimated to be food insecure during June - Dec 2022

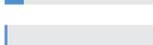
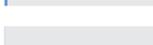


OVER 160K

people classified in IPC Phase 5, (Catastrophe).

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE PLAN FUNDING RECEIVED BY CLUSTER

US\$ million

Sector/Cluster	Overall covered	Funding Received	Requirements	Unmet Funding
Health 	 64%	254.6	398	143.4
FSAC ¹ 	 49%	1,020.9	2,100	1,079.1
Refugees & Migrants ² 	 46%	25.7	55.8	30.1
Coordination 	 42%	20	47.3	27.3
Protection 	 42%	84	202	118
RRM ³ 	 40%	8.1	20	11.9
Logistics 	 33%	15.1	45.6	30.5
Nutrition 	 32%	140.6	442	301.4
WASH ⁴ 	 23%	70.1	302.2	232.1
Shelter and NFI ⁵ 	 21%	48	224.9	176.9
Education 	 8%	21.6	275.7	254.1
CCCM ⁶ 	 1%	0.4	86	85.6
Emergency Telecom. 	 0%	0.0	3.4	3.4
MPCA ⁷ 	 76%	52.2	69	16.8

Source: FTS



UN Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, Joyce Msuya, visits Al Naser School in Al Sumayah IDP site in Marib, 10 October 2022. Photo: YPN/OCHA

In Al Hodeidah, Ms. Msuya visited the UN-supported Al Thawrah Hospital, where she met with children and adults injured by mines and unexploded ordnance. Over the past six months, landmines and other explosive hazards have become the most common cause of conflict-related civilian deaths or injuries.

Yemen desperately needs more support to improve access to basic services and to prop up its deteriorating economy, Ms. Msuya underscored. “Everywhere I went, people told me they desperately wanted jobs so they could support their families, as well as access to health care, clean water and schools. We need development actors to step in to help authorities provide these services; humanitarians cannot do this alone.”

Ms. Msuya pointed to what she says are the two best ways to reduce humanitarian needs in Yemen: building a sustainable and inclusive peace and revitalizing the economy. “Without these, the drivers of the humanitarian crisis will persist and people will continue to suffer,” she noted.

AID AGENCIES URGE CONFLICT PARTIES TO HEED CALLS FOR TRUCE EXTENSION

“The dividends of peace are manifold. Among other things, it will allow Yemen’s shattered economy to recover. I again urge the parties to the conflict to seize this opportunity. They must extend the truce and agree on a path toward a sustainable peace for the benefit of all Yemenis.”

The UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Yemen, David Gressly, urged the parties to Yemen’s conflict to build on the gains achieved over the last six months and commit to extending and expanding the truce.

“I strongly urge the parties to the conflict to heed calls by the UN Secretary-General and his Special Envoy for Yemen for truce extension and expansion to build on the gains achieved over the last six months,” Mr. Gressly said. “The people of Yemen need peace. Without it, the drivers of the humanitarian crisis would persist, and people would continue to suffer.”

The truce, which first came into effect on 2 April 2022, saw a significant reduction in hostilities and internal displacement; improved humanitarian access to people in need living in previously hard-to-reach areas; and encouraged the return of some of the internally displaced people to their original communities in areas near the frontlines. It also increased the availability

of fuel - particularly in areas controlled by Ansar Allah. It also led to the opening of Sana’a airport to commercial flights, promoted human capital mobility in search of better labour opportunities and enhanced access to goods and services due to ease of transport. Some 26,640 people have been able to travel on commercial flights from Sana'a, many critically ill seeking medical treatment abroad.

Truce extension will reinforce these gains, allowing humanitarians to access new areas. It will also enable the expansion of operations for clearing landmines and unexploded ordnance, which have emerged as a leading cause of civilian casualties after the truce. “The dividends of peace are manifold. Among other things, it will allow Yemen’s shattered economy to recover,” said Mr. Gressly. “I again urge the parties to the conflict to seize this opportunity. They must extend the truce and agree on a path toward a sustainable peace for the benefit of all Yemenis.”

DISPLACED PEOPLE URGENTLY NEED WINTER SUPPORT

Winter always comes with a sad memory for Yasir. Last year, on one of the biting cold nights in winter, the youngest of his six children died. The father said the 10-day-old boy caught a cold and died as the family did not have blankets and mattresses to keep him warm enough.

The family fled violence in Al Jubah District of Marib Governorate in early 2022 and has been taking refuge in Al Sumayah camp for displaced people in Al Wadi District of Marib Governorate, home to nearly 10,000 people. Yasir who used to earn his living by sewing shoes said he needed a job to look after his family. The family lost everything in the conflict and now wholly relies on humanitarian assistance.

“I went to the market nearby, with the hope to earn an income by making shoes. To have a small space in the market, where I

can sit and sew shoes, I need to pay, which I can’t afford,” said Yasir.

Having no options left, Yasir said his wife was forced to beg at the market for their survival. “When we arrived in the camp, we received a food basket, cash assistance and some household items, but they are not adequate. We need blankets, mattresses,



Yasir with his children and neighbours' in front of his shelter in Al Sumayah camp for displaced people in Marib Governorate. Photo: Htet Htet Oo/OCHA

warm clothes, at least for children, and a water tank and a washroom,” he added. Having no latrines, Yasir said that they had to wait until dark to relieve themselves in the open.

Shelters in the camp are made of plastic sheets, tarpaulins or wood. Since the land belongs to some tribes, no semi-permanent or permanent structures are allowed to be installed. Existing shelters are exposed to strong winds and sandstorms, and are not able to protect people from the elements. In the winter months, temperatures can drop dramatically, sometimes below 0°C.

“It is very hot during the day, but freezing at night during the winter. I want to have winter items for my family. I don’t want any of my children to get sick.”

Like Yasir, people in displacement sites with inadequate shelters and household items, need winter items, such as blankets, winter clothes, heating devices and fuel, to keep them warm and from severe health and protection risks. Shelter Cluster partners urgently need \$12 million to provide winter items to 54,000 most vulnerable families who will experience severe low temperatures.

VOLUNTARY HUMANITARIAN RETURN MOVEMENTS FOR ETHIOPIAN MIGRANTS RE-START IN SANA'A

The International Organization for Migration’s (IOM) first Voluntary Humanitarian Return (VHR) flight from Sana’a took off on 11 October, with 129 Ethiopian migrants on board. The movement to Addis Ababa is an important lifeline for stranded migrants, seeking a safe and dignified way to return home from Yemen .

The flight carried migrants – including unaccompanied minors and those with medical conditions and other specific needs – who were left stranded as a result of insecurity and restrictions on their movement.

“Migrants stranded in Sana’a have been left destitute and without food, shelter and other basic needs. Some have been waiting for an opportunity to return home for over a year,” said Matt Huber, IOM Yemen’s Acting Chief of Mission. “Thanks to the commitment of donors and authorities in Yemen and Ethiopia, more people are now able to take lifesaving VHR flights. We hope we can continue to ensure that migrants who would like to go home can do so in the months ahead.”

More than 1,800 migrants stranded in Aden and Marib have departed on VHR flights so far this year. IOM aims to support approximately 5,000 additional stranded migrants to voluntarily return home from the three locations in the coming months. IOM estimates that 43,800 migrants are currently stranded throughout Yemen, many are held under the control of dangerous smuggling networks. The vast majority hope to reach the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia but are unable to continue their journeys.

For further information, please contact:

Sajjad Mohammad Sajid

Head of Office, OCHA
Yemen
E-mail: sajid@un.org

Tapiwa Gomo

Head of Communication,
OCHA Yemen
Tel: +967 712 222 860
E-mail: gomo@un.org

OCHA information products are available at:

www.unocha.org/yemen
www.unocha.org
www.reliefweb.int



*Ethiopian migrants prepare to fly to Addis Ababa from Sana'a on IOM's Voluntary Humanitarian Return flight.
Photo: Rami Ibrahim/IOM Yemen*