

## HEALTH CLUSTER BULLETIN December 2020

\*\*\* All Health Cluster Coordination meetings are conducted virtually.

### YEMEN

Emergency Level: Level 3

Reporting period: October 2020



**17.9M**  
PIN of Health Assistance



**7.3M**  
Targeted with Health Interventions



**3.34**  
Million\*\* IDPs



**508M**  
Funds required



**1Million**  
Returnees

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- A total of 1,929 Health Facilities (16 Governorate Hospitals, 121 District Hospitals, 50 General Hospitals, 20 Specialized Hospitals, 580 Health Centers and 1,142 Health Units) are being supported by Health Cluster Partners.
- As of the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2020, 2103 positive COVID-19 cases and 611 deaths have been confirmed by MOH Aden (COVID-19 reports are only from the southern governorates).
- The cumulative total number of suspected Cholera cases from the 1st of January to the 31 of December, 2020 is (230540) with (84) associated deaths (CFR 0.04%). Children under five represent (26.54%) whilst the elderly above 60 years of age accounted for (5.72%) of total suspected cases. The outbreak has so far affected in 2020: (22) of 23 governorates and (300) of 333 districts in Yemen..
- As of the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2020, Health Cluster Partners supported a total number of 150 DTCs and 130 ORCs in 169 Priority districts.

#### HEALTH SECTOR



**71** HEALTH CLUSTER PARTNERS  
**9.7 M** PEOPLE IN ACUTE NEED

#### KITS DELIVERED TO HEALTH FACILITIES/PARTNERS



**58** IEHK BASIC KITS  
**6** IEHK SUPPLEMENTARY KITS  
**1** TRAUMA KITS  
**1012** OTHER TYPES OF KITS

#### SUPPORTED HEALTH FACILITIES



**1,929** HEALTH FACILITIES



**1,495,661** OUTPATIENT CONSULTATIONS  
**12,811** SURGERIES  
**60,990** ASSISTED DELIVERIES (NORMAL & C/S)

#### VACCINATION



**43,081** PENTA 3

#### EDEWS



**1,982** SENTINEL SITES

#### FUNDING US\$



**203 M** REQUESTED FOR COVID19  
FTS)

## Situation update

The humanitarian situation in Yemen continues to deteriorate and fighting continues to evolve in many frontlines across the country. According to the extension HRP 2020, the people in need has increased reaching a whopping 24.1 million people out of 29 million people. Out of the 24.1 million people in need, 19.7 million people require some sort of health assistance and 14 million out of that are in dire need of health assistance. Despite of funding challenges, the Health cluster 45 partners continue to support health activities to ensure essential and life-saving health services as to respond to the health needs of the Yemeni people supporting about 1929 health facilities all over Yemen in December 2020. However, if no new funding is received in the near future, the already fragile health system of Yemen will collapse as more health partners are no longer able to support and provide life-saving services to the people in need. Providing continuous support and health services requires the sustainability of funding for the health operations in Yemen, which supports the most vulnerable groups in the country.

Fighting continues on all conflict frontlines in Yemen. Attacks on Health Care provision have also been registered in December 2020.

Even though the trend is declining, but COVID-19 cases are still reported with associated death in the country, please refer to the below COVID-19 detailed section for more information.

## Public health risks, priorities, needs and gaps

There are about 50% fully functional Health Facilities (HFs), 37% partially functional and 13% remain non-functional (HeRAMS 2020). The Majority of the Yemeni population have limited access to health services as a result of the security situation in many areas, road blocks and advancing frontlines harsh socio-economic conditions, which impacts their ability to seek health services.

Fuel crisis continues in Yemen hindering the accessibility to and provision of health services to the population in need. The Health Cluster is monitoring the situation on a continuous basis through its partners in the field.

The referral from PHC to the secondary care level, the availability and cost of specialized care alongside limited resources for the care of non-communicable diseases continue to place a huge burden on the patients who suffer from chronic illnesses such as diabetes, hypertension, renal failure and cancer.

## COVID-19 Highlights

The first confirmed case of COVID-19 in Yemen was declared on April 10th 2020. As of the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2020, 2103 positive cases have been reported and 611 deaths (please note that these figures represent the southern part of the country only). The real number of the cases is unknown due to low testing capacity and sharing of information by the authorities. The UN and all of its partners are working under the assumption that the country is in a full-scale community transmission.

Health Cluster partners led by CLAH- WHO are currently supporting 37 isolation units out of the 59 IUs identified by the health authorities in the South and North to receive severe and critical C19 cases. They support with medicines, medical supplies, equipment, ventilators, IPC, case management & IPC training hazard payment and operational support. So far, there are four health partners (IRC, SCI, ADD

and IRY) supporting isolation units. UNICEF and UNFPA are also supporting with ventilators and various materials of IPC, PPE and medicines. MSFs France, Belgium, Spain and Swiss have done good efforts in COVID-19 response by running (fully or partially support) 4 isolation units in Aden, Sana'a, Ibb and Al-Hudaydah, however some of those facilities went back to provide the normal non-COVID services.

Health partners are continuing to provide support to several aspects of COVID measures in the non-COVID health facilities they support.



FIGURE 1 COVID-19 CASES REPORTED FROM SOUTHERN GOVERNORATES- TILL END OF DECEMBER 2020. SOURCE: OCHA

## Communicable Diseases

From the 1st of January to the 31 of December, 2020 there were (230540) cholera suspected cases reported and (84) associated deaths and the outbreak has affected (22) of 23 governorates and (300) of 333 districts in Yemen. The districts reporting the highest number of suspected cases of cholera during month of December 2020 were Al-Misrah, Al-Hali, Az-Zuhrah, Al-Qahirah, Ash-Shamaytayn.

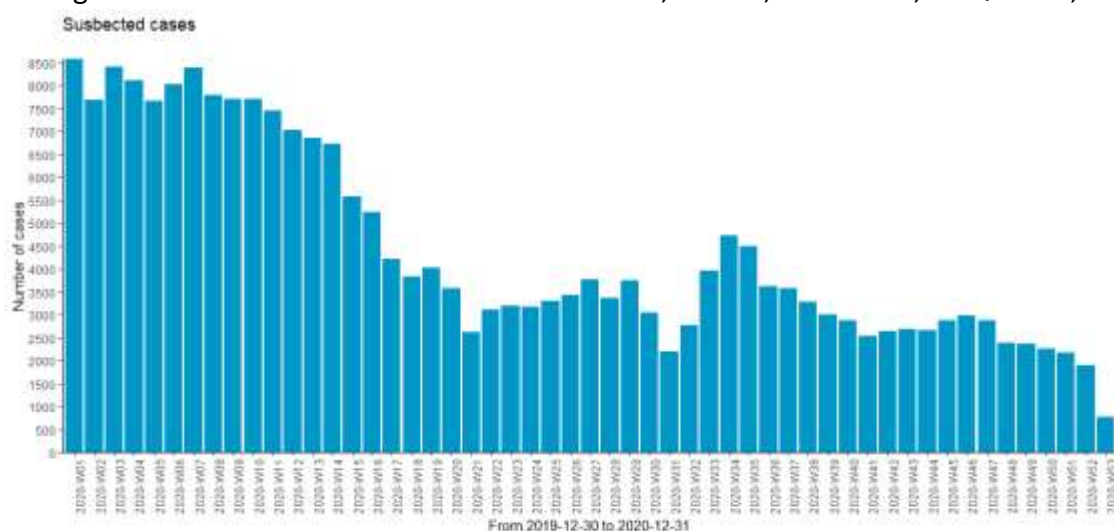


FIGURE 2 EPI CURVE: CHOLERA SUSPECTED CASES FROM WEEK 1 2020 TO WEEK 53 2021- SOURCE – EOC

## Non-communicable diseases and Mental Health

There were 17,203 new hypertensive and 9,447 individuals with mental health illness who received medical attention and psychosocial support by health partners during the month of December 2020.

## Health Facility Support

During December 2020, 40 Health Cluster Partners have sustained their support to the 1,929 health facilities including operational support, incentives for the health workers, training of health workers and provision of medicines and medical supplies.

## Availability of essential services

The Health Cluster Partners are continuing to support primary and secondary health care services across the country. These services are offered free of charge across all health centers and units, with secondary health care provided in the governorate and district hospitals, as a result of the support of partners with incentives and operational costs. Some of the main challenges that are hindering the delivery of quality health services are insecurity, access impediments and inadequate health workers (capacity and numbers). The economic situation is becoming worst on a daily basis as the Yemeni Rial continues to depreciate and the majority of the population are not able to afford transport to and from the health facilities. In addition, the roads are in poor state and can some of them are no longer usable. In an effort to counter these challenges, Health Partners are supporting and facilitating patients' transportation and referral through the voucher system in order to improve acceptance, access and utilization of health services by the patients.

## Availability of Health Staff

The health workers available in the health facilities are not enough, as the majority have migrated from their locations due to insecurity, access challenges or lack of salaries. Those still in the health facilities are largely dependent on incentives offered by the humanitarian actors to sustain the remaining services offered in these facilities.

## Availability of Essential Drugs, Vaccines and Supplies

Health Cluster partners supported the health facilities' operations with medicines and medical supplies as well as payment of incentives to health staff. 905,751 Liters of fuel and 22 million liters of water were supplied to the health facilities in addition to 58 IEHK basic Kits, 1012 other types of kits and 1 Trauma kit to support various health facilities across the country.

## Health Cluster Action

Health Cluster Partners include 5 UN agencies, 20 INGOs, 15 NNGOs in 22 Governorates in Yemen. During December 2020, 40 Partners reported through the Yemen health information system.

Partners Implementation Status can be accessed at <http://yemenhc.org>

## Health Cluster Partners Updates – December 2020

Health Cluster Partners continued supporting health service delivery across the country. Below are a few examples of different Health Cluster Partners operating in different governorates inside Yemen.

### United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

UNFPA is one of the main UN organizations working in Yemen by implementing RH Projects and improving the lives of the people in Yemen. It is one of the frontline responders during the current COVID-19 outbreak and is working very closely with the Ministry of Health and the World Health Organization in the response to COVID-19.

#### Key Highlights during December 2020:

- Refresher training for 20 midwives from six governorates on the newly updated Family Planning package.
- 9,763 PPE items distributed in over 20 health facilities during December 2020.
- 115,909 women reached with reproductive health services in December 2020.
- Strengthening surveillance system for maternal and prenatal deaths.
- National manual developed for healthcare providers for the provision of reproductive health services under COVID-19
- 40 ventilators availed for the COVID-19 response and an additional 40 in country.



FIGURE 3 UNFPA ACTIVITIES DURING DECEMBER 2020

### International Organization for Migration (IOM)

IOM is one of the main UN agencies responding to the health needs in Yemen. It is on the frontlines of the response to the COVID-19 pandemic in Yemen.

#### Key Highlights during December 2020:

- Provision of 19509 healthcare consultations across 17 health facilities.
- 5348 migrants received emergency healthcare services.
- Treatment of 328 AWD cases.
- COVID-19 case management training for 226 health workers.





FIGURE 4 IOM ACTIVITIES DURING DECEMBER 2020

## National Foundation for Development and Humanitarian Response (NFDHR)

NFDHR is a National non-governmental organization working in Yemen since 2012 across multiple sectors including health.

Key Highlights during December 2020:

- During 2020, Five capacity building training were conducted. Two IMCI, Two EPI, and one CMAM for 119 trainees. All targeted 66 HFs were provided with operational support and EHNP integrated supportive supervision visits were conducted by the GHO, DHO and the programs focal points to monitor health facilities performance. Furthermore, this project provided incentives for 213 HWs and 55 HFs admins (Which will be paid by UNICEF).



FIGURE 5 NFDHR ACTIVITIES DURING DECEMBER 2020

## Building Foundation for Development

Key Highlights during December 2020:

- constructing Medical incinerators for 7 health facilities: Dhamar (Reproductive Health Center - Al Ahad hospital) and Hajjah (Jayah HC-Alshahel Rural Hospital-Azan HU), Marib (26 Sept. Hospital, Gabal Murad Hospital)
- Distribution of Medicines, Medical supplies, cleaning tools, Biohazard materials, PPE, printed material and visibility for the supported HFs for Aljwaf- Alhudydah-AlMahweet- Hajjah and Marib

- Conducting refresh training on CMAM for 10 HWs in Yasser Wathab hospital - Khairan Al Moharaq district - Hajjah.
- Conducting Community volunteers training for 20 CVs in Khairan Al Moharaq district - Hajjah.
- Supplying HF's with UNICEF Medicines, medical equipment, , kitchen equipment for TFCs and basic furniture in Aljawf , IBB, Taiz , Aldalie, Alhudydah, AlMahweet, Amran & Albyda Targeted HF's.
- Conducted Basic CHVs training for 45 CHVs in Taiz from Hayfan, Maqbanah, Almaafer and Khadeer districts.
- Conducting CBEMoNC training for 12 MWs from Ibb ( Yareem, Jiblah and Almakhader districts,), Taiz ( Hayfan ), Aldhalae ( Alhusa district).
- Supplying HF's with medical equipment, medicine, kitchen equipment and basic furniture in Alhudydah & AlMahweet Targeted HF's.
- Conduct BASIC CMAM Training for 24 HWs (18 Male and 6 Females ) in Albyda for 10 days with additional day on COVID-19 Prevention and referral



FIGURE 6 BFD ACTIVITIES DURING DECEMBER 2020

**\*\*\* Attached to this bulletin are success stories by Health Cluster partners UNICEF and Abs Development Organization for Woman and Child (ADO).**

### Health Cluster Coordination

The Health Cluster conducted four National Virtual Health Cluster meetings and eight Sub-National Health Cluster coordination meetings in the functional hubs (Aden, Al Hudaydah, Ibb/Taizz, Sa'dah, Sana'a, Marib, Hadramout, and West Coast).

The Health Cluster participated in two ICCM meetings and two HCT meetings at the national level and the Sub-National Health Cluster Coordinators attended eight RCT meetings, three ICWG meetings in all the hubs in addition to 23 bilateral meetings. In addition, the Health Cluster coordinators attended SAG meetings, CCCM meetings, and COVID-19 task force meetings.

Regarding the 1<sup>st</sup> Standard Allocation, a strategic and technical review of 17 project proposals in 38 districts in 11 governorates, targeting 1,331,000 person (257,500 IDPs) was implemented for 14 partners in December 2020.

Links to the 4Ws are as follows:

<https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/yemen/infographic/yemen-health-cluster-4w-draft-december-2020-en>

### Training of Health Staff

During the month of December 2020, Partners across the country conducted training sessions for: - 258 community health workers on health education, health promotion and infection prevention - 78 midwives on various topics in Reproductive Health and 308 Nurses.

### Trauma and Injury Care

With the ongoing conflict in several parts of the country, 133 thousand patients were treated for conflict related trauma injuries in various health facilities across the country during December 2020.

### Child Health

41,740 children were immunized for Penta-3, while 9175 children were treated for SAM with complications cases and refereed for further follow up and support.

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\*\*\*The Health Cluster is CO-Chaired by the Ministry of Public Health and Population.