

## HEALTH CLUSTER BULLETIN February 2021

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

### YEMEN

Emergency Level: Level 3

Reporting period: February 2021



**17.9M**  
PIN of Health Assistance



**7.3M**  
Targeted with Health Interventions










**3.34**  
Million\*\* IDPs



**508M**  
Funds required



**1 Million**  
Returnees

HIGHLIGHTS	HEALTH SECTOR
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A total of 2,191 Health Facilities (19 Governorate Hospitals, 131 District Hospitals, 101 General Hospitals, 21 Specialized Hospitals, 620 Health Centers and 1299 Health Units) are being supported by Health Cluster Partners.</li> </ul>	<div>  <div> <b>71</b> HEALTH CLUSTER PARTNERS  <b>9.7 M</b> PEOPLE IN ACUTE NEED </div> </div>
	<b>KITS DELIVERED TO HEALTH FACILITIES/PARTNERS</b>
	<div>  <div> <b>0</b> IEHK BASIC KITS  <b>0</b> IEHK SUPPLEMENTARY KITS  <b>0</b> TRAUMA KITS  <b>283</b> OTHER TYPES OF KITS </div> </div>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As of the 28<sup>th</sup> of February 2021, 2273 positive COVID-19 cases and 632 deaths have been confirmed by MoPHP Aden (COVID-19 reports are only from the southern governorates).</li> </ul>	<div>  <div> <b>2,191</b> HEALTH FACILITIES </div> </div>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The cumulative total number of suspected Cholera cases from the 1st of January to the 28<sup>th</sup> of February 2021 is (9643) with (2) associated deaths (CFR 0.02%). Children under five represent (25.94%) whilst the elderly above 60 years of age accounted for (6.23%) of total suspected cases. The outbreak has so far affected in 2020: (14) of 23 governorates and (175) of 333 districts in Yemen.</li> </ul>	<div>  <div> <b>1,232,592</b> OUTPATIENT CONSULTATIONS  <b>10,742</b> SURGERIES  <b>46,800</b> ASSISTED DELIVERIES (NORMAL &amp; C/S) </div> </div>
	<b>VACCINATION</b>
	<div>  <div> <b>32,456</b> PENTA 3 </div> </div>
	<b>EIDERS</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As of the 28<sup>th</sup> of February 2021, Health Cluster Partners supported a total number of 177 DTCs and 320 ORCs in 169 Priority districts.</li> </ul>	<div>  <div> <b>1,982</b> SENTINEL SITES </div> </div>
	<b>FUNDING US\$</b>
	<div>  <div> <b>\$438.8</b> REQUESTED FOR HRP 2021  <b>2.8%</b> FUNDED ACCORDING TO FTS) </div> </div>

## Situation update

The overall situation in Yemen, including the Humanitarian situation, has been deteriorating and worsening during the past years, resulting in catastrophic numbers and levels.

The impact of the drivers of the crisis is most visible in the growing risk of famine and severe acute malnutrition, disease outbreaks (COVID-19, Cholera, Diphtheria, Vector-borne (Dengue & Malaria), conflict casualties, forced displacement and reversal of past development gains.

Over six years of conflict that has killed and injured tens of thousands of civilians, causing immense suffering for the Yemeni people. In 2020, the conflict intensified, the number of frontlines increased from 33 to 49, and 172,000 people were displaced, bringing the number of Internally Displaced People (IDPs) to at least 4 million.

This has led to increasing number of people in need for life saving & essential health services. According to HNO 2021 people in need for health assistance during 2021 will reach a whopping 20.1 Million people with 11.6 million are in acute need.

Health Cluster Partners are continuing to support & to strengthening the public health system to ensure that essential, life-saving health services, are being provided to respond to the urgent health needs of the people of Yemen.

However, the shortage in funding during 2020 led to further deterioration of the current health system. Out of the 304.6 million USD needed for the health sector, only 27.4%% was funded during 2020. Unless more funding is received during 2021, we can expect the health situation to continue deteriorating, which might lead to un-imaginable impact on mortality & morbidity figures of the people of Yemen.

In addition to economic deterioration including the inflation of the Yemeni Rial exchange rate, which reached 880 YR/ 1 USD in the South and 602 YR/1USD in the North. In addition, and since last June 2020, a severe fuel crisis has been recorded in northern governorates in Yemen. A 20-liter bottle of gasoline reached around 15 to 16 thousand Yemeni Rials. This is impacting all aspects of life in these governorates, including the availability and accessibility to health services.

## Public health risks, priorities, needs and gaps

The main risks being faced is maintaining the functionality of the public health system in Yemen. As per 2020 data, only 50% of all health facilities inside the country are fully functional (HeRAMS 2020). The burden of the COVID-19 pandemic and epidemic-prone diseases, food insecurity with an increase in acute malnutrition, and low vaccination coverage, overstretched the already weakened health system and limited its ability to provide the essential needs of health services to the most vulnerable groups, including women and children, elderly and IDPs. The majority of the Yemeni population have limited access to health services as a result of the in-security situation in many areas, roadblocks and poor access, and harsh socio-economic conditions, which is impacting their ability to seek health services. In addition, the escalation of conflict on multiple frontlines and recurrent natural disasters are leading to the diversion of established life-saving support, in order to meet the emerging needs of the people impacted by these situations. In 2021, more than two-thirds of the total number of districts (273 of the

total 333 country districts) are in severe needs of health services (vulnerability scoring 1,2 and3) and these affected districts cover all 22 governorates.

The Fuel crisis continues in Yemen, thus hindering the accessibility to and provision of health services to the population in need, and also limiting the referral process from primary health care to the secondary & tertiary care levels, decreasing the availability and increasing cost of primary and specialized care alongside limited resources. The Health Cluster is monitoring the situation on a continuous basis through its partners in the field.

## COVID-19 Highlights

The first confirmed case of COVID-19 in Yemen was declared on April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020. As of the 28<sup>th</sup> of February 2021, 2273 positive cases have been reported and 632 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. Furthermore, a large increase in the number of reported data has been noticed. In comparison with the total number of cases reported during January 2021, an alarming increase of more than 400% increase in the number of cases has been reported. This is a clear indication that the current data being shared and registered regarding the COVID-19 transmission is severely under-reported and does not reflect the real situation on the ground.

Health Cluster partners led by CLA- 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 COVID-19 cases. They support with medicines, medical supplies, equipment, ventilators, IPC, case management & IPC training hazard payment and operational support. 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 Cluster partners are continuing to provide support to several aspects of COVID measures in the non- COVID health facilities they support.

## Communicable Diseases

From the 1<sup>st</sup> of January to the 28<sup>th</sup> of February 2021 there were (9643) cholera suspected cases reported and (2) associated deaths and the outbreak has affected (14) of 23 governorates and (175) of 333 districts in Yemen. The districts reporting the highest number of suspected cases of cholera during month of February 2020 were Khawlan, Hamdan, Az Zuhrah, Monabbih, and Al-Hali.



## 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. 1,305,601 Liters of fuel and 17 million liters of water were supplied to the health facilities in addition to 0 IEHK basic Kits, 283 other types of kits and 0 Trauma kit to support various health facilities across the country.

## Health Cluster Action

Health Cluster Partners include 5 UN agencies, 21 INGOs, 18 NNGOs in 22 Governorates in Yemen. During February 2021, 44 Partners reported through the Yemen health information system.

Partners Implementation Status can be accessed at the below link:

<https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/yemen/health>

## Health Cluster Partners Updates – February 2021

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.

## World Health Organization (WHO)

### Key Highlights during February 2021:

- WHO distributed individual drugs to 53 TFCs and therapeutic milk to all supported TFCs, in addition to the distribution of 35 furniture package to 36 TFCs, including Lab equipment.
- WHO supported building the capacity of 51 health workers in 20 TFCs in Aden, Lahj, AL Dhele'e, Hadramout, Abyan and Shabwa. Moreover, 191 health workers from 86 district health offices were trained to scale up 72 nutrition surveillance sites. WHO supported data collection and management in 22 nutrition surveillance sites in 18 governorates.
- WHO in February supported an ICU training for 98 participants from 20 COVID-19 intensive care units (ICU) in Aden, targeting two physicians, two nurses, and one anesthesiologist from each ICU.
- WHO continued its support of health facilities across Yemen by providing Medicine and Medical supplies. Two CT Scans, 31 ambulances, two oxygen stations, lab equipment, blood refrigerators, Cholera kits, Nutrition kits, Surgical supplies, PPEs, Hygiene kits and other medical supplies were provided to the health facilities.
- 100 Surgical Kits, 235 Trauma kits, and Emergency surgical kits was provided to the main referral hospitals across Yemen.
- WHO Provided 381,850 liters of fuel and 4,618,760 liters of water to health facilities across Yemen.

- In February 2021, second round of the Oral Cholera Vaccination campaign in Al-Dhalea Governorate and Hajr District in Hadramout was implemented reaching 32 thousand HHs and 188 thousand individuals during the two rounds.
- Training of 20 health staff from 4 COVID-19 treatment centers in Aden on the management of sever COVID-19 cases.
- Three-day training for 38 health workers to integrate COVID-19 and Influenza surveillance systems.
- Training for 75 health workers from Aden, Hadramout and Shabwah on Malaria case management.
- Four-day mass Onchocerciasis drug administration campaign was conducted in Bani Saad district in Al-Mahweet governorate targeting 80 thousand individuals.
- Three-day training session in Aden on neglected tropical diseases.
- Three-day workshop on Influenza case management in 3 districts in Al-Hudaydah governorate targeting 20 participants from Al-Thawrah and Al-Salakhana hospitals in Al-Hudaydah as well as the Central Public Health labs.



FIGURE 2 WHO ACTIVITIES DURING FEBRUARY 2021

## International Organization for Migration (IOM)

### Key Highlights during February 2021:

- IOM continues to support 19 healthcare facilities and mobile teams across 6 governorates (Aden, Amanat Al Asimah, Lahj, Marib, Ta'iz and Shabwah) including operation support, provision of medicines and medical supplies, referral services and capacity building and incentives to healthcare workers.
- 30,308 people including 2,740 migrants have been reached with medical consultations
- Twelve health facilities received batches of medicines, medical supplies, and Personal Protective Equipment
- Six mobile teams provide access to emergency health assistance and referrals for IDPs at displacement sites and for migrants along migratory routes in Aden, Lahj and Marib.
- GeneXpert machine has been installed in Al Makha COVID-19 treatment center. Ten lab technicians were trained on samples collection and processing and on how to use the machine.
- COVID-19 screening test was conducted for 51 migrants and refugees as apart of medical fitness prior to voluntary return (AVR) or resettlement.
- The Global Fund (GF) Middle East Response (MER) project continued to support the National AIDS Program (NAP) in providing nutritional support to a total of 1,837 People Living with HIV (PLHIV) receiving Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) at 5 public ART sites in Sana'a, Aden, Taizz, Al-Hudaydah, and Al-Mukalla cities. Furthermore, IOM supported the NAP in conducting the



Endorsement Workshop for Updating the Guidelines on the Role of Scholars, Islamic Preachers /Religious Leaders on HIV Prevention and Control.

- The mobile medical team (MMT) supported by the project conducted 60 awareness sessions on TB, HIV and Malaria for a total of 6,500 resident prisoners at the Central and Priority Prisons in Sa'ada city of Sa'ada governorate. A total number of 17 (Males) Malaria suspected cases were tested for Malaria and a total of 47 (Males) TB suspected cases referred to the hospitals for lab investigation of which three TB positive cases were detected and enrolled in the treatment.
- The GF MER project also continued to support the National Malaria Control Program (NMCP) in implementing the activities of the Malaria prevention interventions, during the reporting period NMCP-Aden launched a mass LLINs distribution campaign aiming to achieve universal coverage of all population at risk of Malaria in 10 endemic districts in Hadramout governorate, and a total of 75,319 LLINs were distributed in the targeted areas protecting more than 158,369 people from Malaria infection including 18,987 under 5 years old, 3,024 pregnant women and 1,834 IDPs.



FIGURE 3 IOM ACTIVITIES DURING FEBRUARY 2021

## United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

### Key Highlights during February 2021:

- Two Mobile RH Teams are operational in the frontlines in Marib governorate.
- Four Health Facilities are being supported by providing essential health services, including normal deliveries and C-Section.
- From 1 January 2021, 22,322 displaced persons were provided with reproductive health services. This includes 16,016 individuals reached through mobile clinics and 6,306 individuals reached through health facilities.
- 50 community midwives have been mobilized in Marib serving 75 thousand individuals, including 3 thousand pregnant women. They also have been provided with clean delivery kits.



FIGURE 4 UNFPA ACTIVITIES DURING FEBRUARY 2021

## Society for Human Solidarity (SHS)

### Key Highlights during February 2021:

- Supporting two health facilities in Socotra governorate.
- Supporting 17 health facilities and 4 mobile teams with CMAM project in Taizz and Shabwah governorates.
- 205 Antenatal Care cases.
- 14 Natal care cases.
- 56 Post-natal care cases.
- 218 Family Planning cases.
- 56 Neo-natal cases.



FIGURE 5 SHS ACTIVITIES DURING FEBRUARY 2021

## Health Cluster Coordination

The Health Cluster conducted four National Virtual and physical Health Cluster meetings and six 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. Furthermore, the Health Cluster participated in a joint field visit to Al-Mahweet governorates on 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> of February 2021. The Health Cluster also attends regular weekly and bi-weekly meetings with MoPHP and government entities to ensure the proper coordination and support of the National Authorities in Yemen.

### Links to the 4Ws are as follows:

<https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/yemen/infographic/yemen-health-cluster-4w-draft-february-2021-en>

### Training of Health Staff

During the month of February 2021, Partners across the country conducted training sessions for: - 179 community health workers on health education, health promotion and infection prevention - 50 midwives on various topics in Reproductive Health and 169 Nurses.

### Trauma and Injury Care

With the ongoing conflict in several parts of the country, 1637 thousand patients were treated for conflict related trauma injuries in various health facilities across the country during February 2021.

### Child Health

32,456 children were immunized for Penta-3, while 10,477 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.