

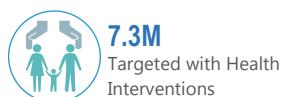
**HEALTH CLUSTER BULLETIN
October 2020**

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

YEMEN

Emergency Level: Level 3

Reporting period: October 2020


HIGHLIGHTS

- A total of 1,958 Health Facilities (16 Governorate Hospitals, 131 District Hospitals, 62 General Hospitals, 21 Specialized Hospitals, 458 Health Centers and 1,270 Health Units) are being supported by Health Cluster Partners.
- As of the 24th of October 2020, 2064 positive COVID-19 cases and 601 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 Oct, 2020 is 208606 with 68 associated deaths (CFR 0.03%). Children under five represent 26% whilst the elderly above 60 years of age accounted for 6.0% of total suspected cases. The outbreak has so far affected in 2020 : 22 of 23 governorates and 299 of 333 districts in Yemen.
- As of 31st of October 2020, Health Cluster Partners supported a total number of 142 DTCs and 226 ORCs in 169 Priority districts.

HEALTH SECTOR

	71 HEALTH CLUSTER PARTNERS	
	9.7 M PEOPLE IN ACUTE NEED	
KITS DELIVERED TO HEALTH FACILITIES/PARTNERS		
	13 IEHK BASIC KITS	
	13 IEHK SUPPLEMENTARY KITS	
	1 TRAUMA KITS	
	47 OTHER TYPES OF KITS	
SUPPORTED HEALTH FACILITIES		
	1,958 HEALTH FACILITIES	
	1,264,050 OUTPATIENT CONSULTATIONS	
	11,615 SURGERIES	
	51,972 ASSISTED DELIVERIES (NORMAL & C/S)	
VACCINATION		
	94,025 PENTA 3	
EDEWS		
	1,982 SENTINEL SITES	
FUNDING US\$		
	203 M REQUESTED FOR COVID19	
	%7.9 BY 31 ST OCTOBER 2020 (SOURCE FTS)	

Situation update

The humanitarian situation in Yemen continues to deteriorate and fighting continue 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 person 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 1958 health facilities all over Yemen in October 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.

The fighting in Yemen continues with frontlines reaching a whopping 47 frontlines. The most intense fighting is occurring in Marib, Al-Jawf and Al-Hudaydah. This will lead to increasing number of IDPs, which in 2020 alone have reached 150,000 individuals. Even though the trend is declining, but COVID-19 cases are still reported with associate death in the country, please refer to the below COVID-19 detailed section for more information.

An alarming Poliovirus outbreak in multiple districts in Sa'dah governorate has resulted in a total number of 19 confirmed cases. This will further impact the health sector which is already on the brink of total collapse.

An attack on Al-Amal cancer treatment center in Taizz occurred on the 24th of October 2020. This attack led to the injury of two health workers and destruction of the building. 163 attacks on the health care system have been recorded since the beginning of 2020.

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 October 31st 2020, 1,962 positive cases have been reported and 567 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 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 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.

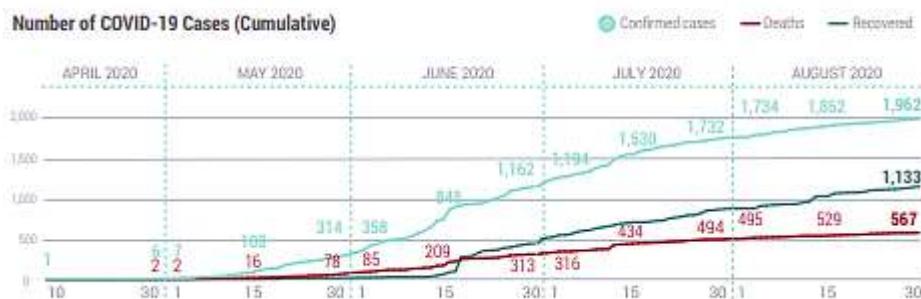


FIGURE 1 COVID-19 CASES REPORTED FROM SOUTHERN GOVERNORATES- TILL END OF OCTOBER 2020.

Communicable Diseases

From the 1st of January to the 31st of October, 2020, there were 208,606 **suspected Cholera cases reported**, 68 **associated deaths** and the outbreak has affected 22 of 23 governorates and 299 of 333 districts in Yemen. The districts reporting the highest number of suspected cases of cholera during month of Oct 2020 were Almisrakh, Az Zuhrah, Hamdan, Bani Alhareth and Minabeh.

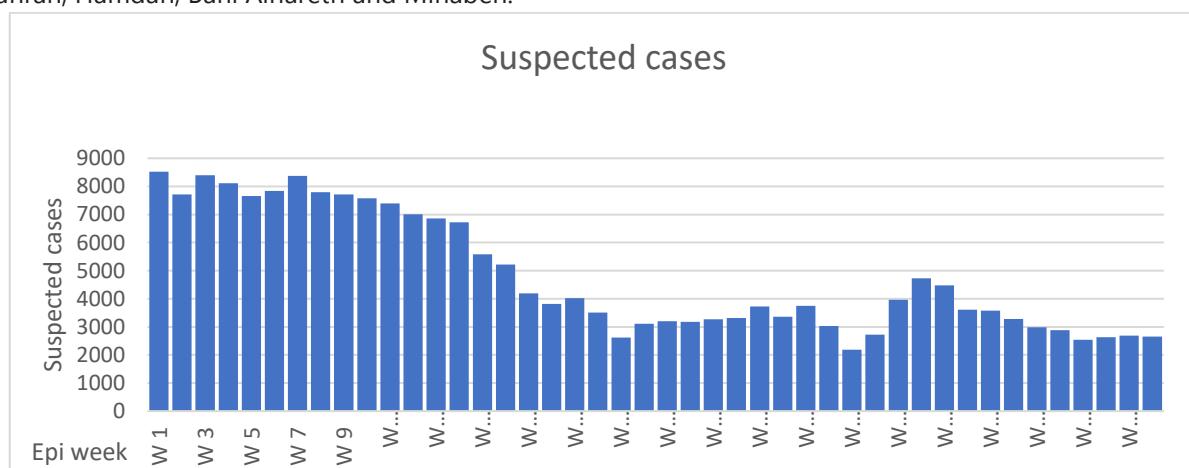


FIGURE 2 FIGURE 2 EPI CURVE: CHOLERA SUSPECTED CASES FROM WEEK 1 2020 TO WEEK 43 2020- SOURCE – EOC

Non-communicable diseases and Mental Health

There were 6,555 new hypertensive and 13, 523 individuals with mental health illness who received medical attention and psychosocial support by health partners during the months of October 2020.

Health Facility Support

During October 2020, 38 Health Cluster Partners have sustained their support to the 1,958 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. 1,435,756 Liters of fuel and 12 million liters of water were supplied to the health facilities in addition to 17 IEHK basic Kits, 10,181 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, 14 INGOs, 19 NNGOs in 22 Governorates in Yemen. During October 2020, 38 Partners reported through the Yemen health information system.

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

Health Cluster Partners Updates – October 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 October 2020:

- In October 2020, 2,053 PPE items were distributed to health facilities across the country. Over 200 health facilities have been provided with PPE to date.
- Training for 60 health workers (mainly midwives) was conducted on infection prevention control and response mechanisms to provide reproductive health services during the pandemic. Over 300 health workers have been trained to date.
- This month, 27 reproductive health kits were distributed to 3 health facilities in Socotra.
- UNFPA has availed its 40 ventilators for the humanitarian response to the pandemic and another 40 ventilators have been shipped into the country.
- National manual/guidelines has been developed for healthcare providers for the provision of reproductive health services under COVID-19 in partnership with the Ministry of Health and UN agencies.
- Provision of reproductive health services in all UNFPA-supported health facilities across the country continued, including in facilities where COVID-19 cases have been isolated.
- In October, Sixty-one reproductive health facilities across 10 governorates in south Yemen received essential reproductive health supplies as part of UNFPA's efforts in improving the quality and availability of reproductive health services in Yemen.
- UNFPA conducted a eighteen-day training program in emergency obstetric and newborn care in Socotra Governorate targeting 24 midwives from different districts in the governorate.



FIGURE 3 UNFPA ACTIVITIES DURING OCTOBER 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 October 2020:

- Provided 18512 health consultation in 17 health facilities.
- Treatment of 310 suspected Cholera cases.
- Mobile Clinics provided health services to the migrants reaching 6122 migrants.
- Screened 2329 migrants for fitness to work for Cash for Work initiative.
- Implemented recreational activities for migrants in Aden and Sana'a for World Mental Health day on 10th of October.



FIGURE 4 IOM ACTIVITES DURING OCTOBER 2020

ABS Development for Women and Children (ADO)

Key Highlights during October 2020:

- Primary health care services have been provided to 15,180 beneficiaries, 3843 RH services, 234 immunization services, treatment of 49 suspected Cholera cases, and 15967 education and awareness services.
- Training of 63 health worker on project guidelines, treatment and precautions around Malaria and Cholera, COVID-19 and quality standards in providing health services and preparation of health reports.
- Training of 60 community volunteers regarding handwashing messages, sanitation, healthy environment, Infant & Young Child Feeding (IYCF), pregnant feeding, Ante Natal Care (ANC), Cholera, Diphtheria prevention, COVID-19 prevention, safe deliveries and vaccination.
- Rehabilitation of Wateer and Matran health centers.
 - Hays rural hospital, Matran HU and Wateer HU; (repair wall cracks, maintenance of doors and windows, painting walls, Room partition and rehabilitate WASH facilities).
- Al Khawkhah and Wateer HU; solar power systems

- Provided necessary medicine (drugs +kits).



FIGURE 5 ADO ACTIVITIES DURING OCTOBER 2020

Building for Development (BFD)

Key Highlights during October 2020:

- 6434 Outpatient Consultations, 2974 communicable diseases consultations, 221 for IDPs, and 37 referrals in Aug 2020.
- 436 women received antenatal care services and 314 women received postnatal care services.
- Assisted 150 normal vaginal deliveries (NVDs) by the qualified and trained midwives in the equipped and functional delivery rooms at health facilities. 3 complicated deliveries were supported with transportation and treatment and had c-section.
- Treated 47 admitted SAM children with medical complications in stabilization centers of Al Jabin and Al Mighlaf districts.
- Establishment of the monther and baby corner at Al Jabin TFC to encourage mothers/caregivers to proactively participate with the babies in the health and nutrition education sessions.
- 113 children under 2 received penta3 vaccination during the reporting period.
- Providing Support to the control of AWD, Dengue fever, measles and Malaria in Hodeidah, Raymah and Taizz.
- Provision of medicines, nutritional commodities, medical supplies and equipment to the 15 Health centers or units in Hodeidah, Raymah and Taizz governorates.
- Provided 294 thousand liter of water and 1100 liter of fuel to the stabilization centers of Al Jabin and Al Mighlaf districts.
- Food Baskets: the distribution was resumed and over 574 FBs were distributed for SAM households.
- 584 SAM and MAM children under 5 admitted and 312 MAM pregnant and lactating women admitted.
- Conducted 1503 health education awareness sessions at community and HFs levels.
- 10,494 children under five and pregnant and lactating women screened for malnutrition by CHVs in Hodeidah, Raymah and Taizz.
- 160 GHO staff paid incentives (specialists, physicians, pharmacists, nurses, midwives, etc.).
- Capacity building and on-job training: 55 CHVs received 3 awareness sessions on Covid-19 prevention, 98 nurses and 7 midwives received on-job capacity building. Providing the operational cost to support maternal health services
- Activating BEmONC services in Al Marashi Rural hospital AlJwaf.
- Activating CEmONC Al Jawf Hospital Barat Alanin.
- Resuming BEmONC services in Al Qahra HC as in Al Hodiedah governorate.

- Resuming BEmONC services in Alkhpt Hospital, and CEmONC services in Hufash Rural Hospital in Al Mahweet governorate
- Resuming BEmONC services in (Bani Al Shamakh HC and Bani Asad HU in Hajjah governorate
- Resuming CEmONC services in 26 September general hospital and BEmONC services in Jabal Murad Hospital in Marib governorate
- Resuming BEmONC services in Alhumyat HC, Reproductive health center and Al Hadaka HC in Dhamar governorate
- Resuming CEmONC services in Rada'a Central Hospital and BEmONC services in Omer Ali Mkiras Rural hospital in Al Byda'a governorate
- Providing the following services for IDPs from conflict areas in Nihm , Al khanaq ,majezer and Al jawf in 37 camps:
- Therapeutic and examination services (essential medication).
- Immunization services.
- Preventive and curative nutrition services.
- Reproductive health services.
- Distribution of Medicines, Medical supplies, cleaning tools, Biohazard materials, PPE, printed material and visibility for the supported HFs in Hajjah and Al Mahweet governorates
- Distribution Printed Materials, visibility, and PPE for the supported HFs in Al Jawf governorate
- Conduct Training on Basic TFC for 11 HWS (8 Male 3 Female) in Taizz governorate.
- Conduct basic training for 49 female CHVs in Ibb.



FIGURE 6 BFD ACTIVITES DURING OCTOBER 2020

Health Cluster Coordination

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

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 26 bilateral meetings. In addition, the Health Cluster coordinators attended SAG meetings, CCCM meetings, COVID-19 task force meetings. EOC meeting and Joint Cluster coordination meetings with other cluster totaling with the above to 44 meetings during October 2020.

The 1st standard allocation was announced on the 26th of October 2020 for a total pool fund of \$75 Million USD. The Health Cluster will be competing among the other clusters, for a portion of that amount. A strategy paper will be shared by OCHA highlighting the focus areas and priorities for this standard allocation.

Links to the 4Ws are as follows:

<http://yemenhc.org/?wpdmpro=health-cluster-4w-October-2020-draft>

Training of Health Staff

During the month of October 2020, Partners across the country conducted training sessions for: - 156 community health workers on health education, health promotion and infection prevention - 67 midwives on various topics in Reproductive Health and 90 Nurses.

Trauma and Injury Care

With the ongoing conflict in several parts of the country, 1084 patients were treated for conflict related trauma injuries in various health facilities across the country during October 2020.

Child Health

47,880 children were immunized for Penta-3, while 6776 children were treated for SAM with complications cases and referred for further follow up and support.

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