HEALTH CLUSTER BULLETIN  
September and October 2021
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 weekend 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 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 live-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 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.

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.

This has led to increasing number of people in need for live saving & essential health services. According to HNO 2021, the 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. The situation in 2021 is not looking any better. As of October 2021, only 21% of the required fund for the health sector has been funded. Failure to acquire the funds needed for the health response will endanger the lives of millions of Yemenis who are in dire need of the medical health services being provided.

In addition to economic deterioration including the inflation of the Yemeni Rial exchange rate, which broken the 1000 YR/ 1 USD barrier in the South and 600 YR/1USD in the North.

Intensified fighting continues in Marib governorates have increased during the past few months. During the period 07 to 13 November 2021, 1448 HHs were displaced all over Yemen according to IOM’s DTM. The increasing number of IDPs puts additional load on health facilities and providers as they are in need of urgent medical assistance.
COVID-19 Highlights

The first confirmed case of COVID-19 in Yemen was registered on April 10th, 2020. As of the 31st of October 2021, 9,795 positive cases have been reported and 1,890 deaths (please note that these figures represent the southern part of the country only). The real number of cases is unknown due to low testing capacity and sharing of information by the authorities. The UN and all 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.

COVID-19 Vaccination

For updated data on COVID-19 vaccination, please visit the official MoPHP dashboard at the below link:

https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjoiOWIwZDU5MGQtZjM1NS00MzI1LTgwNTQtYmVjNWItZWNkYmQyliwci6jMxYTdzOGQzLWY3NDgtNDhhYy05NGMyLWY4ZmJhNWMwZjJjMiIsImMiOjl9

Non-communicable diseases and Mental Health

There were 32,393 new hypertensive and 2,776 individuals with mental health illness who received medical attention and psychosocial support by health partners during the month of September and October 2021.

Health Facility Support

During September and October 2021, 42 Health Cluster Partners have sustained their support to the 1,451 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. 2,216,619 Liters of fuel and 47 million liters of water were supplied to the health facilities in addition to 23,596 IEHK basic Kits, 2,076 other types of kits and 23 Trauma kit to support various health facilities across the country.

Health Cluster Action

Health Cluster Partners include 4 UN agencies, 23 INGOs, 15 NNGOs in 22 Governorates in Yemen. During September and October 2021, 42 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 – September and October 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.

International Organization for Migration (IOM) – The UN Migration Agency

Key Highlights during September and October 2021:

- IOM continues to support 27 healthcare facilities and mobile teams across 7 governorates in Yemen (Aden, Amanat Al Asimah, Lahj, Ma’rib, Ta’iz, Shabwah & Al Hudaydah), including operation support, provision of Medicines, medical supplies and equipment, referral services and capacity building and incentives to healthcare workers.
- 106,508 people (31,375 men, 36,515 women, 18,798 boys and 19,820 girls) including 6,025 migrants (3,611 men, 1,334 women, 803 boys and 277 girls) have been reached with medical consultations.
- 13 Health facilities in Amanat Al Asimah, Aden & Ma’rib governorates facilities received medicines & medical supplies.
- As part of the COVID-19 response, 14 tons trucks of Protective Personal Equipment (PPE) were delivered to the supported facilities in Lahj, Shabwah, South Taiz and the West coast.
- 267 migrants (172 Men, 69 women, 16 boy & 10 girls) with severe medical conditions have been referred to public/private facilities for further management.
- 3,023 (1,249 men, 875 women, 460 boys and 439 girls) of mental health consultation and psychosocial support services were provided to the migrants, IDPs and host communities.
- 11 mobile teams provided access to emergency health assistance and referrals for IDPs at displacement sites and for migrants along migratory routes in Aden, Lahj, Shabwah and Marib governorates.
- COVID-19 tests were done for 1,953 cases in Aden’ migrant response point (MRP), Al Makha and Ma’rib with the GeneXpert machine.
- In Aden & Sana’a, The Health Team conducted Pre-departure medical screening (PDMS) for 1,429 migrants and refugees (1,102 Men, 76 women, 231 boys & 20 girls) who returned back to their home or resettled countries through IOM VHR programs. In addition, health team conducted PDMS for 4 Yemenis (1 women, 2 boys & 1 girls) supported by IOM Reunification Programme
• 7,999 cases (2,051 men, 1,900 women, 2,064 boys and 1,984 girls) of suspected cholera cases have been provided with treatment through IOM’s supported Diarrheal Treatment Center and Oral Rehydration Centres (ORCs) in Marib, Shabwah, Lahj, & Ta’iz governorates.

• 20 health workers were trained on “Infection prevention & Control & COVID-19 prevention” in Lahj governorate.

• IOM conducted an assessment in the west coast, the aim was to identify the appropriate activities to deliver MHPSS services for the communities, determine the main psychological needs and prioritize type of intervention required, the result was 73% of the beneficiaries suffered from stress and psychological problems post displacement and they were not able to follow specialist.

• IOM continued supporting three national programmes in the implementation of life saving activities for HIV, TB and Malaria.

• The National AIDS Control Programme (NACP) implemented Training on the National Training Curriculum on HIV related Stigma for 77 (51 M, 26 F) Health Workers (HWs) from relevant Health Care Provider authorities and Major Hospitals of Amanat Al-Asimah. Furthermore, NACP implemented 3 training workshops in Amanat Al-Asimah and Hajjah governorates for 90 (Males) Scholars, Islamic Preachers and Religious Guides/Leaders on the role of HIV Prevention and AIDS Control Guidelines. The NACP Aden also implemented 42 Community Awareness Sessions on HIV for a total number of 1,110 (451 M, 659 F) IDPs, Marginalized groups, Cleaners, Prisoners and Key Affected (KAP) population at targeted areas in 11 districts of Aden, Lahj, Taizz, Hadramout and Marib governorates. Moreover, NACP conducted 29 training seminars on HIV prevention, treatment, care and referral services as per the National Guidelines for Provider-Initiated Testing and Counselling (PITC) services for a total number of 267 (143 M, 124 F) doctors working at more than 24 government and private Hospitals/Health centers in 19 districts of Al Bayda, Al Mahwit, Amanat Al Asimah, Amran, Dhamar, Hajjah, Ibb, Raymah, and Sana’a governorates.

• The National TB Control Program (NTCP) conducted Training on Presumptive TB Management in Al-Mukalla city for a total of 13 (11 M, 2 F) medical doctors from numbers of health facilities/hospitals in Hadramout governorate.

• The National Malaria Program (NMCP) conducted training workshops on Integrated Community Case Management (ICCM) for a total of 851 Community Health Volunteers (CHVs) at 35 districts in Al-Hudaydah, Al-Mahwit, Taizz, Ibb, Amran, Raymah, Hajjah, Dhamar and Sana’a governorates. In addition, NMCP implemented two training workshops on malaria data reporting using eDEWS in Al-Mukalla city for a total of 52 participants (48 Males and 4 Females) from HFs in 20 districts of Hadramout and Shabwah governorates.

Figure 1 IOM activities during September and October 2021
United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)

Key Highlights during September and October 2021:

- Supported 400 health workers in the triage facilities with hazard pay (Covid Response).
- A total of 2,082 healthcare providers including HWs, CMWs in 4 governorates (Dhamar, Amran, Taiz & Al-Dhalea) were sensitized on infection prevention control (IPC).
- PPE supplies (Glovers, Masks, Aprons) were delivered to 22 GHOs all over the country.
- 30000 copies of covid19 guide booklets were transported to 10 governorates health offices in 9 governorates in the south. A total number of 33,270 cases were screened for COVID-19 in the UNICEF supported triage facilities, (54.8% female & 17.9 % children U5). 758 suspected cases (43% females & 15.5 % children U5) were referred to the isolation centers. 109 out of the 758 referred cases were admitted in the Isolation unites/centers for further management.
- UNICEF towards strengthening the data quality and management in the health sector in Yemen has supported the capacity building of health works and Ministry of Public health and Population on DHIS-2. As a part of the support more than 1000 person from 15 gov have been trained.

Building for Development (BFD)

Key Highlights during September and October 2021:

- Activating Al Sawma’ah Hospital in Al Bayda Governorate as BEmONC to provide RH services for the population affected by the current clashes.
- Supplied the HFs supported by the EmONC in Hajjah, Ma’rib, Al Hodeidah, and Bani Sa’ad HF in Al Mahwit governorate with Medicines, Medical supplies, cleaning tools, and printed materials.
- Conducted a CMR training for 25 female HWs in Marib GOV (6 HFs and 4 MTs & RRM) from 14th to 18th September 2021
- Supported Ali Abdul Mughni Hospital at Al Albayda district -Marib Gov by medication and medical supply, which is one of HF that affected by recent clashes in Al Albayda District

Figure 2 UNICEF activities during September and October 2021
Hospital is the only one in the area that provides health services to the scattered population gatherings

- Installed about 250 medical devices delivered by UNFPA to the different RH-HFs according to UNFPA plan in 10 governorates across Yemen (Al Hudya -Sada'a -Amran -Ibb -Al Dhale’e -Taiz -Sana’a -Raymah -Dhamar and Al Jawf.) with training the HW staff on how to deal with them at targeted HFs
- EmONC project conducted some minor rehabilitation and maintenance works for eight facilities in 4 Gov. on September as needed within the available budget that helps improve service delivery in facilities

Figure 3 BFD Activities during September and October 2021

**FHI 360**

**Type of Services provided:**

- Support the provision of MISP within the supported health facilities via incentivizing nominated staff, provision of medical pharmaceuticals for communicable and non-communicable diseases, medical consumables, medical equipment, medical and office furniture.
- Provision of community awareness and sensitization to health topics in addition to referral of cases in need to closest health facility via Community Health volunteers, in addition to support to iCCM in Al Gharrafi area via well trained CHVs.
- Maintenance and rehabilitation of supported HFs, HCWM through constructions of incinerators and pit

**Key Highlights during September and October 2021:**

- Distribution of newly arrived medications to supported health facilities.
- Distribution of Lab reagents to Al Kadaha HF
- Distribution of medical consumables to Al Ordi HF.
- Completion of rehabilitation in all supported health facilities in Taiz and Aden governorates (Al Shatheliah, Al Gharaffi, Al Roa’a, Al Ordi, Al Kadaha) installation of solar panels and finalized the construction of HCWM systems in Al Shatheliah Al Gharaffi, Al Roa’a, Al Ordi and Al Kadaha.
Save the Children (SCI)

Key Highlights during September and October 2021:

Al-Hudaydah

- Outpatient consultations for 85,552 individuals
- Antenatal care for 4,739 pregnant women and girls
- Postnatal care for 617 mothers and their infants
- Referral to secondary care for 299 complicated cases
- Clean delivery kits for 1,986 pregnant women and girls in their third trimester
- Measles vaccination for 903 children
- Health, Nutrition and Hygiene messages delivered to 39,448 individuals
- Diphtheria identification and treatment for 30 cases
- Malaria identification and treatment for 2,889 cases
- Dengue fever diagnosis and treatment for 18 cases
- COVID-19 diagnosis and treatment for 287 cases
- Referral of 101 complicated cases (30 Male, 71 Female) form Health Facilities to the AL-Hali, AL-Hawak, Bet AL-Faqeeh, AL-Mina, Bajel District’s Hospital.
- Referral of 16 SAM cases (07 Male, 09 Female) from OTP to AL-Thawarah & Bet ALFaqeeh TFC in the district’s Hospital
- Distribution of Medicines and Medical Supplies to AL-Salakhanah Hospital CEmOC department as an attachment.
- Distribution 100 Pcs of clean Delivery kits (CDK) for 02 HFs (Al-Marab, Sab AL-Mazariah) in Bajel district.
- Conducting the training on the New RH Records AL-Hali (Al-Hawak, AL-Mina, AL-Hali, AL-Mina) for 121 HWs (02 Male 119 Female).
- Coordination with Hod GHO and SCMCHA regarding the CEmOC training for 56 HWs in (Bajel, Bet AL-Faqeeh, AL-Hali, AL-Hawak, AL-Mina).
- Referral of 95 complicated cases (30 Male, 65 Female) form Health Facilities to the AL-Hali, AL-Hawak, Bet AL-Faqeeh, AL-Mina, Bajel District’s Hospital.
- Referral of 16 SAM cases (11 Male, 11 Female) from OTP to Bajel & Bet ALFaqeeh TFC in the district’s Hospital
- Distribution of Medicines for 03 HFs (7 July, Al-Moghtarebeen, AL-Salam) in AL-Hali district and AL-Bustan in AL-Mina district as attachment.
• Distribution of Medicines, Equipment and Medical supplies for 10 HFs (Al-Kedf, AL-Salam, Palastine, AL Baitha Alsharqieia) in AL-Hali district and (Al-Hawak, Golil, AL-Shahria, AL-Sediqiah, AL-Qaser) in Al-Hawak district and (Al-Hawak HF) in Bet AL-Faqeeh district as attachment.
• Distribution 300 Pcs of clean Delivery kits (CDK) for 02 HFs (AL-Garbashiah, Alghawader ) in Bet AL-Faqeeh district .
• Provide the IDPs clinic with 500 litters of Diesel Fuel.
• Coordination with Hod GHO and SCMCHA regarding the CEmOC training for 56 HWs in (Bajel, Bet AL-Faqeeh, AL-Hali, AL-Hawak, AL-Mina ).
• Launching the Rehabilitation of CEmOC department in AL-Salakhanah Hospital in AL-Hali district.
• Distribution of H&N registration book for Alghawader HF in bait AL-Faqeeh district.

Hajjah
• Outpatient consultations for 71,783 individuals
• Antenatal care for 808 pregnant women and girls
• Postnatal care for 255 mothers and their infants
• Referral to secondary care for 227 complicated cases
• Clean delivery kits for 789 pregnant women and girls in their third trimester
• Measles vaccination for 791 children
• Health, Nutrition and Hygiene messages delivered to 14,390 individuals
• Malaria identification and treatment for 2,238 cases
• Dengue fever diagnosis and treatment for 31 cases

Aden/Lahj
• Conducted of C4D training for 40 community health volunteers in period from 24th until 30th of September in Ibn Kaldoon hospital.
• Conducted IMCI training for 15 health care providers (8 female,7 Male) from 24th until 30th October in Alsadaq hospital.
• Conducted of EmOC Training for 15 health care providers in period from 1st November until 14th of November in Alsadaqa hospital.
• Conducted refresher training for CMAM and IYCF for 15 heath care providers all female midwives from 16th of November until 24th of November in Alsadaqa hospital.
• Conducted hand washing campaign from 24th October 2021.
• Hold workshop with 4 community health committees to discuss the importance of CHWs and CHVs and how to support them.
• Continued distribution of PPE and IPC materials to 4 targeted HFs and 64 CHVs / CHWs HF in Tor – Albha district.
• Continued distribution of medicines to 4 targeted HFs and 64 CHWs in Tor –Albha district.
• Conducted BSFP training for 396 (103 M 294 F) in Aden under WFP project.
• Conducted C4D training for 80 F CNVs in Lahj.
• Conducted Module 1&2 training for 80 F CNVs.
• Supportive supervision for 66 health facilities in Aden and Lahj governorate in October by RH assistant from SCI and DHO supervisor
• Supportive supervision for 89 health facilities in Aden and Lahj governorate in September by RH assistant from SCI and DHO supervisor
• On-the-job training in infection prevention and type of waste for 5 midwives in October
On job training in PIN card for one midwife in October
Distribution of family planning commodities for 39 health facilities in Aden and Lahj governorate
Distribution of Bonney forceps for three health facilities in Lahj governorate
Distribution of IPC material for one health facility in Lahj governorate.

IBB

- Outpatient consultations for 21,004 individuals
- Antenatal care for 831 pregnant women and girls
- Postnatal care for 107 mothers and their infants
- Referral to secondary care for 1 complicated case
- Clean delivery kits for 90 pregnant women and girls in their third trimester
- Measles vaccination for 625 children
- Malaria identification and treatment for 20 cases
- Dengue fever diagnosis and treatment for 2 cases
- Tuberculosis diagnosis and treatment for 21 cases
- 10 days CHVs training conducted for 43 female CHVs in AlTazyah district. (30th October to 8th November 2021)
- Distributed medicines to 10 HFs in AlTazyah district and 3 HFs in Dimnat Khader District.
- Distributed 330 clean delivery kits to 13 HFs in AlTazyah and Demnat Khader districts.
- Distributed cleaning materials to 13 health facilities.
- Distributed health and nutrition registers and monthly reporting formats to all targeted health facilities.
- Distributed IYCF materials to 13 targeted HFs in AlTazyah and Demnat Khader districts.
- Distributed PPE and IPC materials to 13 targeted HFs.
- Distributed 237 hygiene kits for SAM cases to the 13 targeted HFs in AlTazyah and Demnat Khader districts.

Qatar Charity

Key Highlights during September and October 2021:

- Qatar Charity supported two health facilities in two districts in IBB governorate. As primary health care medications are available and medical staff receive monthly incentives, the health facilities are seeing a higher number of patients, in compared with previous months, from both the host community and the IDPs.
- Availability of lab reagents.
- IMCI consultations: 700 consultations.
- OPD consultations: 4976 consultations.
- RH services (ANC/PNC): 418 consultations.
- Number of children under 1 received Penta 3: 1318 children.
- Health education for community and IDPs with different health messages: 1158
- IDPs medical consultations: 684
- People with special need received medical consultation: 15 consultation
- Deliveries by skilled birth attendants: 30 deliveries
- Hazard allowance support: 29 health workers
- Medication and laboratory supplies has been delivered to the supported health facilities.
• In addition to personal hygiene items, Qatar charity donated personal protection equipment for health workers within the two health facilities.

Figure 5 Qatar Charity Activities during September and October 2021

Health Cluster Coordination

During the reporting period of September and October 2021, the Health Cluster at the National and Hub level conducted over 19 Health Cluster coordination meetings. (Aden, Al Hudaydah, Ibb/Taizz, Sa’dah, Sana’a, Marib, Hadramout, and West Coast).

The Health Cluster at the National and Hub level also participated in around 81 technical meetings, which include but are not limited to ICCM, RCT, TWGs, COVID-19, inter-sectoral, and government meetings. This is on a weekly, bi-weekly, and monthly basis. Furthermore, the Health Cluster conducted around 13 field visits during the reporting period due to COVID-19 restrictions. The Health Cluster at the National and Hub level conducted over 50 bilateral meetings with partners, agencies, and government entities to ensure the proper coordination and implementation of activities and projects as well as resolving any pending issues on the field.

Links to the 4Ws are as follows:


Training of Health Staff

During the months of September and October 2021, Partners across the country conducted training sessions for 527 community health workers on health education, health promotion and infection prevention, 267 midwives on various topics in Reproductive Health and 1977 nurses.

Trauma and Injury Care

With the ongoing conflict in several parts of the country, 5678 thousand patients were treated for conflict related trauma injuries in various health facilities across the country during September and October 2021.
Child Health

85532 children were immunized for Penta-3, while 87946 children were treated for SAM with complications cases and refereed for further follow up and support during this reporting period.

For further Information, please Contact:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Contact Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Fawad Khan</td>
<td>Health Cluster Coordinator - Yemen, World Health Organization, Mobile: +967-738335599, E-mail: <a href="mailto:khansar@who.int">khansar@who.int</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Sardar H. Khan</td>
<td>Health Cluster Coordinator-Aden, World Health Organization, Mobile: +967 73 847 7288, E-mail: <a href="mailto:khansar@who.int">khansar@who.int</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Fouad Othman</td>
<td>Acting Sub-National Health Cluster Coordinator – Sana’a Hub, World Health Organization, Mobile: +967-739888430, E-Mail: <a href="mailto:othmanf@who.int">othmanf@who.int</a></td>
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***The Health Cluster is CO-Chaired by the Ministry of Public Health and Population.***