

# UNFPA Response in Yemen

## SITUATION REPORT



A nurse attends to a premature baby at UNFPA-support Al Shaab Hospital, Aden, Yemen © UNFPA Yemen

## FAST FACTS

**23.4M**

In need of humanitarian assistance



**12.9M**

In acute need



**21.9M**

Lack access to basic health services



**17.2M**

In need of protection



**4.3M**

Internally displaced



**8.1M**

Women of reproductive age (15-49 yrs)



**1.3M**

Pregnant & lactating women malnourished



**6.9M**

In need of GBV protection



## HIGHLIGHTS: JANUARY - MARCH

After more than seven years of war and economic decline, **Yemen remains one of the world's worst humanitarian crises**. A staggering 23.4 million people – 75 per cent of the population – require some form of humanitarian assistance in 2022. More than 4.3 million people have been displaced from their homes, the economy has collapsed and nearly the entire health system has shattered, with only half of all health facilities remaining functional.

**A new IPC food security analysis found deteriorating levels of food security across Yemen.** Conflict remains the primary underlying driver of hunger in Yemen. The economic crisis – a by-product of conflict – and the currency depreciation have pushed food prices to their highest levels since 2015. The war in Ukraine is likely to lead to significant import shocks, further driving food prices. An estimated 19 million people requiring food assistance in 2022. **Among them an estimated 1.3 million pregnant and breastfeeding women are projected to experience acute malnutrition sometime in the course of 2022.** They risk giving birth to newborns with severe stunted growth, and nursing malnourished infants, as a result of rising food insecurity.

**The aid operation in Yemen remains severely underfunded.** In March, the UN and the governments of Sweden and Switzerland co-hosted a High-level Pledging Event for the Humanitarian Crisis in Yemen, aimed at raising funds to meet the urgent humanitarian needs of millions of Yemenis. Some US\$1.3 billion were pledged at the event, less than a third of the \$4.3 billion required to sustain lifesaving assistance programmes in 2022 under the Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan.

Since the beginning of the year, **lack of funding has forced UNFPA to scale back lifesaving reproductive health and protection interventions across the country**, placing the lives of thousands of women and girls in grave danger. For instance, in the first quarter of the year, some 40,000 women lost access to protection services. To keep reaching the most vulnerable women and girls, **UNFPA requires US\$100 million in 2022. To date, only 13 percent of this funding appeal has been received.**

From January to March 2022, **UNFPA's response reached more than 700,000 individuals with life-saving reproductive health services, protection information and services and emergency relief**, with support to 98 health facilities, 35 safe spaces, 7 shelters and eight specialized mental health centres.

# UNFPA GOVERNORATE RESPONSE

UNFPA's interventions cover 20 governorates in Yemen. Overall coordination is handled by UNFPA's office in Sana'a. In other governorates, joint UN humanitarian hubs coordinate. UNFPA has presence in all operational UN humanitarian hubs. Services provided and people reached from January to March are detailed below:

## HIGHLIGHTS: JAN. - MAR. 2022



## GOVERNORATE

## PEOPLE REACHED

## SERVICES DELIVERED

Women reached with reproductive health services

Women reached with protection information & services

Health facilities supported with RH services

Women and girls safe spaces supported

GOVERNORATE	PEOPLE REACHED	PEOPLE REACHED	SERVICES DELIVERED	SERVICES DELIVERED
	Women reached with reproductive health services	Women reached with protection information & services	Health facilities supported with RH services	Women and girls safe spaces supported
Abyan	16,068	2,004	3	1
Aden	13,234	656	3	0
Al Bayda	16,182	2,160	4	1
Al Dhale'e	7,258	355	2	1
Al Hudaydah	31,301	19,979	15	7
Al Jawf	14,075	1,364	5	0
Al Maharah	6,583	1,719	1	1
Al Mahwit	11,672	2,991	3	1
Amanat Al Asimah	15,857	7,203	6	1
Amran	9,680	2,031	3	0
Dhamar	18,407	3,196	4	0
Hadramaut	13,538	8,801	3	2
Hajjah	39,440	1,697	8	1
Ibb	5,796	18,906	5	3
Lahj	4,648	4,328	1	3
Marib	53,541	33,959	7	5
Sa'ada	7,755	940	4	1
Sana'a	2,650	562	1	0
Shabwah	11,654	9,403	3	1
Taizz	98,730	40,731	17	6
Raymah	0	0	0	0
Socotra	1,633	0	0	0

## FREE MATERNAL HEALTH SERVICES A LIFELINE FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS

On her way to the health centre to give birth, Hailah almost fell off the back of a borrowed motorbike – twice. Traveling with her brother-in law from a remote village in Dhamar Governorate, they bumped along poor roads for more than 20 kilometres. “I realized it was the end – there was no way for me and my child to survive,” Hailah, 30, recalled. “But I had to resist. I couldn’t be at home because of the great risk of severe bleeding or death.”

When Hailah arrived at UNFPA-supported Hadaka Health Centre, she was quickly transferred to the operating room. “She reached us at the last minute. She and her baby were about to die,” her doctor said. “The operation was a success — her baby is in the incubator and she is in stable condition.” She added: “The free medical services that we provide are the only hope for women like Hailah. I can hardly imagine how many mothers and babies will die if these services are stopped.”

Hailah had a daughter she named Amal. “We almost lost its meaning in light of this cursed war that turned our lives into tragedy,” she said. But they didn’t lose the baby, or what her name means: “hope.”

In 2021, UNFPA supported 127 health facilities; since the beginning of 2022, lack of funding has forced UNFPA to suspend support for reproductive health services in nearly 30 health facilities; placing the lives of millions of women of reproductive age in grave danger. UNFPA's reproductive health response in Yemen is supported with funding from the European Union, Canada, Netherlands, USAID Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance, the Republic of Korea and the Central Emergency Response Fund.

# RAPID RESPONSE MECHANISM (RRM)

UNFPA is leading the efforts of three agencies i.e. UNFPA, UNICEF and WFP to distribute immediate, most critical life-saving emergency supplies to families who are newly displaced, on the move, in hard-to-reach areas or stranded close to the front lines, as well as most vulnerable returnees. The RRM minimum assistance package is comprised of these components: (1) ready to eat food provided by WFP; (2) family basic hygiene kits provided by UNICEF; and (3) one female dignity/transit kit provided by UNFPA. A total of 19,711 RRM kits were distributed from January to March 2022. Other highlights for the period June 2018 to March 2022 include:

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM JUNE 2018 TO MARCH 2022

Since June 2018, RRM kits were delivered to **573,768 families (over 4.0 million individuals)**.

232,132 RRM kits distributed through the **Al Hudaydah** humanitarian hub from June 2018 to March 2022.

126,799 RRM kits distributed through the **Aden** humanitarian hub from June 2018 to March 2022.

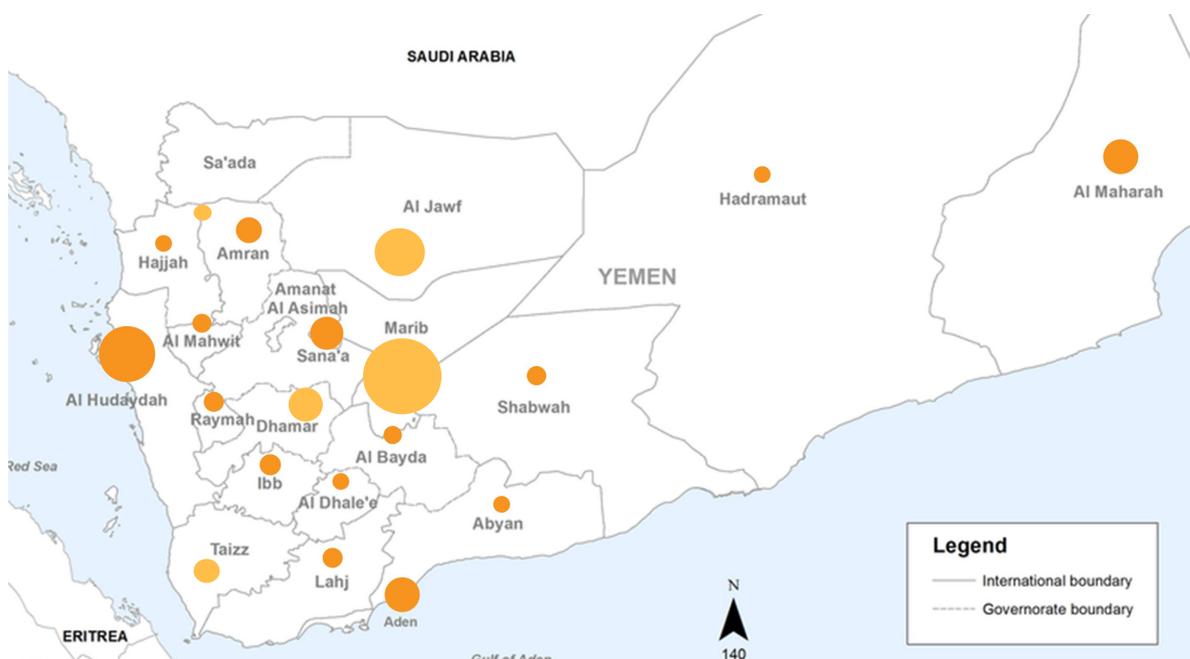
92,542 RRM kits distributed through the **Sana'a** humanitarian hub from June 2018 to March 2022.

28,121 RRM kits distributed through the **Ibb** humanitarian hub from June 2018 to March 2022.

94,171 RRM kits distributed through the **Sa'ada** humanitarian hub from June 2018 to March 2022.



Distribution of rapid response kits in frontline areas of Al Jawf



The RRM is operational country-wide. The map indicates RRM distribution by governorate and volume of distribution since January 2022

**Donors to the RRM:** Central Emergency Response Fund, European Union Humanitarian Aid and Yemen Humanitarian Fund

## IN THE NEWS

### PEOPLE REACHED

	NO.
No. of people reached with reproductive health services	399,702
No. of safe deliveries supported	34,033
No. of cesarean sections supported	6,161
Individuals reached with Family Planning services	49,314
Dignity kits distributed	21,233
Individuals reached through the Rapid Response Mechanism	148,631
No. of women reached with protection information & services	162,985
No. of health facilities supported with reproductive health services	98
No. of safe spaces supported	35
No. of women shelters supported	7
No. of supported specialized psychological care centres	8



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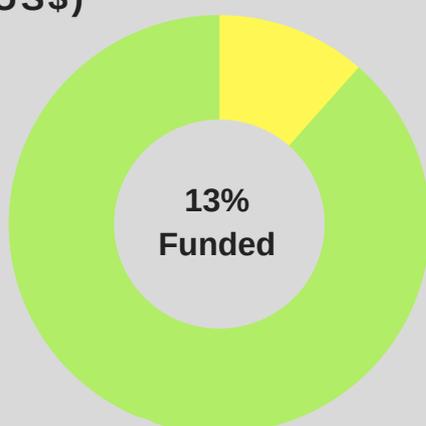
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### 2022 UNFPA RESPONSE FUNDING STATUS (US\$)

**\$100 M**  
REQUIRED

**\$13.4M**  
FUNDED

**\$86.6 M**  
FUNDING GAP



**2022 Donors** (alphabetical order): Canada, CERF, European Union, Netherlands, Qatar, Sweden, Switzerland, USAID, Yemen Humanitarian Fund

### KEY CHALLENGES

- A non-permissive operating environment with limited humanitarian access and shrinking humanitarian space.
- Limited funding available for the continued provision of humanitarian services up to the end of the year.
- Lack of national resources for the provision of basic social services.
- Lack of health workers in severely conflict-affected areas.
- Increasing restrictions imposed on implementing partners to undertake humanitarian operations in conflict-affected areas.
- Delays in transportation of supplies due to bureaucratic impediments.