As the conflict enters its fifth year, Yemen remains the world’s worst humanitarian crisis with staggering levels of humanitarian needs. Eighty percent of the population – 24.1 million people – need some form of humanitarian assistance.

The conflict in has been characterized by cycles of displacement and return. As many as 4 million people have been displaced and remain displaced since the start of the conflict. Over 2.5 million people were displaced in 2015 and 2016, at the start of the conflict, and another 327,924 were displaced in 2017. Over 730,000 people were displaced in 2018. In 2019, displacement was more localized, with households staying closer to their usual place of residence and placing a burden on smaller population centres within the same governorate. In 2019, almost half of the families displaced were living in informal settlements, whereas in 2018 the largest proportion of displaced families stayed in rented accommodation or with host families.

Following a 10-month lull in hostilities, fighting broke out in mid-January on several frontlines, including Nihm District in Sana’a Governorate, Sirwah District in Marib Governorate, and Al Maton in Al Jawf following a series of attacks on military sites resulting in heavy casualties.

By end January, 3,825 families had been displaced across Sana’a, Marib and Al Jawf governorates. Those displaced are in critical need of shelter and non-food items, health assistance and protection services.

The UNFPA-led Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM), providing a standard relief package that includes food, hygiene materials and other essential items, has been activated and RRM kits were provided to more than 1,549 new displaced persons within 48 to 72 hours of displacement, by end January. Mobile reproductive health and protection teams were deployed in Marib and Al Jawf Governorates, providing essential reproductive health services, psychological first aid and transit kits. More than 500 women benefited from these services from 22 to 31 January.
Married at 15 years, Aziza and her husband tried getting pregnant for 10 years with no luck. “When I became pregnant with my first child, it was a very happy time for me and my family. I could not visit a hospital during my pregnancy as the hospital in our village, Al Hameliy, didn’t have the necessary facilities. When it was time for me to deliver, women in the village helped with my delivery, I suffered enormously and in the end lost my baby. A year later I was pregnant again, and suffered the same fate. “I had given up on having children but my family kept pushing me. While pregnant, I heard that Al Mokha Hospital has set up a maternity unit to handle cases like mine, free of charge. We decided to take the journey to Al Mokha Hospital.” “I was received immediately at the hospital by the midwives. The medical team decided that I needed a cesarean section. The next thing I remember is waking up in the operating room and asking the midwife if my baby was alive. To my relief, the midwife replied that my child is in healthy and in an incubator. I forgot all my pain, I felt so happy, I cried, and hugged the midwife,” she tells UNFPA with joy.

--- Aziza, 28 years

With funding from the United Arab Emirates, UNFPA helped to expand the maternity unit at Al Mokha Hospital, located on the West Coast, close to the front lines in Yemen’s five year long conflict, to ensure that women like Aziza who face complications during pregnancy and childbirth are able to access obstetric care services they require free of charge and without long hours of travel. Prior to this women in Al Mokha had to travel almost five hours to reach a health facility providing such services.

Since opening in January 2020, more than 5,000 women benefited from reproductive health services and 10 Caesarean sections were conducted safely.
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. More than 7,428 RRM kits were distributed in January 2020. Other highlights for the period June 2018 to January 2020 include:

HIGHLIGHTS FROM JUNE 2018 TO JANUARY 2020

Since June 2018, RRM kits were delivered to 358,736 families (over 2,511,152 individuals).

196,007 RRM kits distributed through the Al Hudaydah humanitarian hub from June 2018 to January 2020.

62,805 RRM kits distributed through the Aden humanitarian hub from June 2018 to January 2020.

58,906 RRM kits distributed through Sana’a humanitarian hub from June 2018 to January 2020.

19,508 RRM kits distributed through the Ibb humanitarian hub from June 2018 to January 2019.

21,529 RRM kits distributed through the Sa’ada humanitarian hub up to January.

The RRM is operational country-wide. The map indicates RRM distribution by governorate and volume of distribution in January 2020.

Donors to the RRM: European Union Humanitarian Aid
HIGHLIGHTS OF OVERALL RESPONSE - JANUARY 2020

PEOPLE REACHED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. of people reached with reproductive health services</td>
<td>101,083</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of safe deliveries supported</td>
<td>12,255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of cesarean sections supported</td>
<td>2,455</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individuals reached with Family Planning services</td>
<td>31,180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dignity kits distributed</td>
<td>7,428</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of survivors of violence reached with protection services</td>
<td>89,163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of health facilities supported with reproductive health services</td>
<td>221</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of safe spaces supported</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of women shelters established with UNFPA support</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of specialized psychological care centres</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of mobile protection teams in collective sites</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IN THE NEWS

Flash Update: Escalation and Response in Marib, Al Jawf and Sana’a Governorates

UNFPA Scales Up Lifesaving Services for Women and Girls in Yemen with Support from the United Arab Emirates Read more...

In war-torn Yemen, life-threatening pregnancy complication finds a happy ending Read more...

KEY CHALLENGES

- Lack of humanitarian access to conflict-affected areas.
- 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.

2020 HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE PLAN FUNDING STATUS (US$)

$100.5 M REQUIRED
$32.2M FUNDED
$68.3 M FUNDING GAP

32% Funded

2020 Donors (alphabetical order): Canada, European Union Humanitarian Aid, Denmark, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, UNICEF, WHO, Yemen Humanitarian Pooled Fund