At the close of 2019, 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. Some 3.34 million people are internally displaced across the country; another 1 million have returned to their homes. Conditions are worst in conflict-affected areas, including in the sub-districts where humanitarian access is limited. The UNFPA-led, Rapid Response Mechanism has provided lifesaving emergency relief items to 1.24 million displaced persons in 2019 alone.

The Yemen humanitarian aid operation continues to be the largest in the world reaching an average of 11.4 million people each month, an increase of 49 percent from 2018. This is despite a myriad of operational challenges such as delayed disbursement of pledges by donors in the first nine months of the year, ongoing conflict and other access restrictions.

By end December, the Yemen humanitarian operation had mobilized $3.88 billion, of which $3.48 billion was for activities within the 2019 Humanitarian Response Plan (YHRP). This represents 83 per cent of the YHRP requirement for 2019 and the most funded in the world. With donor support, aid agencies were able to roll back catastrophic food insecurity in 29 of 45 districts facing Integrated Phase Classification 5 conditions, help millions of Yemenis overcome hunger, reduce the disease caseload and preserve the capacity of public sector institutions to deliver life-saving basic services.

UNFPA was able to mobilize 80 percent of its US$ 110.5 million appeal for 2019, by the end December, rolling back services that were closed or at the risk of closure during mid-year. By the end of the year, nearly 2 million people were reached with reproductive health and protection services. More than 260 health facilities and over 2,000 health workers were supported to sustain the provision of reproductive health services across the country, while 40 women’s safe spaces and six shelters provided lifesaving protection services to more than 100,000 survivors of different forms of violence.
Amani, a 23-year-old woman, from Shabwa Governorate in south Yemen, waited many years to have a child. When she finally did get pregnant, her husband lost his job. Their worries grew in providing the best healthcare for Amani and her baby.

“Eight month into the pregnancy, I began to feel severe pain. Day by day, my situation was getting worse. My blood pressure was rising, headaches were constant and I was beginning to lose my eyesight; I could barely walk. My husband was getting so scared. He was not ready to lose me or our first child. We were desperate for money to hire a car to take me to a hospital. He finally managed to borrow some money from a friend. We travelled for six hours to Sayoon City to reach a hospital that was able to treat me,” tells Amani.

Amanai was treated at the UNFPA-supported maternity ward for 15 days to stabilize her condition. With the help of midwives, she was able to have a normal delivery although a cesarean section was anticipated.

“When I saw how the hospital staff took care of my wife. I knew she was in very safe hands and the happiness we felt when we held our baby for the first time is beyond description,” tells Amani’s husband proudly.

UNFPA is the sole provider of lifesaving reproductive health supplies and medicines in Yemen. In 2019, more than a million women have been assisted with reproductive health services, with support to over 130,000 normal deliveries and more than 23,000 cesarean sections.; with the generous support of Canada, ECHO, Netherlands, WHO, United Arab Emirates and the Yemen Humanitarian 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. More than 8,319 RRM kits were distributed in December 2019. Other highlights for the period June 2018 to December 2019 include:

HIGHLIGHTS FROM JUNE 2018 TO DECEMBER 2019

Since June 2018, RRM kits were delivered to 352,380 families (over 2,466,660 individuals).

195,844 RRM kits distributed through the Al Hudaydah humanitarian hub from June 2018 to December 2019.

60,045 RRM kits distributed through the Aden humanitarian hub from June 2018 to December 2019.

56,571 RRM kits distributed through Sana’a humanitarian hub from June 2018 to December 2019.

19,070 RRM kits distributed through the Ibb humanitarian hub from June 2018 to December 2019.

20,850 RRM kits distributed through the Sa’ada humanitarian hub up to December 2019.

The RRM is operational country-wide. The map indicates RRM distribution by governorate and volume of distribution in November 2019.

Donors to the RRM: European Union Humanitarian Aid
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>901,696</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of safe deliveries supported</td>
<td>138,205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of cesarean sections supported</td>
<td>23,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individuals reached with Family Planning services</td>
<td>327,456</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dignity kits distributed</td>
<td>180,877</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>219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of safe spaces supported</td>
<td>40</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>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of mobile protection teams in collective sites</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IN THE NEWS

- Yemen's State of Population 2019 Report launched
  Read more...
- Yemen Goes Orange for 16 Days
  Read more...
- Life-saving reproductive health supplies for Hadramout
  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 difficulties for implementing partners to obtain clearances to operate in some conflict-affected areas.
- Delays in transportation of supplies due to bureaucratic impediments.

2019 HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE PLAN FUNDING STATUS (US$)

- $110.5 M REQUIRED
- $87M FUNDED
- $23.5 M FUNDING GAP

2019 Donors (alphabetical order): Canada, European Union Humanitarian Aid, Denmark, Kuwait, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, UNICEF, WHO, Yemen Humanitarian Pooled Fund