

# HUMANITARIAN UPDATE

Covering 7-17 September 2018 | Issue 27

## KEY ISSUES:

- The school year has opened but two million children remain out of school; about 67 per cent of public school teachers have not been paid for nearly two years.
- Fighting escalated around Al-Hudaydah, rendering the main road to Sana'a inaccessible to humanitarian traffic.
- Clashes have decreased in Taizz city as heavy weapons and fighters are relocated to frontlines outside the city.
- OCHA organised the first UN field mission in several years to Shabwah Governorate and visited Bayhan and Usaylan districts.
- 114 humanitarian partners were active in 320 out of 333 districts in Yemen during July 2018.

## CHALLENGES AS SCHOOL YEAR OPENS

The new school year started in September across Yemen, but the education sector faces a myriad of challenges. According to UNICEF, two million children are out of school, compared to 1.6 million before the conflict. Another four million primary school students are at risk of losing access to education, mainly in the northern areas, because about 67 per cent of public school teachers have not been paid for nearly two years.

According to UNICEF, the quality of education in Yemen is at stake given that children are missing some lessons due to the absence of their teachers or damage to schools. More than 2,500 schools are out of use; 66 per cent of them damaged by conflict, 27 per cent closed and seven per cent used by armed groups or as shelters by displaced people.

Children who are out of schools face additional risks. Over 2,635 children, all boys, have been recruited and used by armed forces and armed groups. A 2016 survey

in six governorates found that close to three-quarters of girls were married before the age of 18 and 44.5 per cent under the age of 15 years.



IDPs living in a classroom at Al Furqan Primary School in Taizz Governorate. Photo: OCHA

## SITUATION IN AL HUDAYDAH GOVERNORATE

Fighting has escalated in the eastern and southern areas of Al Hudaydah city, rendering the main road to the capital, Sana'a, inaccessible to humanitarian partners. Civilian casualties have been reported and infrastructure has been damaged. Fighting was also reported in the districts of Bait al Faqih, and At-Tuhayat, particularly in the Al Jah and Jabaliya areas, and in Hays.

Ongoing clashes have pushed up commodity and fuel prices, with fuel selling at between 10,000 and 12,000 YER for 20 litres, up from 8,500 YER a few weeks ago. The exchange rate has increased to around 600 YER to the USD. The deteriorating economic situation has aggravated the hardship faced by residents of Al Hudaydah.

The humanitarian community has scaled up its response to meet the needs of people recently displaced from

Al Hudaydah. As of 15 September, more than 73,500 displaced households had been registered in the Aden, Al Hudaydah, Sana'a, Ibb and Sa'ada hubs, of whom nearly 70,000 of them had received rapid response assistance and non-food items.

IOM distributed food baskets to 330 newly displaced families in Al Zaydyia District and provided 7,000 hot meals to IDPs hosted in six schools in Al Hudaydah city and three schools in Al Marwa'iah. WFP started the distribution of blanket food baskets in Al Hudaydah city and as of 15 September, had assisted 3,664 households out of a target of 40,000 households. A local partner completed the distribution of food rations to 652 households in At Tuhayat, an area of ongoing clashes.

Al Hudaydah and Saleef seaports remain open and operational.

## UPDATES FROM THE HUBS

### Sa'ada Hub

Hostilities increased in the Sa'ada and Al Jawf governorates during the reporting period, resulting in civilian casualties. Between 9 and 13 September, four civilians were reportedly killed and two injured by airstrikes that struck a residence in Sa'ada. On 8 September, four children and two women were reportedly killed by a landmine in Al Jawf. Despite the situation, partners continue to operate and deliver assistance.

UNHCR enlisted 1,341 households from Kharab Al Marashi and Bart Al Anan in Sa'ada that will receive rental subsidies for three months. Other beneficiaries in Shada'a District, will receive 500 NFIs and 300 emergency shelter kits. During the reporting period, the health authorities announced the establishment of a specialized mother and child hospital at the Yemeni Red Crescent building in Quhza area, Sa'ada. In Al Jawf, UNHCR launched two economic quick impact projects for 40 women-headed households.

### Sana'a Hub

Violence continued to claim civilian lives in areas covered by the Sana'a hub. Five civilians were killed by airstrikes in Wadi Habab, Sirwah District and a child was killed by a landmine in Hawran, As Sawadiya District on 8 September.

Humanitarian partners report that 196 displaced families (1,110 individuals) from Al Hudaydah are staying in nine schools in Sana'a city, all of whom have received rapid response assistance and NFIs. The process of moving the families from the school buildings by providing cash grants for rental subsidies is proceeding smoothly and most families in the first three targeted schools have moved out.

During the reporting period, UNHCR completed the distribution, through its partner ADRA, of NFIs to 1,094 families in Dhamar city and Wusab As Safil districts and of emergency shelter kits to 39 families in Wusab As Safil District.

### Ibb Hub

Fighting between various groups decreased in Taizz city as parties to the conflict relocated heavy weapons and fighters to frontlines outside the city. However, civilian casualties were reported from landmines and shelling, including two civilians who died when a landmine detonated on the road between Hayfan District and Lahj Governorate. Ibb Governorate is relatively calm.

Partners have scaled up the humanitarian response. Through the Logistics Cluster, UNICEF supplied sufficient fuel to the Local Water Corporation in Taizz city to pump nearly 90,000 cubic metres of water a month to meet the needs of 256,500 people. The Shelter/NFI/CCCM Cluster distributed tents to 289 families in Al Ma'afer District in Taiz through local partners. However, the need for shelter support remains acute in At Taiziah and Al Ma'afer districts.

On the economic front, most gas stations in the Ibb city have closed due to shortages. Those that were open, sold at increased prices of 10,000-12,000 YER for 20 litres. The exchange rate is around YER 585 to \$1.

### Aden Hub

Protests against commodity price hikes have subsided and humanitarian actors were generally able to move freely within Aden city. Government offices and private businesses have resumed normal operations. However, teachers across the southern governorates went on strike over non-payment of salaries, affecting pupils in 3,300 schools.

OCHA organised the first UN field mission to Shabwah Governorate since the start of the conflict and visited Bayhan and Usaylan districts. The mission found that IDPs and returnees urgently need NFIs and shelter support so they return to their destroyed homes. There is significant mine contamination.

As a result of fuel shortages, electricity cuts now last up to 10-12 hours per day. In the Aden and Mukalla hubs fuel prices have increased on the black-market and at commercial fuel stations. The exchange rate is US\$1 - 585 YER.

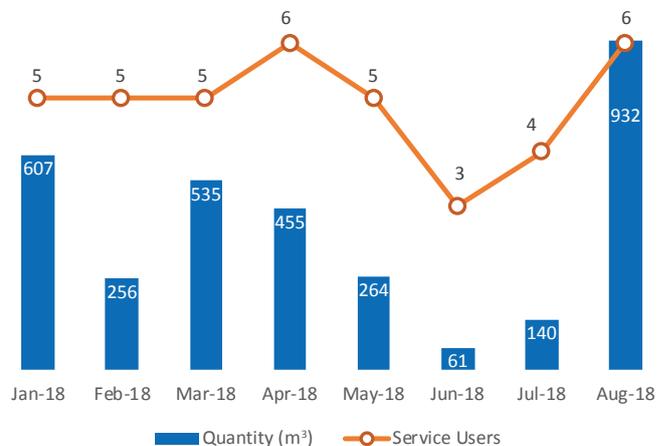
## LOGISTICS CLUSTER UPDATE

During August 2018, the Logistics Cluster facilitated the transport of 28 MT (131 m<sup>3</sup>) to Al Hudaydah on behalf of FAO, and of eight MT (43 m<sup>3</sup>) to Aden on behalf of one partner. The Cluster facilitates the transport of passengers and special cargo aboard the WFP-chartered vessels VOS Apollo and VOS Theia. Apollo operates a weekly rotation between Djibouti and Aden, whereas Theia travels on average three times a month between Djibouti and Al Hudaydah.

In August, voyages were cancelled due to administrative issues, Sea operations (cargo and passengers) were suspended but resumed after discussions between Djiboutian authorities, WFP and the Logistics Cluster. Going forward, both vessels will mainly transport passengers and special cargo such as armoured vehicles, ambulances, and cargo needing cold chain and/or temperature control. They will also be used for evacuations of humanitarian personnel, if needed. Remaining cargo for Al Hudaydah and Aden may be transported by dhow.

In terms of air deliveries, in August the Logistics Cluster facilitated the transport of 181 MT (932 m<sup>3</sup>) of relief items on behalf of several INGOs and UN agencies. Of

these, 34 MT (139 m<sup>3</sup>) were transported to Aden on behalf of WHO and one partner at the beginning of



Source: Logistics Cluster

Air deliveries in m<sup>3</sup> facilitated by the Logistics Cluster

August to clear a backlog of cargo from the VOS Apollo voyage that was cancelled in August.

## UNVIM UPDATE

Between 12 and 18 September, six vessels discharged 101,962 MT of cargo at Yemeni ports including 82,850 MT of food and 19,112 MT of fuel.



82,850 MT



19,112 MT

Al Hudaydah 82,850 MT

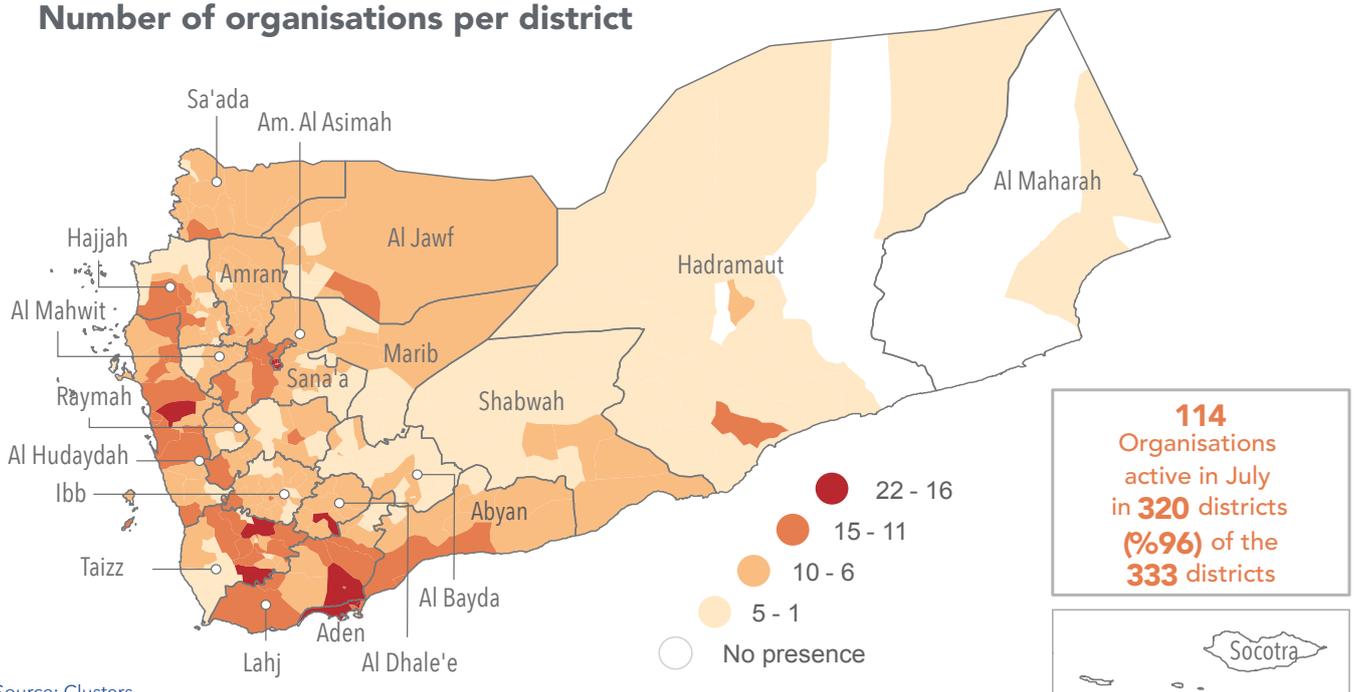
Saleef 43,700 MT

Source: UNVIM

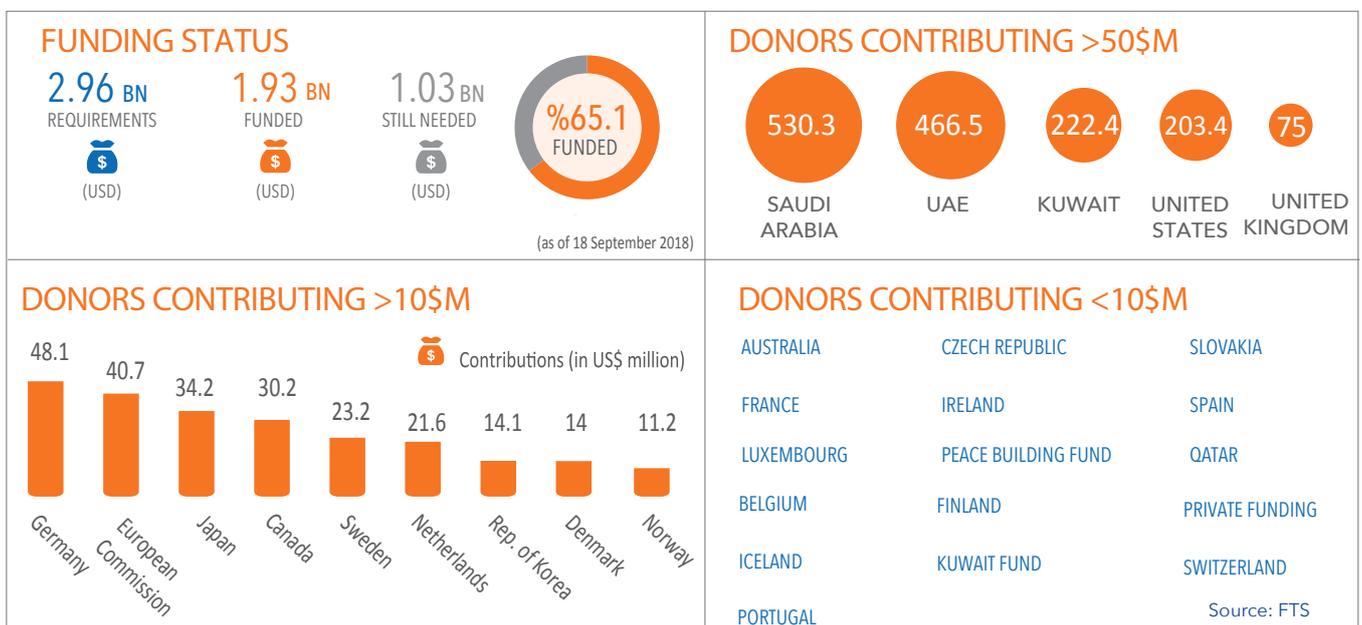
## HUMANITARIAN PRESENCE (JULY 2018)

Despite an extremely challenging operating environment, 114 humanitarian partners were active in 320 out of 333 districts in Yemen during July 2018. These included 30 international NGOs that were active in 240 districts and 75 national NGOs that were active in 293 districts. Together, these partners are reaching about eight million people every month with assistance.

### Number of organisations per district



## FUNDING UPDATE (AS OF 18 SEPTEMBER 2018)



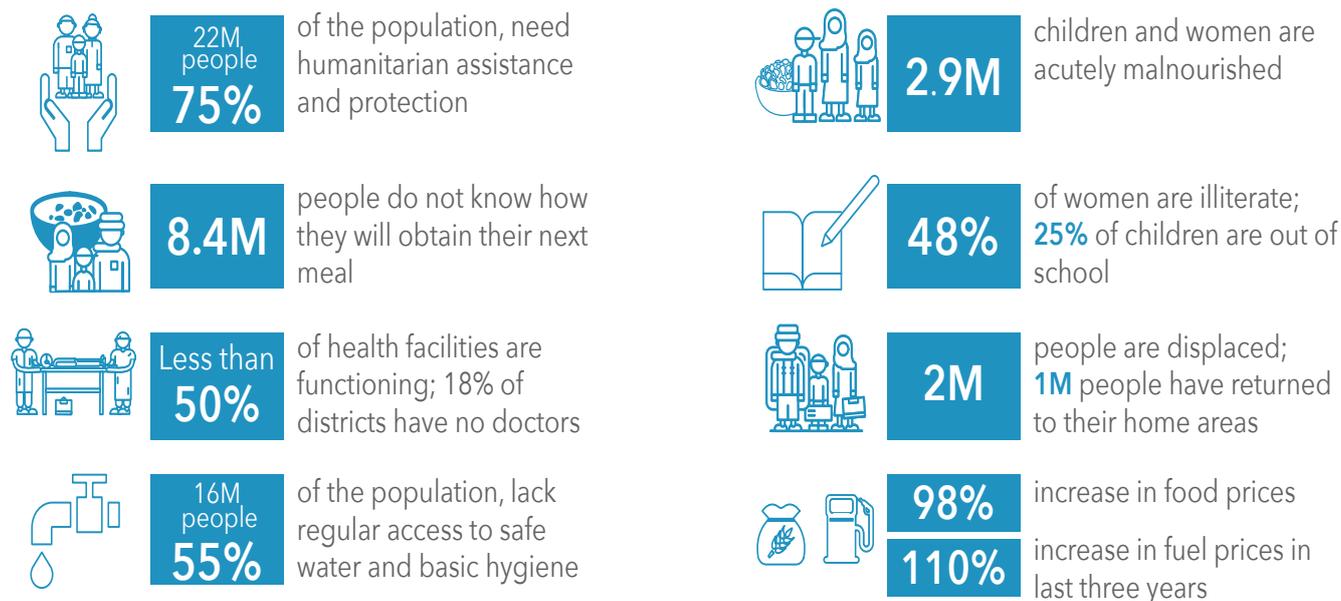
## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS - HUMANITARIAN OPERATIONS (AS OF JUNE 2018)

|  |   |  |   |   |
|--|---|--|---|---|
|  <p>MONTHLY AVERAGE EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE (IN-KIND, CASH TRANSFERS, &amp; VOUCHER TRANSFERS)</p> <p><b>8 M</b><br/>PEOPLE REACHED</p> |  <p>HEALTH CONSULTATIONS</p> <p><b>7 M</b><br/>PEOPLE REACHED</p>  |  <p>SUPPORT TO WATER AND SANITATION SYSTEMS</p> <p><b>10.3 M</b><br/>PEOPLE REACHED</p> |  <p>LIFE-SAVING PROTECTION SERVICES</p> <p><b>1.3 M</b><br/>PEOPLE REACHED</p>         |  <p>MALNUTRITION TREATMENT</p> <p><b>1.7 M</b><br/>PEOPLE REACHED</p>  |
|  <p>EMERGENCY SHELTER ASSISTANCE</p> <p><b>0.4 M</b><br/>PEOPLE REACHED</p>   |  <p>SCHOOLS REPAIRS, TEACHER TRAINING AND ALTERNATIVE LEARNING CLASSROOMS</p> <p><b>0.9 M</b><br/>PEOPLE REACHED</p> |  <p>ACCESS TO EMERGENCY EMPLOYMENT</p> <p><b>76,554</b><br/>PEOPLE REACHED</p>          |  <p>COMMON LOGISTICS SERVICES</p> <p><b>8,575MT</b><br/>EMERGENCY SUPPLIES HANDLED</p> |  <p>COORDINATED HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE</p> <p><b>183</b><br/>UN AGENCIES AND NGOS RESPONDING TOGETHER ACROSS THE CLUSTERS</p> |

Source: Clusters

Despite these achievements, humanitarian partners continue to face obstacles. These include the ongoing conflict, restrictions and bureaucratic impediments which delay movements, detention of staff and supplies, attempts to influence the selection of beneficiaries and partners, and other harassment.

## YEMEN CRISIS FACTS AND FIGURES



Source: HNO 2018

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