

This report is produced by OCHA in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It is issued by the OCHA Yemen office. The next report will be issued when additional information on the emergency becomes available.

I. Situation Overview

FIGHTING ESCALATES IN AL HUDAYDAH

The conflict

The conflict in Al Hudaydah Governorate has escalated further as renewed fighting has moved closer to Al Hudaydah City. On 12 September, armed clashes reached the main Al Hudaydah-Sana'a road effectively closing the eastern route to the city which became too risky to use as a result of fighting. Hotspots of fighting and violence are areas east of Kilo 16, areas in the vicinity of the airport and coastal areas to the west towards the Red Sea.

The Ports

Al-Hudaydah port and Saleef port, to the north of the city, remain open and operational. They are critical to the supply of food and other humanitarian assistance to the capital Sana'a and other regions in northern Yemen; the majority of commercial food imports are shipped through the ports. Significant quantities of relief supplies are stored in humanitarian warehouses in Al Hudaydah, including in the Red Sea Mills, in the vicinity of Kilo 10. The Red Sea Mills, which contain 45,000 MT of food commodities, enough to feed 3.5 million people for a month, have become inaccessible due to the ongoing hostilities. Several humanitarian organisations have offices in the same area and are concerned about the safety of their staff and premises.

Humanitarian organisations have repeatedly appealed to all parties to the conflict to ensure a sustainable flow of food and fuel from the Red Sea ports to the population in the northern governorates. Any interruption to the food supply chain will result in mass starvation for thousands of families. A joint statement by INGOs on 14 September indicated that if the ports or the roads between Al-Hudaydah and Sana'a were closed, the effect for 17.8 million food insecure Yemenis would be devastating.

Access

With the main Al Hudaydah-Sana'a road cut off by fighting, the only road out of Al-Hudaydah to Sana'a that remains open is the road to Hajjah, to the north of the city. This road is used by humanitarian organisations for the movement of humanitarian staff and cargo.

Displacement

No large movements of people fleeing Al Hudaydah City have been observed as a result of the recent escalation, though on 14 September, UNHCR reported that fighting around Al Hudaydah had resulted in the displacement of about 500 families (approximately 3,500 people) from the Olia, Sofla and Alkembaha villages in Ad Durayhimi District into Al Hudaydah City.

Overall displacement and Rapid Response Mechanism Assistance (RRM)

As of 18 September, 76,512 households have been displaced by the conflict in Al Hudaydah Governorate since June, both within the governorate as well as in neighbouring Hajjah, Raymah and Mahweet governorates. More than 81,000 displaced households in



Credit: ACTED - RRM Distribution point.

the four governorates have received assistance through the rapid response mechanism (RRM). More than 62,000 IDP HHs have been displaced within Al Hudaydah Governorate, 55,000 of them have been assisted with RRM.

Since the beginning of the year, humanitarian partners in government-controlled Aden in the south of the country have expanded their operations to reach the increasing number of people displaced by the conflict in Al Hudaydah. Some 7,000 IDP households have been registered in Aden since 1 June 2018. Almost half of the displaced are in the district of Al Khawkhah, staying with host families as well as in one of four informal tented settlements set up with the assistance of the Emirates Red Crescent and the King Salman Relief Centre. An assessment of the IDP population in the district which aims to evaluate needs and improve cluster response is in preparation.

The remainder of the displaced population is located between Aden and Lahj which would suggest that civilians are fleeing Al Hudaydah using the route via Ibb and Al Dhale'e governorates.

III. Humanitarian Response

Humanitarian operations continue in Al Hudaydah. UN Agencies have more than 60 staff in Al Hudaydah and NGO partners have 564 staff and volunteers who are working to ensure the continuation of critical life-saving activities. WFP is running a blanket food distribution in Al Hudaydah City and as of 18 September, it had reached approximately 21,900 households out of a target of 44,000 households. Lack of supplies has delayed a distribution of non-food items (NFIs) for 11,000 families in Al Hudaydah and Hajjah governorates. On 16 September, UNHCR completed an NFI distribution, through a local NGO, to 659 newly displaced families and provided emergency shelter to 300 displaced families in the Ad Dahi District in Al Hudaydah Governorate. IOM has started the transfer of cash grants for rental subsidies to 750 displaced families in Bayt Al Faqiah District.

IV. Cluster response



NUTRITION CLUSTER

Response:

- Over the last week, 28 of the 379 health facilities that provide nutrition services were reported as temporarily closed in eight districts due to the security situation. UNICEF and General Health office (GHO) are working on a plan to cover these closed facilities through alternative activities.
- Twenty-three mobile teams (MTs) supported by UNICEF and partners continue to provide integrated health and nutrition services in 14 districts of Al Hudaydah. Since the beginning of the year, the MTs have provided nutrition services to 10,620 children under five years of age and 4,767 pregnant and lactating women (PLW).
- As part of the preparedness plan, UNICEF delivered 15,000 cartons of Ready to Use Therapeutic Food to the Health Office of Al Hudaydah Governorate. These supplies will cover needs in all districts for three months. Additional 10,000 cartons were delivered to NGO warehouses as emergency stock for the nutrition programme.
- UNICEF continues its support to ensure the functionality of 152 health facilities by supporting incentives for health workers and operating costs.
- Five Therapeutic Feeding Centres (TFCs) continue to provide inpatient management for malnourished cases in Al Jarahi, Alkhokha, Zabid, Al Marawea and Az Zaydah districts. In August, 286 children with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and medical complications were admitted to five TFCs, 57 of them recovered and were discharged.
- 37,105 children with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) have been admitted to nutrition management programmes in Al Hudaydah. A total of 84,0098 Pregnant and Lactating Women (PLW) received Community Infant and Young Child. Feeding counselling and education and 42,040 children under the age of five were provided with micronutrient supplements.



HEALTH CLUSTER

Response:

- WHO delivered trauma supplies and medicines to Bajil Hospital, an inter-district hospital as well

as supporting surgical teams, emergency mobile medical teams and primary health teams in Al Hudaydah. Additional cholera supplies were also provided.

- The West Coast Compound Hospital is supported by Health Cluster partners through the provision of an operation theatre, one intensive care unit and the pediatric emergency department rehabilitation of Al Thawra Hospital. Renal dialysis centres are supported in Zabid, Bajil and Al Qanawis districts by WHO.
- UNFPA is supporting 15 health facilities in the governorate to provide reproductive health services.
- IOM is supporting two hospitals in Al Hawak and Alluheyah districts and three health centres in Ad Dahi, Bayt Al Faqiah and Al Mina districts by providing incentives, medicines, medical supplies and equipment and WASH intervention activities.
- UNICEF is supporting Al Thawra Hospital neonatal intensive care unit by providing incentives, medical supplies and equipment and operational support. Fourteen Mobile Teams providing Expanded Programmes on Immunization (EPI), Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (IMCI) and Maternal and Newborn Health (MNH) are provided in 10 districts.
- Al Mokha Hospital is functional and makes a significant contribution to the emergency health response in an extremely strategic area on the western coast. Its 32 bed capacity is in the process of being increased by 10 as demand for its services has increased since it opened in August. Patients generally have conflict-related injuries and come from districts along the length of the Al Hudaydah frontline.



WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE CLUSTER

Response:

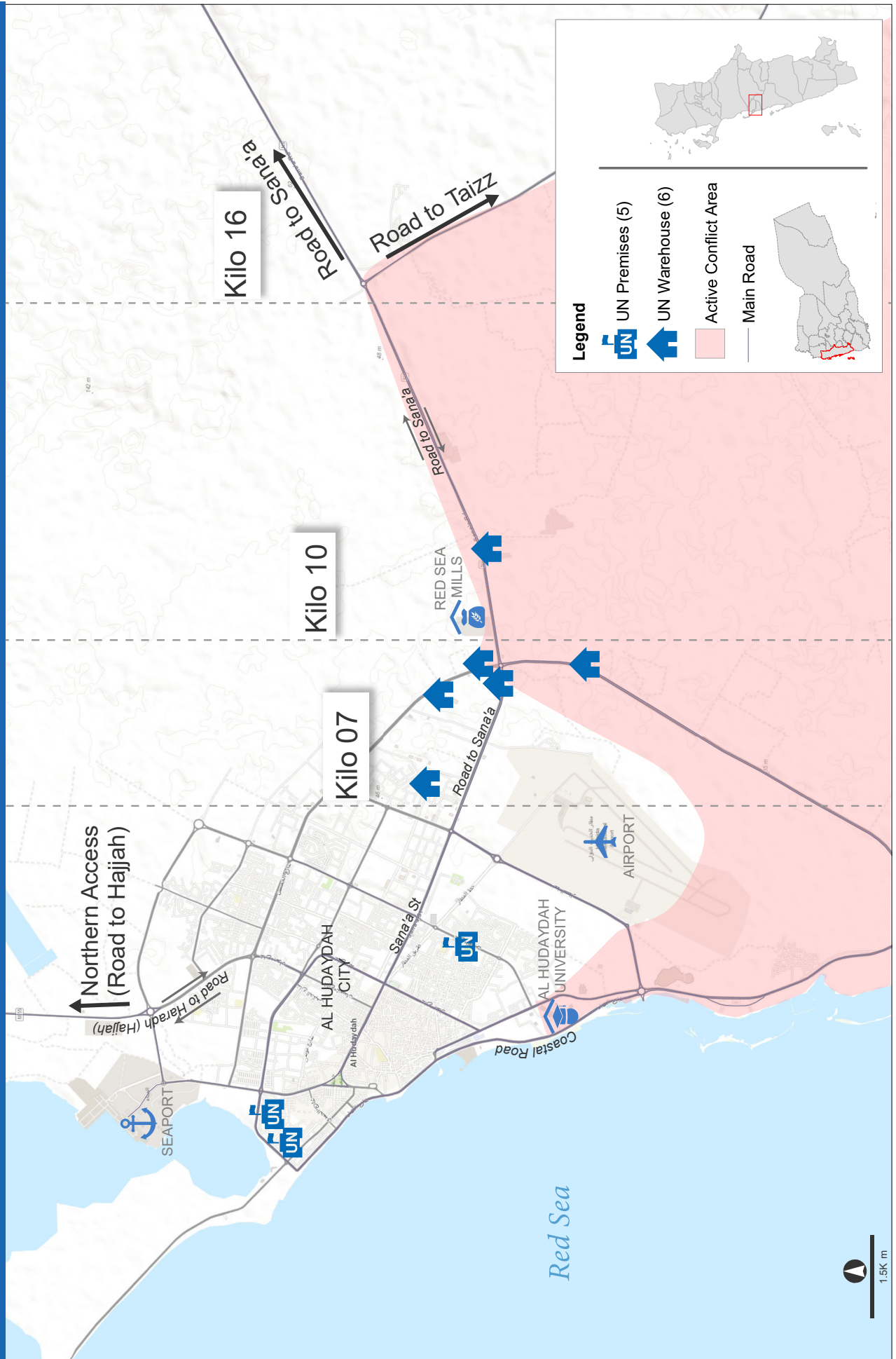
- Humanitarian partners are seeking to re-establish the water supply in the city of Al Tuhaytah in Al Hudaydah Governorate which, according to a recent assessment by a local NGO, was regarded as one of the main priorities for the population in the area. Lack of fuel supplies to work the pumps and of spare parts to repair the network have resulted in the collapse of the system which has affected 40,000 people.
- Key to the success of the response is access to the area to ensure that repairs to the system can be



LOGISTICS CLUSTER

Response:

- The Logistics Cluster is assessing the fuel needs of humanitarian organisations working in Al Hudaydah over the next six weeks, in order to distribute the diesel and fuel required.
- RRM kits have been loaded on to the trucks, which are awaiting security clearance; once received, kits will be dispatched to seven districts across Al Hudaydah and Hajjah governorates.



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations

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