YEMEN: Al Hudaydah Update

Situation Report No. 14

Reporting period:16 October - 13 November 2018



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

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE SCALED UP AS NEEDS INCREASE

During the first 10 days of November, there was a marked increase in airstrikes, artillery fire and clashes in Al Hudaydah Governorate, especially around Al Hudaydah City. Hotspots included the airport area to the south of the city, and the areas around Kilo 10 and Kilo 16 to the east, the university and Al Thawrah Hospital towards the coast. Clashes were reported close to 90 Street and at the airport junction in the Alrabasa area to the northeast.

Other districts in Al Hudaydah Governorate that were hit by airstrikes included Al Marawi'ah, Ad Durayhimi, Al Hawak, Al Hali, As Salif and Zabid,

Civilian Casualties

The conflict in Al Hudaydah Governorate continues to exact a high civilian toll and to damage civilian infrastructure. The Protection Cluster's Civilian Impact Monitoring Project (CIMP) reported 37 casualties between 18 and 31 October across the Al Hudaydah hub, including 21 civilians who died in an attack on a vegetable packing facility in Bayt Al Faqiah District. In the first week of November, as the conflict escalated, the Protection Cluster reported 92 civilian casualties, 34 of them fatalities. Most casualties were in Al Hali and Al Hawak districts on the outskirts of Al Hudaydah City, where some of the heaviest fighting was reported. CIMP also reported damage to civilian infrastructure.

Overall estimates of civilian casualties in Al Hudaydah and surrounding governorates since the initial escalation of fighting in June 2018 vary, and are likely to be underestimates. Between 13

and clashes continued in the Hays area. Further south, heavy shelling was reported in At Tuhayat town on 6 and 7 November. To the north, in Hajjah Governorate, by 7 November, the fighting had reportedly moved to A'shim Junction, Haradh and Mustaba districts, and armed clashes were reported around Haradh town.

The intensity of fighting reduced in Al Hudaydah City on 12 November, amidst reports of a possible de-escalation in hostilities, although some renewed fighting and airstrikes were reported again on 13 November, leading to a number of injuries.

June and 22 October (before the recent escalation of fighting), WHO recorded 193 conflict-related deaths (135 men, 21 women, 25 boys and 12 girls) and 2,091 injured (2,033 men, 28 women, 25 boys and five girls) based on health-facility reporting in Al Hudaydah Governorate.



Fighting near hospitals in Al Hudaydah is jeopardizing the lives of health workers and patients. ©WHO/ Sadeq Al Wesabi

Access challenges

Further fighting across Al Hudaydah Governorate could obstruct access, trap civilians and impede access to humanitarian warehouses and other facilities. Already, humanitarian movement and access to warehouses and to people in need have become more difficult or impossible in some cases. During the reporting period, WFP was unable to access 51,000 metric tons (MT) of wheat grain, enough to feed 3.5 million people for a month, that is stored at the Red Sea Mills at Kilo 10, because of the fighting. Similarly, a key UNHCR warehouse

where emergency shelter and non-food items are stored has also become inaccessible due to fighting.

Partners in Al Hudaydah City are ready to move supplies from warehouses and other facilities, if conditions allow for safe access to premises. In Aden, partners are drafting contingency plans to ensure continued access and response to the population in Al Mokha, Al Khawkhah, Hays and At Tuhayat districts.

Civilian displacement

Following the escalation of fighting at the start of November, civilian displacement was reported in Al Hudaydah City with some families fleeing their homes in neighbourhoods around Al Hudaydah University and Tehama Development Authority in the Alrabasa area. However, no mass displacement was reported. On 5 and 6 November, following overnight airstrikes, about 300 families fled their homes in the 7 July neighbourhood and 90 Street to seek refuge in Bajil and As Sukhanah districts. Some civilians were reportedly trapped between the university and airport in Al Hudaydah City.

In total, IOM registered 75,840 displaced families (over 455,000 individuals) from Al Hudaydah Governorate in different locations across the country between 1 June and 6 November; of whom 148,000 people have been displaced from their homes in Al Hudaydah Governorate, seeking shelter in other areas of the same governorate, as the table on the right shows.

Some IDPs from Al Hudaydah have settled in governorates where they face harsh winter conditions and require additional support to survive the winter months.

Hospitals at risk

Markets and schools in the centre of Al Hudaydah City have remained open for the most part and local people still move around. However, recent fighting moved close to some hospitals,

Displacement by governorate

Displacement by governorate		
Governorate	Total of IDP HHs	Total IND (est. average HHs size *6)
Al Hudaydah*	26,065	147,780
Amanat Al Asimah	25,084	150,504
Dhamar	4,948	29,688
Taizz	4,370	26,220
Raymah	2,436	14,616
Hajjah	2,069	12,414
Lahj	2,192	13,152
Al Mahwit	1,829	10,974
lbb	1,500	9,000
Aden	1,303	7,818
Sana'a	1,277	7,662
Marib	1,150	6,900
Al Dhale'e	633	3,798
Amran	361	2,166
Abyan	232	1,392
Al Bayda	253	1,518
Shabwah	54	324
Al Maharah	36	216
Hadramaut	27	162
Al Jawf	20	120
Socotra	10	60
Grand Total	75,840	455,040

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affecting the movement and safety of staff, patients and ambulances. On 8 November, the 22 May Hospital in the northwest of the city was reportedly damaged in hostilities after it was fully evacuated.

WHO reported that Al Thawrah and Al Salakhanah hospitals were accessible, but in the past week, Al Thawrah Hospital has received fewer patients. UNICEF warned that fighting close to Al Thawrah hospital would put the lives of 59 children at risk, including 25 who are in the intensive care unit. On 11 November, most medical staff and patients were evacuated from Al Thawrah due to fighting in the vicinity of the hospital, but the facility remains functional though but not to full capacity.

Al Salakhanah Hospital treated 24 war-wounded civilians between 1 and 6 November, including five women and nine children. Another 50 war-wounded were treated at a surgical field hospital run by a humanitarian partner in Al Mokha.

Sea ports

Al Hudaydah port and nearby Saleef port are operational. Between 31 October and 6 November, five vessels discharged 90,339 metric tonnes (MT) of food and fuel - four vessels at Al Hudaydah and one vessel at Al Saleef ports.

II. Humanitarian Response

Given the deteriorating situation in Al Hudaydah City, humanitarian partners are developing a multicluster plan to ensure they can continue to deliver life-saving assistance and support vital installations. Following detailed planning, additional food, medical supplies, WASH items, non-food items (NFIs), shelter supplies and fuel are being prepositioned within the city to sustain humanitarian operations (see cluster response section for details).

WFP and its partner, Islamic Relief Yemen, have completed preparations to start blanket food distribution in Al Hudaydah City on 13 November.

The distribution will cover 30,000 households in Al Hali, Al Hawak and Al Mina districts. In addition, as a contingency plan, WFP is pre-positioning food for 40,000 households in Al Hudaydah City through its food suppliers. Warehouses to receive the food rations have been identified.

The Yemen Humanitarian Fund has allocated US\$4 million for winter cash support, targeting up to 15,000 vulnerable IDPs from Al Hudaydah Governorate along with the host communities. Each household will receive \$230 as one-off assistance. The aim is to assist families that have received very

little or no shelter or NFIs assistance this year. The Shelter Cluster has pre-identified four partners with the capacity to deliver this response.

UNICEF has provided 600,000 litres of fuel to the Local Water and Sanitation Corporation (LWSC) in Al Hudaydah City to support operations and ensure the continued supply of water to the city.

Between June 2018 and the end of October, Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) partners operating under the Al Hudaydah hub delivered assistance to over 71,360 displaced households in Al Hudaydah, Hajjah, Raymah and Mahwit governorates; of whom 22,275 households received multi-purpose cash transfers, 22,211 received NFIs packages and 8,642 emergency shelter kits.



Despite escalated fighting in Al Hudaydah City, the port is open and operational, providing vital services to humanitarian partners. ©WHO

UNFPA reached 10,975 households with RRM assistance across the Al Hudaydah hub. In Al Khawkhah and Hays, 566 households received RRM assistance through Vision Hope International during the reporting period.

RRM partners operating under the Aden hub also reached 7,200 displaced households since June with ready-to-use food, hygiene kits and transition kits, including 833 households during the reporting period. A total of 2,250 RRM kits are pre-positioned on the western coast in Al Khawkhah, Hays and

Mokha, areas to which displaced people flee, and partners are on standby to distribute kits to new arrivals.

Partners targeted 1,880 displaced households on the western coast for general food distribution since the end of October. In Hays, local and international NGOs trucked water to 94 water points for use by approximately 10,000 households. In Al Khawkhah, three health facilities re-opened to provide primary health care and nutrition services to about 25,000 people. The supplementary feeding programme for the treatment of moderately acute malnourished children is currently suspended in Al Khawkhah and Hays, due to a lack of nutrition supplies. The Nutrition Cluster, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, is coordinating with WFP and the Emirates Red Crescent (ERC) to replenish supplies.

In Al Mokha, UNHCR partners distributed NFIs to 1,087 displaced households in the last two weeks. Another distribution will take place in Al Khawkhah and Hays.

The ERC and King Salman Relief Centre have established four informal IDP sites in Al Khawkhah hosting just under 1,600 families; other displaced people are living with families within the community.

WHO is supporting seven surgical teams in six districts: Al Hawak, Al Mina, Al Hali, Zabid, Bait Al Fagiah and Bajil, and has provided more than 2,300 lifesaving surgical interventions and consultations. Between 13 June and 22 October, WHO provided 28 emergency trauma kits to Al Thawrah, Al Olofi, Zabid and Bajil hospitals to meet the needs of 2,800 patients; provided more than 100,000 intravenous fluid bottles to Al Thawrah, Al Olofi, Al Salakhanah, Bait Al Faqiah and Bajil hospitals; procured four ambulances for Al Thawrah, Al Durayhimi, Zabid and Bajil hospitals; and recruited a specialized vascular surgeon for Al Thawrah Hospital. WHO also provided 4,000 blood bags and blood testing reagents and trained 40 health workers from Al Thawrah and Bajil hospitals on mass casualty management.

III. Cluster response



WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE CLUSTER

Response:

- As part of the Al Hudaydah City Preparedness Plan, the Cluster aims to ensure the pumping of safe water to the population, maintenance teams are well-prepared and will pre-position 200,000 consumable health kits for rapid response teams.
- Water was trucked to 8,400 IDP families, and 265 water points were installed in Al Marawi'ah,

- Zabid, Bait Al Faqiah, Al Garrahi, Jabal Ras, Al Dahi, Al Durayhmi, Hays and Al Khawkhah districts, delivering 550,000 litres of safe water a day.
- A total of 28,580 households receive 7,184 cubic metres (CB) of safe water per day in Mabyan, Kuhlan and Abs towns in Hajjah Governorate, through the LWSC, with fuel provided by UNICEF.
- In Al Hudaydah City, 65,000 households receive 22,500 CB of safe water per day through the LWSC with fuel provided by UNICEF.
- Water source rehabilitation and solar pump installation is ongoing in Bani Saad, Wadi Ayyan and Al Khabt districts.
- Water trucking and jerry can distribution are ongoing in Bani Homad and, Al Khabt areas in Hajjah.



SHELTER/NON-FOOD ITEMS/CAMP COORDINATION & CAMP MANAGEMENT

Response:

- As part of the preparedness plan, the Cluster aims to pre-position 5,000 NFI kits and 2,000 shelter kits inside Al Hudaydah City. Two warehouses to receive the kits have been identified.
- In Al Hudaydah hub, UNHCR completed the distribution of 1,841 NFI kits and 1,447 ESKs for newly displaced households in Abs District in Hajjah through a partner. The kits enabled families to access essential household items and temporary shelter until they find a longerterm solution.
- In Aden, UNHCR distributed NFIs through a partner for 1,303 displaced households in Khanfir District in Abyan, 547 households in Zingibar District in Abyan, 123 households in Al Qabbaytah District in Lahj, and 112 households at Khaled Ibn Al Waleed IDP hosting site, Dar Sad District, Aden.
- IOM distributed NFI kits through the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) to 391 households at the Al Rebat IDP hosting site in Tuban District in Lahj. DRC provided 724 households with NFIs in Al Khawkhah District in Al Hudaydah. DRC constructed 30 latrines at Al Rebat IDP hosting site and continued to deliver water, and conducted a cholera awareness campaign at the site.
- UNHCR transferred cash grants, through Al-Amal Bank, for rental subsidies to 251 households in Aden, 15 in Al Hudaydah, 117 households in Lahj, eight in Shabwah and 111 in Taizz governorates.
- In Sana'a, UNHCR, working through a partner, distributed NFI kits to 71 displaced households. ADRA distributed NFI kits to 720 households in Dhamar City; while 17 households were provided with family tents in Mayfa'at Anss District in Dhamar.
- UNHCR, working through a partner, distributed NFI kits to 411 households in Al Dhihar, 191 households in Al Mashannah, 16 households in Ibb, 68 households in Jiblah and 181 households in Yarim District, all in Ibb Governorate and 247 households in At Ta'iziyah District in Taizz Governorate.



HEALTH CLUSTER

Response:

- As part of the preparedness plan, the Cluster plans to ensure that three public hospitals have sufficient fuel supplies till the end of the year, as well as sufficient stocks of medicines and trauma kits; ensure SAM supplies are pre-positioned in hospitals and health centres; and ensure that the three DTCs in the city have enough cholera kits.
- Since clashes intensified around Al Hudaydah City, casualties are being transferred to hospitals that are supported by partners, such as Al Salakhanah Hospital.

- An INGO is supporting Al Salakhanah hospital's emergency unit and operating theatre; other support is being provided to the emergency unit in another facility and the Renal Dialysis Centre.
- Partners are providing kits for conflict casualties to two rural hospitals in Bait Al Faqiah and Zabid.
- UNFPA, through a partner, supported the construction and equipping of an extension to the maternal and newborn health department at Al Thawrah Hospital.
- UNFPA will support reproductive health services in 25 health facilities including emergency obstetric care through staff incentives and supplies. It continued to distribute reproductive health kits to facilitate the provision of life-saving reproductive health services.
- The National Yemen Midwives Association provided supplies to 10 midwives in the Hajjah Governorate. This provided community-based reproductive health services, including safe pregnancy and delivery care, in areas receiving IDPs from Al Hudaydah.



PROTECTION CLUSTER

Response:

- As part of the preparedness plan, the Cluster aims to ensure that community protection centres in the city provide the required support, assistance is provided to victims and community protection networks are mobilized to refer cases for assistance.
- Cluster partners staffed referral desks at transit sites and humanitarian service points in Al Hudaydah where IDPs receive information on available services. The desks identified and referred vulnerable cases for services. Child protection actors provided case management, psychosocial support and mine risk awareness (MRE) training.
- 20,982 children and their caregivers received psychosocial services through the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour (MOSAL) in Hajjah, Al Hudaydah and Raymah governorates.
- MRE sessions reached more than 21,392 people in Hajjah, Al Hudaydah and Raymah. MOSAL in cooperation with Yemen Executive Mine Action Centre trained 30 community workers on MRE in Hajjah to scale up the campaign.
- 382 children received case management services in Al Hudaydah, Hajjah, Raymah and Mahwit governorates.
- MOSAL trained 100 social workers and child protection committee members on case management in Raymah.
- 18,534 parents, children and community members received awareness sessions on child protection in emergencies in Al Hudaydah City.
- Integrated child protection health and nutrition services in Hajjah targeted 62 health centres, providing 4,299 children and 1,304 parents with psychosocial services, case management and child-rights awareness sessions.
- 1,493 people benefited from gender-based violence awareness raising sessions, 140 women from life skills courses, and 180 survivors from multi-sectorial case management services. In addition, 18 women and girls were admitted to the shelters.