

UNFPA Response in Yemen

MONTHLY SITUATION
REPORT



A displaced family from Taizz ©UNFPA YEMEN

FAST FACTS

22.2M

In need of some form of assistance

11.3M

In acute need

16.4M

Lack access to basic health services

12.9M

In need of protection

3.0M

Internally displaced and returnees

3.25M

Women of reproductive age (15-49 yrs)

1.1M

Pregnant women malnourished

3.0M

Women and girls at risk of gender-based violence

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

The situation in Yemen remains catastrophic. A record 22.2 million people need humanitarian assistance or protection – including 8.4 million people who are severely food insecure. People’s lives have continued unraveling. Conflict has escalated significantly since November 2017, driving an estimated 100,000 people from their homes. More people are going hungry, and famine remains a real threat. Although cholera cases are in decline, the disease is not yet beaten and is likely to rebound in the upcoming rainy season. In addition, a diphtheria outbreak – the first since 1982 – has emerged, killing 73 people to date.

The the generous pledge by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates of \$930 million announced in January 2018 is to be received by 31 March 2018. The donors have also committed to raise \$500 million from other donors in the region. It is expected that even with the support announced to date, the 2018 Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan would remain only about one-third funded. On 3 April 2018, the Secretary-General will convene a pledging conference in Geneva hosted by Sweden and Switzerland creating an opportunity for donors to work together to provide the resources needed for this response.

Following clashes that erupted in Aden Governorate in late January 2018, UNFPA’s representative visited the city to review **UNFPA’s humanitarian response in southern Yemen**. Reproductive health needs and protection of women and girls were identified as being urgent issues to be addressed within the current humanitarian crisis in southern Yemen. UNFPA will aim to scale up its operational presence and expand its humanitarian response in the southern part of the country in 2018.

The Reproductive Health Inter-Agency Working Group (RHIAWG) for southern Yemen and Sa’ada Governorate was established in February, with the support of UNFPA. The RHIAWG will bring together all reproductive health partners working in the respective governorates, enabling increased coordination of reproductive health interventions at the sub-national level.

HIGHLIGHTS OF RESPONSE - FEBRUARY 2018

PEOPLE REACHED	NO.
Number of people reached with reproductive health kits	11,510
Reproductive health kits distributed	26
Mobile clinics in operation	3
Number of people reached with mobile clinics	711
Dignity kits distributed	1,225
Family kits distributed	1,700
Number of affected population reached with all types of GBV services	1,853
Number of GBV survivors reached	762
Number of safe spaces supported	4



FIGHTING OBSTETRIC FISTULA

Bushra was 14 years when she got married. At 15 years she suffered a miscarriage due to her young age. In her second pregnancy, due to the economic hardships of the conflict, Bushra was unable to reach a hospital in time and delivered at home with the help of a neighbor, and suffered serious injuries during childbirth. Despite this, she went on to have a third child and without the funds to delivery in a hospital her neighbor helped with the delivery once again. When Bushra was unable to cope with her injuries, her family took her to the nearest hospital. She was immediately referred to the fistula unit at the Al Thawara Hospital in Sana'a. After having successfully undergone the surgery, Bushra tells UNFPA, "now my pain is gone. I feel as if I am reborn."

With the collapse of the health system, lack of skilled birth attendants, rising levels of malnutrition, particularly among pregnant women, and alarming rates of child marriage, as result of the conflict, cases of fistula are rising.

UNFPA has helped in establishing two fistula units in Yemen. At the Al-Thawara Hospital in Sana'a, 28 fistula surgeries were successfully treated free of charge in recent months. In the south, 90 percent of fistula surgeries were undertaken successfully with UNFPA's support. In addition, UNFPA has created and strengthened a network between community volunteers, community midwives, reproductive health and fistula experts from most of the governorates to help women suffering from fistula get services at the fistula units.

KEY CHALLENGES

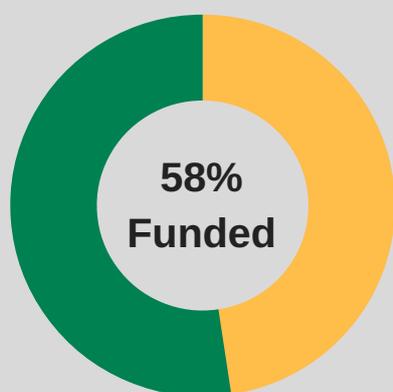
- Down scaling of international staff presence in Yemen following clashes in Sanaa in December 2017, and continued volatile security situation.
- Lack of humanitarian access to conflict-affected areas.
- Difficulties in obtaining life-saving medical supplies into Yemen due to air and sea blockades, and denial of visas for humanitarian workers.
- Difficulty in organizing services for reproductive health and gender-based violence in conflict areas due to damaged or non-operating health structures, limited movement of partners and limited transportation of supplies to health facilities.

2018 FUNDING STATUS

\$24 M
REQUIRED

\$14 M
FUNDED

\$10 M
FUNDING GAP



2018 Donors** (alphabetical order): Canada, Country-based Pooled Funds (multiple donors), Friends of UNFPA, Japan, Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom

*This includes cumulative totals from January to February 2018

** Includes contributions carried forward from 2017 to 2018