

UNFPA Response in Yemen

SITUATION REPORT



A mother and child at a UNFPA-supported health facility in Aden, Yemen

FAST FACTS



20.7M
In need of some form of assistance



12.1M
In acute need



20.1M
Lack access to basic health services



15.8M
In need of protection



4.0M
Internally displaced



5.0M
Women of reproductive age (15-49 yrs)



1.2M
Pregnant & lactating women malnourished



6.0M
In need of GBV protection

HIGHLIGHTS: OCTOBER - DECEMBER

As 2021 came to a close, Yemen remained one of the world's worst humanitarian crises, with some 20.7 million people in need of some form of humanitarian assistance or protection. The country situation, which is primarily driven by conflict and an economic blockade, has been exacerbated by COVID-19, heavy rains and flooding, escalating hostilities, currency collapse, decreased government capacity and access challenges.

Yemen also remained the fourth largest displacement crisis in the world with an estimated 4 million internally displaced people. The conflict intensified in Marib, Al Jawf, Al Bayda, Shabwah, Taizz and Al Hudaydah Governorates, challenging a sustained humanitarian response and resulting in aggravated needs and further displacement. Some 153,000 people were displaced across the country in the course of 2021, with nearly 100,000 of them being displaced in or to Marib Governorate. UNFPA has been at the forefront of the humanitarian response in Marib. Through the UNFPA-led Rapid Response mechanism in partnership with WFP and UNICEF, emergency relief was provided to nearly 100,000 displaced individuals in Marib.

COVID-19 continued to place additional pressure on a health system functioning at 50 percent its capacity. By December 2021, some 10,000 cases of COVID-19 were recorded in the south, including nearly 2,000 associated deaths. These figures greatly underestimate community spread, given the lack of testing capacities across the country. They also completely exclude cases originating from the north. Only two per cent of the population has been vaccinated with vaccines made available for Yemen in 2021 falling far short of existing needs. UNFPA remained a frontline partner of the COVID-19 response in Yemen. Since January 2021, nearly 1 million people were reached with personal protection equipment with UNFPA support, while also helping to ensure the safe provision of reproductive health services.

The aid operation in Yemen remained funded at 58 percent by the end of December, leaving a gap of \$1.6 billion. UNFPA's \$100 million humanitarian appeal for 2021 remained funded at 51 percent by end December, forcing emergency relief operations to be scaled back while needs continued to grow.

Despite the lack of funding, by the end of the year, UNFPA's response reached nearly 2.8 million individuals with life-saving reproductive health services, protection information and services and emergency relief, with support to 127 health facilities, 51 safe spaces, nine shelters and eight specialized mental health centres.

UNFPA GOVERNORATE RESPONSE

UNFPA's interventions cover 21 governorates in Yemen. Overall coordination is handled by UNFPA's office in Sana'a. In other governorates, joint UN humanitarian hubs coordinate. UNFPA has presence in all operational UN humanitarian hubs. Services provided and people reached from January to December are detailed below:

HIGHLIGHTS: JAN. - DEC. 2021



GOVERNORATE

PEOPLE REACHED

SERVICES DELIVERED

Women reached with reproductive health services

Women reached with protection information & services

Health facilities supported with RH services

Women and girls safe spaces supported

GOVERNORATE	PEOPLE REACHED	PEOPLE REACHED	SERVICES DELIVERED	SERVICES DELIVERED
	Women reached with reproductive health services	Women reached with protection information & services	Health facilities supported with RH services	Women and girls safe spaces supported
Abyan	58,654	22,227	4	1
Aden	59,760	3,648	6	0
Al Bayda	48,085	12,750	5	1
Al Dhale'e	24,646	2,217	3	1
Al Hudaydah	183,332	125,128	19	8
Al Jawf	63,440	13,474	8	1
Al Maharah	11,741	11,133	1	1
Al Mahwit	42,159	18,674	4	1
Amanat Al Asimah	65,070	29,836	6	1
Amran	39,578	15,256	4	2
Dhamar	66,969	9,567	5	1
Hadramaut	49,068	69,227	5	2
Hajjah	180,375	41,069	8	1
Ibb	54,878	68,284	7	3
Lahj	5,958	26,688	1	4
Marib	116,004	76,565	9	6
Sa'ada	36,838	5,642	4	1
Sana'a	19,668	13,525	3	4
Shabwah	36,017	45,233	3	1
Taizz	417,163	192,437	20	11
Raymah	0	0	0	0
Socotra	4,772	0	2	0

SAFE SPACES HELP YOUNG GIRLS TO REALIZE THEIR DREAMS

Nusaibah, a 14-year-old girl was forced to flee the conflict with her family for the second time from Al Jawf Governorate to Marib City where she struggled to escape an imminent marriage.

Following repeated displacement leading to the loss of property and livelihood, Nusaibah's family was exhausted and was desperate to make ends meet. "In these harsh conditions, my father started talking about marrying me off for money to meet part of the family's needs. I rejected and in turn had to face the painful consequences," tells Nusaibah.

Nusaibah's father suggested to marry her to his friend who was ready to pay whatever the family would ask for. For Nusaibah, this was shocking and a cruel end to her childhood and her dreams. She continued resisting. As a result, Nusaibah faced increasing pressure, threats and emotional abuse from her family.

Looking for an escape from the cruelty of her home, Nusaibah sort refuge at a women and girls safe space. "This was the only place I could seek refuge and help in my calamity," she stated.

In the safe space, Nusaibah's was provided with psychosocial support through a specialized psychologist. Her father was also asked to visit the safe space. They explained to him about the risks and harm caused by a child marriage and the importance of Nusaibah's dreams and the realization of her rights. The team addressed the family's economic situation through cash assistance. Nusaibah was also given livelihood skills training in sewing children's clothes.

"My dream was to escape this marriage. Now, my dreams are to continue my studies, design and make clothes to support my family. With the help from this wonderful safe space, my hopes and dreams are becoming true," Nusaibah concluded.

The safe space supported by KShrelief not only prevented an imminent child marriage and its life-threatening risks but also helped the family to overcome some of the challenges faced by displacement and conflict. UNFPA supports 51 safe spaces across the country providing life-saving protection service for women and girls.

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) RESPONSE

UNFPA is among the frontline responders, working closely with the Ministry of Public Health and Population and the World Health Organization; helping to mitigate the spread of the disease, while prioritizing to sustaining current humanitarian operations. Main areas of support include:

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

- Since January 2021, nearly 9 million PPE items were distributed to 127 health facilities to allow for the safe provision of reproductive health services for a period of one year.
- Nearly 1 million people have been reached with PPE since January 2021.
- Training of health workers (mainly midwives) on infection prevention control and response mechanisms to provide reproductive health services during the pandemic continued. Nearly 150 health workers have been trained so far.
- UNFPA has availed 80 ventilators to the pandemic response.
- A national manual/guidelines has been developed for healthcare providers for the provision of reproductive health services under COVID-19 in partnership with the Ministry of Health and UN agencies.
- Provision of reproductive health services in all UNFPA-supported health facilities across the country continued, including in facilities where COVID-19 cases have been isolated.

WOMEN'S PROTECTION

COVID-19 awareness raising and other activities for the prevention of COVID-19 continued in sites providing women's protection services.

These include:

- Operation of 3 hotlines that provide tele-counseling of women's protection services and information on COVID-19 prevention.
- From January to December 2021, nearly 626,000 women were reached with awareness campaigns on protection and prevention of COVID-19, including in IDP camps.
- Survivors of violence continued the production of cotton face masks and hand sanitizers, to be distributed among displaced persons and communities.
- Critical services such as specialized psychological care centres and shelters continued running, with COVID-19 precautionary measures in place.

RAPID RESPONSE MECHANISM

- The UNFPA-led Rapid Response Mechanism in partnership with UNICEF and WFP raised awareness on the risks of COVID-19 during verification, registration and distribution stages of the response. COVID-19 prevention and mitigation measures were adhered to during distribution of rapid response kits.



NUMBER OF CASES

10,000 cases of COVID-19 and 2,000 associated deaths were reported by end December 2021.

9 MILLION

PPE items distributed to health facilities

1 MILLION

People reached with PPE

626,000

women reached with COVID-19 information

80

Ventilators availed to the pandemic response

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. A total of 62,071 RRM kits were distributed from January to December 2021. Other highlights for the period June 2018 to December 2021 include:

HIGHLIGHTS FROM JUNE 2018 TO DEC. 2021

Since June 2018, RRM kits were delivered to **554,075 families (over 3.9 million individuals)**.

227,904 RRM kits distributed through the **Al Hudaydah** humanitarian hub from June 2018 to Dec. 2021

117,680 RRM kits distributed through the **Aden** humanitarian hub from June 2018 to Dec. 2021.

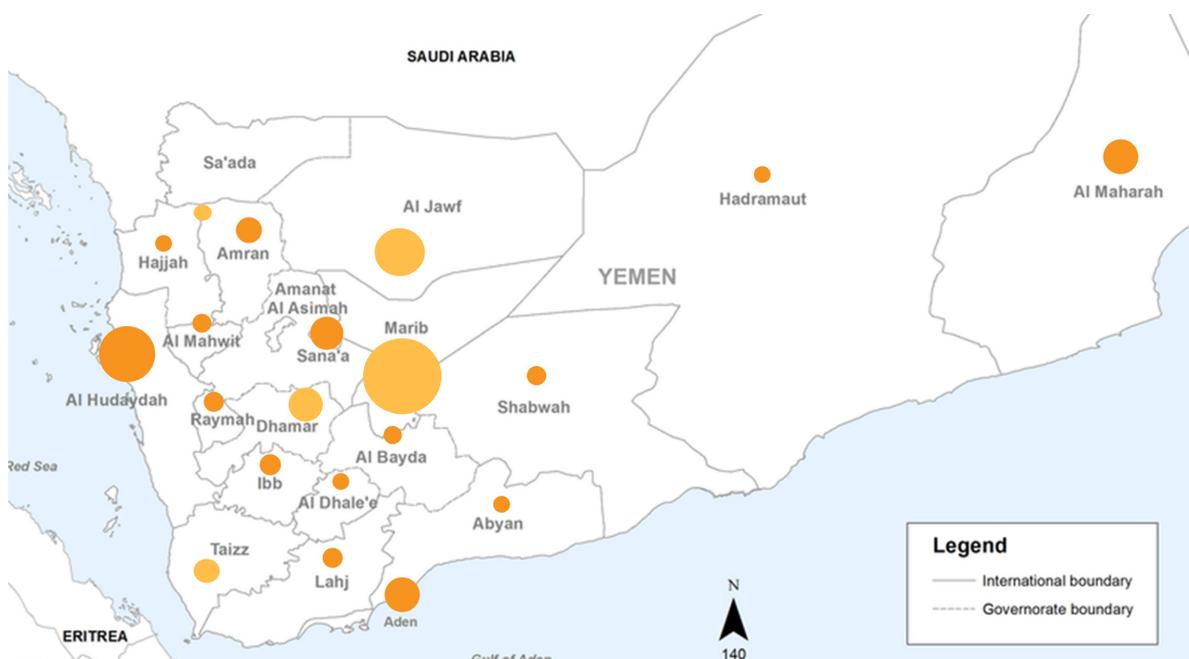
90,459 RRM kits distributed through the **Sana'a** humanitarian hub from June 2018 to Dec. 2021.

27,497 RRM kits distributed through the **Ibb** humanitarian hub from June 2018 to Dec. 2021.

90,535 RRM kits distributed through the **Sa'ada** humanitarian hub from June 2018 to Dec. 2021.



Distribution of rapid response kits in frontline areas of Marib Governorate.



The RRM is operational country-wide. The map indicates RRM distribution by governorate and volume of distribution since January 2021.

Donors to the RRM: Central Emergency Response Fund, European Union Humanitarian Aid and Yemen Humanitarian Fund

IN THE NEWS

PEOPLE REACHED

	NO.
No. of people reached with reproductive health services	1,584,175
No. of safe deliveries supported	151,115
No. of cesarean sections supported	17,764
Individuals reached with Family Planning services	242,626
Dignity kits distributed	62,682
Individuals reached through the Rapid Response Mechanism	434,497
No. of women reached with protection information & services	802,580
No. of health facilities supported with reproductive health services	127
No. of safe spaces supported	51
No. of women shelters supported	9
No. of supported specialized psychological care centres	8



In 2022, humanitarian funding needs are greatest in Yemen. [Read more...](#)



Married at 12; a single mother at 16 in Yemen. [Read more...](#)



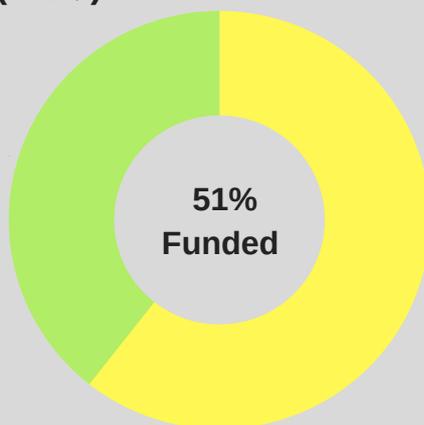
Sweden Supports UNFPA with a \$3.3 million contribution for women's protection. [Read more...](#)

2021 HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE PLAN FUNDING STATUS (US\$)

\$100 M
REQUIRED

\$50.8M
FUNDED

\$49.2M
FUNDING GAP



2021 Donors (alphabetical order): Canada, CERF, European Union, Iceland, KSrelief, Netherlands, Norway, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, USAID, Yemen Humanitarian Fund

KEY CHALLENGES

- A non-permissive operating environment with limited humanitarian access and shrinking humanitarian space.
- 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 restrictions imposed on implementing partners to undertake humanitarian operations in conflict-affected areas.
- Delays in transportation of supplies due to bureaucratic impediments.