Situation report
DECEMBER 2018 & JANUARY 2019

Yemen conflict

A total of 15.9 million people, i.e. 53% of the population analyzed are severely food insecure, despite ongoing humanitarian food assistance (HFA), according to the latest IPC analysis.

Conflict remains the same in Al Hudaydah Governorate, so far it has resulted in 1 million people displaced in the last six months, according to humanitarian partners. Partners are preparing to assist about 342,000 people who are projected to return to Al Hudaydah City if the situation improves. Between June 2018 and 15 January 2019, displaced Al Hudaydah families across the country reached 174,717 (over 1,048,300 individuals) including 109,867 families (over 659,300 individuals) registered in 4 governorates - Hajjah, Mahwit, Raymah and Al Hudaydah.

The monthly reported number of probable diphtheria cases is fluctuating during the last three months, although the reported no. during January 2019 was (183), which is considered somewhat lower than that for December -2018 (253 cases), but it is still larger than that reported during November 2018 (164). While the associated deaths remain within the average (8 cases) compared with December (13 cases) and November (11).

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The economic crisis coupled with the armed conflict has further aggravated the food insecurity experienced by the people in Yemen, curtailing food access for both the displaced and the host communities especially in areas with active fighting. According to the latest IPC analysis, a total of 15.9 million people, i.e. 53% of the population analyzed are severely food insecure, despite ongoing humanitarian food assistance (HFA). This includes 17% of the population (about 5 million people) classified in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) and 36% (about 10.8 million people) in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis). Of greatest concern are the additional 63,500 people in IPC Phase 5 (Catastrophe).

Fighting has been escalated in Hajja governorate especially in Hayran and Mustaba districts as well as near Haradh town, causing civilian casualties. An estimated total of 300 families have recently been displaced to Abs District. Other IDPs are living in harsh conditions in Haradh town. UNk[p;1.OCHA has verified that between June and December 2018, IDP population increased by 23,000, most from Sada’a and Hudydah governorate.

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As of late of January, UN special envoy for Yemen has been in the capital, Sana’a, and the Red Sea port of Hudaydah to discuss blockages to agreements reached in UN-led talks in Stockholm in December. Expected UN-sponsored meetings between the warring factions to start soon among warring parties mainly to discuss redeployments out of the port and out of the city which are the essential aim of the Stockholm agreement.

After sharp plummet in since Septmber, The YER appreciated after Saudi Arabia deposited $200m in the Central Bank of Yemen in October 2018 to stabilize the currency. The intervention was intended to lower the high cost of basic commodities including food, diesel and petrol but prices have remained relatively high.

Cholera: In 2018, cumulative total of suspected cholera cases is 371,261 with 505 associated deaths (CFR 0.14%), 270 out of 333 districts reported suspected cases during the year. Children <5 account for 32% of the total suspected cases. The proportion of severe cases is 13%. Lab: 193,940 rapid diagnostic tests (RDT) were performed (52 % of coverage), 49,387 positive RDT (25.0%). From 1- 20 January 2019, a total of 25,247 suspected cases with 26 associated deaths was reported across the country (CFR 0.10%); Lab: 9591 rapid diagnostic tests (RDT) were performed, 3,421 positive RDT

Epidemic curve 1-20 Jan 2019
- **Diphtheria**: As of 28 January 2019, a total of 3,286 suspected diphtheria cases with 186 associated deaths were reported from 21 governorates and 231 districts. Ibb and Hajja are the most affected governorates. Children of 5-14 years account for the highest number of probable diphtheria cases (46%) of the total reported cases.

*Epidemic curve 12 August 2017 to 28 Jan 2019*

- **Dengue**: As of 31 December 2018, a total of 27,902 with 46 associated deaths, (CFR 0.2%); The governorates with the highest attack rates are Shabwa, Abyan, Mareb, Al Hudaydah, Taiz and Lahj. And from 1-20 January 2019 a total of 1665 suspected case with 6 associated deaths (CFR 0.64%) were reported. 85 districts have reported suspected dengue cases during the last 4 weeks and 88% of the cases were reported from 5 governorates (Hudaydah, Aden, Al Mokalla, Lahj, and Shabwa).

*Epidemic curve 1 Jan 2018 to 20 Jan 2019*
• **Measles**: In 2018, a total of 24,131 suspected measles with 228 associated deaths (CFR 1%) is reported. 319 districts are affected. The governorates with the highest attack rates are Abyan, Marib, Aden, Sa’ada and Shabwa. Children less than 5 represent 68% of the total suspected cases. In 1-20 January 2019, there are 1528 suspected cases with 6 associated deaths (CFR 0.4%). 174 districts have reported suspected measles cases during the last 4 weeks, 64% of the cases were reported from 7 governorates Sa’adah, Dhamar, Ibb, Amanat Al Asimah, Hajjah, Al Dhale (7%) and Amran.

**Epidemic curve 1 Jan 2018 to 20 Jan 2019**

• **Seasonal Influenza**: From December 2018 to 22 January 2019, a total of 10,20 suspected SARI with 84 associated deaths. 83 districts in 16 governorates are affected.
• 21 out of 395 suspected cases (reported through the national influenza program) were H1N1 laboratory confirmed cases from 15 districts in 9 governorates; 7 deaths out of the 21 H1N1 lab confirmed cases.
• The number of reported SARI cases started to increase during the beginning of week 48 (December) in 2018. Using the WHO methods to estimate the influenza thresholds, the influenza activity in the country is still considered moderate compared to previous three seasons from 2017 to 2019.
• Based on the data received from the eDEWS system, the proportion of reported SARI suspected cases were found to be within the normal range compared to the previous seasons from 2017 to 2018 and first 2 weeks of 2019

**Flu situation in yemen per year**
Public health concerns

• The epidemiological trend of cholera shows some decline compared to the previous 3 months.

• The monthly reported number of probable diphtheria cases is fluctuating during the last three months, although the reported no. during January 2019 was (183), is considered somewhat lower than that for December -2018 (253 cases), but it is still larger than that reported during November 2018 (164). While the associated deaths remain within the average (8 cases) compared with December (13 cases) and November (11).

WHO action in December 2018

• WHO, in partnership with the World Bank, brought together 25 laboratory technicians from 12 governorates to train them on sample collection, transportation, laboratory diagnosis and proper reporting of cases.

• In December, WHO, with the support of KSARelief, launched a new medical oxygen station in Shabwa governorate to insure an adequate oxygen supply in hospitals of the governorate.

• To ensure the availability of much-needed oxygen supply in critical sections, WHO, with support of KSRelief, has installed a new medical oxygen station in Marib Hospital to fill the gap in oxygen supply. On-site training was also conducted in order to facilitate operation of the station. Another station was installed in Ibn Sina Hospital in Hadramout governorate.

• In December, WHO in partnership with the World Bank delivered 30 mobile laboratory kits to monitor and test water quality in water networks, wells and water trucks. These kits were delivered to the General Authority for Rural Water Supply Projects and the National Water Resources Authority.

• WHO in partnership with World Bank conducted a 5-day training on the proper methods for medical waste management that was held in the National Center for Public Health Laboratories. The training targeted 40 Health care setting employees responsible for medical waste management from 21 health facilities in 15 governorates, aiming to equip them with the suitable medical waste management practices.

• Responding to diphtheria outbreak in Yemen, WHO continues to strengthen surveillance and case detection for diphtheria, enhance laboratory testing capacity, procure and distributing the diphtheria
anti-toxin to the Diphtheria Isolation Units in health facilities. WHO has also trained and deployed rapid response teams to trace contacts and to provide preventative antibiotics in the community.

- A total of 1,600 vials of Diphtheria antitoxin (DAT) have been imported and delivered to MoPHP at the beginning of January 2019 to be distributed to different diphtheria isolation units, in addition to procurement and distribution of medications for Diphtheria intensive care units which cover more than 500 complicated Diphtheria patients.

- In December WHO has supported health facilities with 1,097,301 liter of fuel across the country. Also, WHO has supported 10 emergency medical teams in two governorates with a total of 22,624 consultations. A total of 45 HF based PHC teams and 55 surgical teams in 18 governorates were supported as well.

- WHO supported training of 200 Physicians from rural hospitals on non-communicable diseases control to increase the General Physicians awareness for prevention and early detection of NCDs according to WHO Package of Essential NCD interventions in low resources setting approach (PEN).

- WHO has supported 120 health facilities with provision of 17,800,000 liter of clean water in 20 governorates with conducting maintenance and & rehabilitation of WASH component in Althawrah and Al Odien HF.

- WHO in partnership with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the United Arab Emirates launched two infection control training workshops for the technical staff at Al Mukalla Motherhood and Childhood Hospital.
• To ensure adequate supply of oxygen, WHO with the support of KSRelief has installed new Oxygen stations in the governorate of Marib, Shabwa and Al Baidha.

• Supported by the World Bank and the Expanded Project for Neglected Tropical Disease, WHO in coordination with ministry of health launched the 2nd round of onchocerciasis mass drug administration campaign, covering 33 districts in 8 governorates (Raima, Taiz, Hajjah, Dhamar, Hudaydah, Ibb, Al-Mahweet and Sana’agov), with over 3,000 health workers trying to reach over 500,000 people above 6 years.

• WHO has delivered around 450 metric tons of emergency life-saving medicines with the support of the World Bank, OFDA, Germany, UAE Aid, KSRelief, Humanitarian Pooled Fund and CERF.

• In January, WHO with the support of the World Bank managed to deliver two mammography machines to two major hospitals in the country, Al Jumhoori in Sana’a and Al Saddaqa in Aden.

• WHO has supported 124 health facilities with provision of 18,400,000 liter of clean water in 20 governorates with conducting maintenance and & rehabilitation of WASH component in Aljumhuri and Qofl Shamr in Hajjah governorate and Aljumhuri & Bani Sa’ad HFs in Almahweet governorate.

• As part of the Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan (YHRP) for 2018, WHO is appealing for a total of US$ 300,000,000 for 2018 of which US$ 286,238,088 has been received.

• WHO’s response to the crisis in Yemen has been supported by the World Bank, governments of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Japan, Norway, Germany, Canada, China, Oman and Kuwait, the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), Emirates Red Crescent, the League of Arab States, the United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID) and Yemen Humanitarian Pooled Fund.
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