



World Health Organization

Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean

Situation report number 19
10 NOVEMBER – 24 NOVEMBER 2015

Yemen conflict



Photo: © WHO/ S. Al-Wesabi
More than 5 million children under the age of 5 have been vaccinated against polio in the second round of national polio immunization campaign



21.1 MILLION*
IN NEED



2.3 MILLION**
INTERNALLY
DISPLACED



250 000***
REFUGEES



27 552****
INJURED



5 798****
DEATHS



Photo: © WHO
WHO staff unloads medical supplies for transportation to the health facilities in Sana'a

82 WHO STAFF IN COUNTRY

HEALTH SECTOR

22 HEALTH CLUSTER PARTNERS

15.2 M TARGETED POPULATION

MEDICINES DELIVERED TO HEALTH FACILITIES/PARTNERS 18 MAY - 30 AUGUST 15



300 TONS OF MEDICINES AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES

800 000 LITRES OF FUEL TO HOSPITALS

DISEASE EARLY WARNING SYSTEM



400 E-DEWS SENTINEL SITES

FUNDING US\$ FOR 2015 RESPONSE PLAN



83 M REQUESTED

36.8 M FUNDED

56% FUNDING GAP

HIGHLIGHTS

- The second round of the national polio immunization campaign has been concluded in all governorates with 5 039 936 children (96% of target) vaccinated.
- The fourth round of outreach activities has been launched in all governorates targeting more than 300 000 children under the age of one. WHO has funded the activities with US\$ 450,000 for operational costs, including field visits, supervision and transportation costs.
- To integrate and strengthen meningitis surveillance in the six governorates of Sana'a, Aden, Taiz, Hodeida, Ibb and Hajjah, WHO supported the Ministry of Health to conduct training of 92 surveillance coordinators and health officials.
- A three-day training workshop on infection control measures under pandemic influenza preparedness (PIP) was held on 23 November targeting 90 physicians, paramedics and nurses from Sana'a Governorate.

* 2015 Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan- Revised version
** UNOCHA
*** UNHCR website
**** Data as of 15 November 2015

- The health situation in conflict-affected areas continues to deteriorate due to shortages of health workers and restricted access for the health sector. In Taiz Governorate, access to the only cancer treatment center for patients from Taiz, Ibb, Lahj, Hodeida and Al-Dhalea governorates is limited mainly due to ongoing violence. The center, which receives an average of 50 patients per day, is facing shortages of health workers and medical supplies due to the insecurity.
- As of 15 November, health facility reports indicate 33 350 casualties, including 5 798 deaths and 27 552 injuries in conflict-affected governorates. The number of deaths is believed to be higher given that these reports only capture health facility-reported deaths. From 3-7 November 2015, there were an additional 26 deaths and 204 injuries in Hadramout, Socotra and Shabwa Governorates as a result of cyclones Chapala and Megh.
- With the onset of winter and cold-related illnesses such as pneumonia, measles and acute respiratory infections (ARIs), an estimated 2.3 million internally displaced Yemenis are at increased risk. Limited access by displaced populations and host communities to health services will increase susceptibility to diseases, with the most vulnerable groups such as children, elderly and chronic disease patients especially at risk.
- According to a recent humanitarian needs overview issued by OCHA, it is estimated that more than 19 million people lack access to safe water and sanitation; more than 14 million people are food insecure, including 7.6 million who are severely food insecure; and nearly 320,000 children are severely acutely malnourished.
- Since the beginning of the crisis, nine health workers have been killed and 17 injured as a direct result of the conflict. Additionally, 99 health facilities have been affected (see table 1).

Table 1. Violations against health workers and health facilities
19 March- 25 November 2015

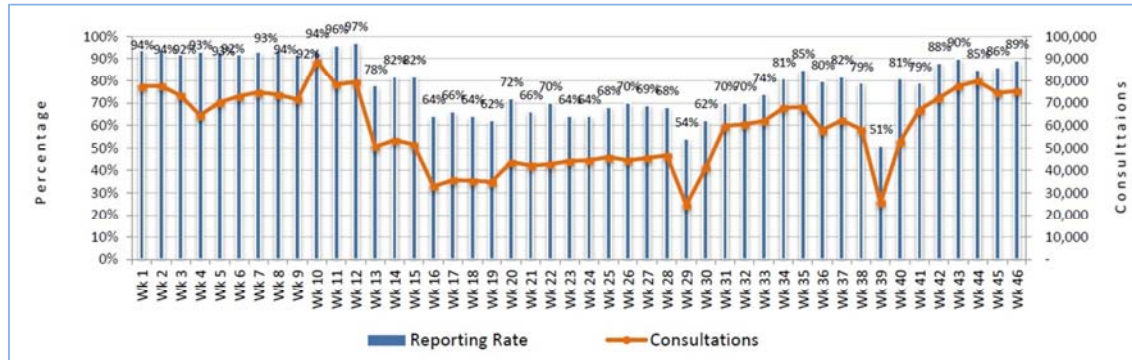
Health staff & facilities	No. of health staff and facilities exposed to violations incidents
Hospitals	38
Health centers and polyclinics	10
kidney dialysis centers	2
Health units	1
Health offices	8
Emergency health operations rooms	2
Diagnostic centers	1
Health institutes	2
Drug warehouses	3
Blood transfusion centers	1
Ambulances	27
Vehicles belong to malaria program	2
Health organizations offices	2
Total	99
Health workers killed	9
Health workers injured	17
Total	26

Epidemiological update

- During week 46 (9-15 November 2015), 75 391 consultations were recorded from 16 governorates with the exception of Raima, Socotra, Al-Baidha'a, Al-Mahweet, Al-Jawf and Marib as compared to 74 601 recorded in week 45. Acute respiratory tract infections, acute diarrhea and suspected malaria were the leading causes of morbidity during this reporting

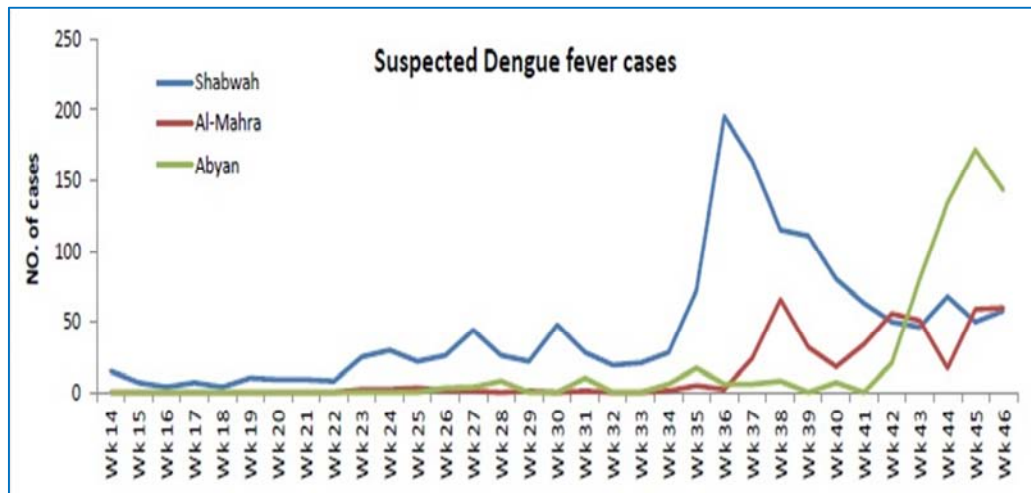
period. Since week 1 of 2015 to week 46, a total of 2 670 000 consultations have been recorded.

Graph 1: eDEWS reporting rates and consultations in all governorates, Weeks 1-46



- A total of 368 suspected dengue cases were reported from nine governorates from 9-15 November; of these, 143 cases were recorded from Abyan, 60 cases from Al-Mahra, and 58 cases from Shabwah (see graph 2). Five cases with hemorrhagic manifestations were also reported in Aden. Some governorates, including Taiz, have lost all communication tools and reporting rates remain low.

Graph 2: Suspected dengue outbreak in Abyan, Shabwah & Al-Mahra Governorates, Weeks 14-46



- Epidemiological surveillance continues to be intensified in all conflict affected governorates to ensure that all diseases of public health importance, including dengue, acute viral hepatitis and other communicable diseases are monitored and reported through alternative sources, including private health facilities, mobile clinics, NGO partners on the ground, health workers in the community, and the general public.

Public health concerns

- In the areas affected by cyclones Chapala and Megh, there is an increased risk of endemic diseases such as malaria and dengue as well as acute diarrheal diseases due to limited access to health care services and the breakdown in safe water supply and sanitation services. There are concerns that malaria may re-emerge in Socotra Island due to the cyclones. The island has maintained a malaria-free status since 2008.
- Routine immunization is significantly affected with a 15% reduction in the national coverage

data due to the conflict. Disrupted immunisation activities are increasing the risk of measles and polio outbreaks.

- Hodeida and Hajja governorates are experiencing a severe deterioration in nutrition status with the Global Acute Malnutrition rate exceeding 31%, double the emergency threshold of 15%.
- Public and private hospitals in most governorates are experiencing serious shortage of health services, especially in operating theatres and intensive care units.

Health
priorities

- Support mass casualty management in conflict affected governorates, including provision of trauma kits, medical and surgical supplies, deployment of surgical teams and referral services, and ambulance services.
- Provide integrated primary health care services in all the affected governorates, including mental health care, routine immunization, screening and treatment of childhood illnesses through health facilities, outreach and mobile services, all accompanied by social mobilization activities.
- Procure, stockpile, and distribute lifesaving medicines and supplies including Interagency Emergency Health Kits, Trauma Kits, Interagency Diarrhoea Disease kits and blood bags to health facilities in the highly affected governorates, namely, Sada'a, Amran, Taiz, Aden, Lahej and Hajja.
- Improve/upgrade Ministry of Public Health and Population information systems and field reporting to ensure a timely and effective response and avoid duplication of efforts.

Health
response and
WHO action

- WHO has delivered medical supplies to Amran Governorate including 5 diarrhoea kits sufficient to cover 3500 cases and 1 trauma kit to meet the needs of 100 patients requiring surgical care.
- The second round of the national polio immunization campaign has been concluded in all governorates, with 96% of all targeted children (5 039 936) have been reached and vaccinated.
- A three-day training workshop on infection control measures under pandemic influenza preparedness (PIP) started on 23 November 2015 targeting 90 physicians, paramedics and nurses from Sana'a Governorate. The workshop aims to strengthen capabilities of infection control committee and enhance the performance of health workers to control and prevent highly-pathogenic organisms such as Influenza, Ebola Virus Disease, and MERS coronavirus.
- On 19 November 2015, WHO, in collaboration with Ministry of Health, conducted a two-day workshop to review the performance of meningitis and rota surveillance sites in six governorates of Sana'a, Aden, Taiz, Hodeida, Ibb and Hajjah and enhance coordination between health officials and meningitis surveillance coordinators. A total of 92 meningitis and rota surveillance coordinators, as well as health officials, attended the workshop which recommended scaling up the response of the national programme for rota and bacterial



Photo: © WHO
Routine immunization is significantly affected with 15 percent reduction in the national coverage data due to the conflict

meningitis and intensify the activities in the high risk areas.

- To ensure access to safe water for populations in Taiz City, WHO has provided more than 960 000 liters of safe water to the districts of Al-Mudhafar, Sala and Al-Qahera. Water trucking and quality water monitoring is ongoing in Sana'a City and Khamir City in Amran Governorate.
- In Taiz, Shabwa, Hadramout, Al-Mahra and Abyan governorates, WHO continues to support outdoor fogging spraying campaign as a control measure for dengue and malaria control.
- The fourth round of outreach activities has started in all governorates targeting more than 300,000 children under the age of one. WHO has funded the activities with USD 450,000 for operational costs, including field visits, supervision and transportation costs.

Resource
mobilization

- As part of the revised Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan (YHRP), WHO requires a total of

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