

Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean

Situation report number 17 12–26 OCTOBER 2015

### Yemen conflict





21.1 MILLION\*



2.3 MILLION\*\*
INTERNALLY
DISPLACED



250 000\*\*\* REFUGEES



26 703\*\*\*\* INJURED



5604\*\*\*\* DEATHS

#### **WHO**



**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

TONNES 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**

- WHO has provided 30 metric tonnes of medicines and medical supplies to Taiz Governorate in Yemen sufficient for 600 000 beneficiaries, including 250 000 people inside Taiz City for three months.
- Since 19 March to 16 October, 32 307 casualties including 5 604 deaths and 26 703 injuries have been reported by health facilities from conflict affected governorates.
- Medical supplies have been running out rapidly in most functioning health facilities as needs for treatment increase and are further exacerbated by shortages of medical supplies in the local market.
- 76 generators were delivered to all governorates to ensure the functionality of immunization storage and to ensure safety of vaccines.

- \* 2015 Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan- Revised version
- \*\* UNOCHA
- \*\*\* UNHCR website
- \*\*\*\* Data as of 26 October 2015

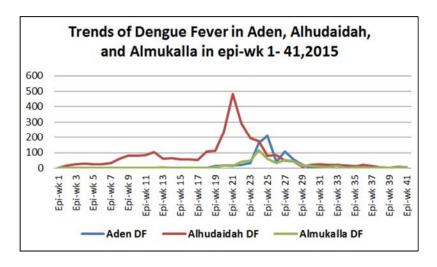
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## Situation update

- Since 19 March to 16 October, reports from selected health facilities indicated that 5604 people have died as a result of the conflict in Yemen, including 407 women and 412 children (see Annex 1 for distribution of injuries and death by governorate). This figure could be higher as some deaths are unreported to health facilities.
- The ongoing crisis continues to constrain the health system in many governorates such as Taiz, Mareb, Hajjah and Sa'ada and restricting access for populations in need of health services. In Taiz, 64% of the population live in areas where health services are inacessible, according to recent bulletin issued by OCHA. In addition, the crisis has led to deaths and injuries of health workers and damages to health facilities. Since March 2015, 22 health workers and 90 health sector facilities been affected by the ongoing crisis (see Annex 1).
- Serious shortages of food have led to a significant increase in food prices. Due to limited purchasing power, the population is exposed to a higher risk of malnutrition, particularly affecting the children. 537 000 under 5 children will be at risk of severe acute malnutrition in 2015 compared to 160 000 children before the conflict, which represents an increase of more than 200% to prior to the crisis.
- Regular power cuts continue to disrupt the delivery of health services in most parts of the country. This is a particular concern to millions of patients in intensive care units, undergoing renal dialysis and ceaserian sections.

#### **Epidemiological update**

• As of 18 October 2015, approximately 8463 suspected cases of dengue fever have been recorded. An outbreak of dengue fever was reported in April 2015 in six governorates. However, since 15 June, a decline has been reported in Aden, Hodiedah and Hadramout governorates due to WHO and Ministry of Public Health and Population interventions through carrying out epidemiological field investigation, conducting fogging spray activities, distributing information, education and communication materials about dengue as well as delivering supportive treatment for the cases of dengue.



- Reporting rate in Aden, Lahj and Abyan governorates has improved in recent weeks. Low reporting rates continue to be recorded in Taiz due to loss of communication tools.
- An increase in the number of cases in Taiz could also be associated to deterioration in the security situation coupled with the rainy season. In addition, scarcity of water in Taiz governorate is further burdening the population as they have been compelled to collect and store water in artificial plastic containers for future use, which creates a breeding ground for dengue fever parasites. In Shabwah governorate, an increase in the number of dengue fever cases was recorded in the past four weeks.

### Public health concerns

- Severe reduction of health services in all public and private hospitals, especially operating theatres and intensive care units, mainly due to the ongoing crisis.
- Health facilities are at risk of being damaged and health workers are at risk of being killed or injured in their line of duty.
- The number of people lacking access to basic healthcare in Yemen has risen by 31% since March 2015.
- Disrupted immunisation activities are increasing the risk of outbreaks for measles and polio.
- Limited amount of life-saving medicines and supplies, including trauma, diarrhoeal disease kits and medicines for chronic diseases are available.
- The spread of endemic diseases such as malaria and dengue fever as well as acute diarrhoeal diseases is increasing due to limited access to health care services and safe water supply and sanitation services.
- Hampered functionality of the disease early warning alert and reporting system due to limited communication.
- Increased cases of dengue fever in Taiz continues to be a public health concern.

# 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.
- Procurement, stockpiling, and distribution of lifesaving medicines and supplies including interagency emergency health kits, trauma kits, interagency diarrhoeal 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 timely and effective response and avoid duplication of efforts.

#### **WHO** action

- WHO provided 30 metric tonnes of medicines and medical supplies to Taiz governorate, including 15 metric tonnes to Taiz city, sufficient for 250 000 people for three months and 15 metric tonnes for IDPs in Taiz governorate.
- The third round of integrated outreach activities has been launched last week, supported by WHO, UNICEF



and GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance. The activities target more than 300 000 children under the age of one in the rural remote areas of most Yemen's governorate.

- Over the last two months, more than 6000 children under 5 years of age, pregnant women
  and mothers benefited from the WHO and Field Medical Foundation (FMF) supported
  nutrition mobile clinics in Aden, Lahj and Hadramout governorates. In addition, around
  5000 children, women and elderly people received consultation services and health
  education provided by WHO and (FMF) in Aden, Lahj and Hadramout governorates.
- WHO has delivered 1 million litres of water to to the population in three districts in Taiz City namely: Al-Qahera, Al-Mothafar and Sala. WHO delivers 4000 million litres of water daily to the districts and will deliver this support until 1 November 2015.
- WHO provided 76 power generators to ensure the functionality of immunization storage and safety of vaccines. The generators were donated to all governorates.

## Resource mobilization

 As part of the revised Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan (YHRP), WHO requires a total of US\$ 83 million of which US\$ 36.8 million has been received. WHO's response to the crisis in Yemen has been supported by the Governments of Japan and Finland, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Central Emergency Response Fund and the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA).

Annex 1. Distribution of injuries and death by governorate

