



## SITUATION REPORT JUNE 2020 ISSUE NO.6 Yemen Update



More than 5 years of humanitarian crisis have turned Yemen into the world's worst humanitarian crisis, leaving Yemeni people's right to health hanging by a thread. C:WHO



30.5M ESTIMATED POPULATION\*



24.3M MILLION \*\* IN NEED



12,478 \*\*\* CHOLERA SUSPECTED CASES



17.9M \*\*\*\* IN NEED FOR HEALTH CARE

### WHO



WHO received a shipment of 66 kits of personal protective equipment enough to cover the protection needs of 1,752 health care workers, as well as 25 ventilators : WHO Logistics Team

NUMBER OF WHO STAFF & OTHER CONTRACTS MODALITY IN COUNTRY: 300

### HEALTH SECTOR

71 HEALTH CLUSTER PARTNERS

19 M TARGETED POPULATION –YHRP 2020

### MEDICINES DELIVERED TO HEALTH FACILITIES/PARTNERS JUNE

286,190 LITERS OF FUEL

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Health authorities announced 835 confirmed COVID-19 cases, with 232 associated deaths from 10 governorates in Yemen.
- A high-Level Pledging Event was held in Riyadh on 2 June. Donors pledged US\$1.35 billion of the \$2.41 billion needed to cover the humanitarian response in 2020. The funding gap remains huge with only \$558M provided so far.
- Since mid-April, 31 of 41 of critical UN programmes have been reducing or closing for lack of funding. In additional funds are not secured, life-saving programs might be closed.
- An ongoing fuel crisis continues to threaten access to food, hospital operations and water supplies which are fuel-dependent and crucial to preventing virus transmission and to the response and presents a further obstacle to people seeking treatment.

\* Yemen HRP 2020  
 \*\* Yemen HRP 2020  
 \*\*\* Cholera bulletin as of June 2020  
 \*\*\*\* Yemen- HRP 2020

## Situation Update

- Yemen remains the world's worst humanitarian disaster, and WHO's most complex operation as some 24.3 million people – 80% of the country's population – now require humanitarian or protection assistance, with 14 million people in acute need. More than five years of war have devastated Yemen's health infrastructure and today, more people in the country are dying from lack of access to treatment than they are from the bullets and bombs.
- More than 17.9 million people (out of the total population of 30 million) are in need of health care services in 2020. Two-thirds of the total districts (203 out of 333 districts) have the most severe health needs due to poor access to health services. These affected districts are distributed in all 22 governorates.
- Only half of the health facilities are fully functioning. Those that remain open lack qualified health staff, basic medicines, and medical equipment like masks and gloves, as well as oxygen and other essential supplies.
- Health needs in Yemen are already significant. Thousands of children are suffering from medical complications due to severe malnutrition. Thousands of more people suffer from cancer, diabetes, and other chronic conditions for which treatment is limited. And there are currently outbreaks of cholera, dengue, malaria, and the emergence of a vaccine-derived polio case in the northern governorates.
- Conflict keeps raging in the war-torn country. As of late June, increasing hostilities were reported several governorates, including Ma'rib, Al Jawf and Sa'ada. Field reports indicated that civilians were killed including children.
- COVID-19 has aggravated the situation further. In June, health authorities announced **835** confirmed cases, with **232** associated deaths from 10 governorates compared to 321 confirmed cases and 79 deaths reported in May 2020. All indicators point out that the disease is spreading rapidly across the country.
- To meet Yemen's persistent needs that are now more evolving due to COVID-19, a High-Level Pledging Event was held in Riyadh on 2 June. Donors pledged US\$1.35 billion of the \$2.41 billion needed to cover the humanitarian response in 2020. The funding gap remains huge with only \$558M provided so far. Since mid-April, 31 of 41 of critical UN programmes have been reducing or closing for lack of funding. If additional funds are not secured, life-saving programs might be closed.
- An ongoing fuel crisis is a further obstacle to people seeking treatment as it threatens access to food, hospital operations and water supplies which are fuel-dependent and crucial to preventing virus transmission and to the response.
- Despite the challenges, aid agencies continue to ramp up efforts to suppress the transmission of the virus through community engagement; to procure and distribute medical supplies and equipment; to save lives by supporting COVID-19 clinical readiness; to safeguard the public health care system.

COVID-19

- Between 10 April and 30 June 2020, the authorities have reported a total of 1,162 cases across the country including 313 related deaths and 490 recoveries.
- Confirmed cases keep increasing over time. The highest number of confirmed cases are reported in Hadhramout, Aden, and Taizz governorates.

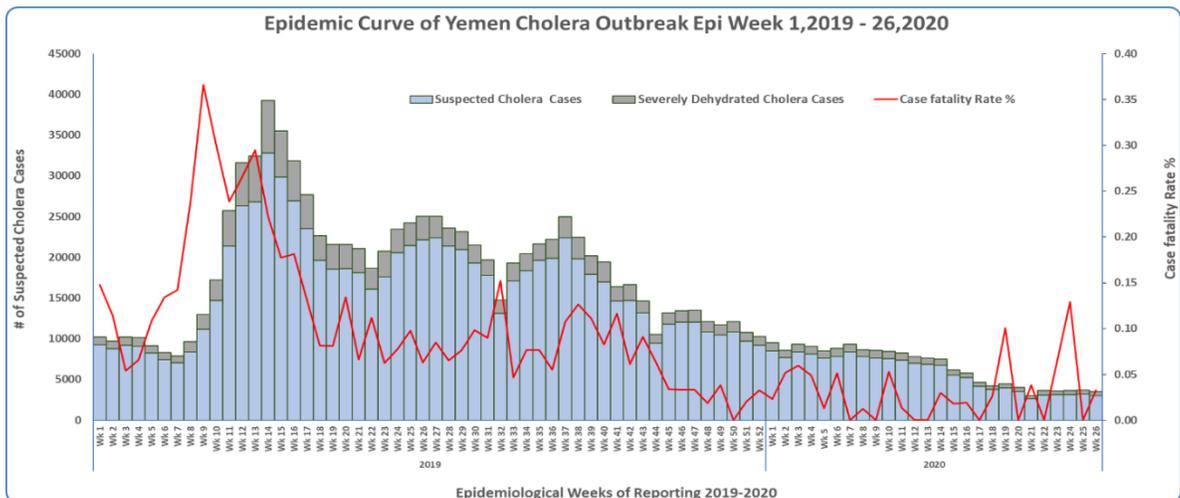
Confirmed COVID-19 cases over time



Source: Humanitarian Country Team

Cholera

- During the first six months of 2020, 294 districts (88%) have reported cholera cases. A total of 152,001 suspected cases have been reported since the beginning of this year, a 67% reduction compared to the same period of 2019. A total of 44 deaths (CFR 0.03%) have been reported during the first six months of 2020 with 94% reduction in the number of deaths compared to the same period of 2019 when 721 deaths (CFR 0.16%) were reported.
- In June 2020, 12,478 suspected cases were reported with 6 associated deaths. The country-level trend in the last three weeks (24-26, 2020) has been stable at -2%.



## COVID-19

- With limited resources, WHO and aid agencies have continued scaling up the “4S Response Strategy” i.e. prioritising suppression of virus transmission through community engagement; procuring and distributing medical supplies and equipment; saving lives by supporting COVID-19 clinical readiness; and safeguarding the public health care system.
1. **To step up suppression transmission**, more than 19,000 community-based volunteers have been mobilized to educate communities and raise awareness about the virus.
  2. **Providing COVID-19 supplies is essential.** By end of June, 8,616 metric tons of medical equipment, testing kits and medicine were transported into the country.
  3. **To save as many lives as possible**, WHO and the UN partners are urgently expanding hospitals capacity in key population centres. This includes establishing 21 new intensive care units (ICUs) in COVID-19 designated hospitals, adding to 38 existing ICUs bringing the total to 59 ICUs. Also, 710 ICU beds are delivered into the country. A total of 333 health rapid response teams (1,665 staff) are occupied to respond to COVID-19 cases. 11.7K oxygen cylinders are being refilled, per month, countrywide and 227.5k personal protective equipment items delivered. Moreover, 21.600 test/ PCR reactions have been provided so far. To expand the national labs testing capacity, WHO supported raising six labs with COVID-19 testing capacity, including five in the southern governorates ( Mukalla, Sayoun, Aden, Hadramout and Taizz), and one in Sana’a.
  4. **Safeguarding the public health system** at more than 4,300 non-COVID health care facilities to ensure available facilities are not overwhelmed by COVID-19 cases remains a priority. These facilities continue to provide non-COVID health care services to prevent deaths from other deadly diseases and causes, including cholera, diphtheria, dengue and malaria, and to provide nutrition treatment to pregnant and lactating women and malnourished children.
- **On cholera situation**, WHO continues to provide leadership and support activities with health authorities and partners to respond to the ongoing cholera outbreak including case management; surveillance and laboratory investigations; hotspot mapping and oral cholera vaccine (OCV) campaign planning; water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH); and risk communication. The situation is challenging as resources are diverted to COVID-19, suspension of incentive payments, reduction in health-seeking behaviours and service utilization at cholera treatment centres due to fear of COVID-19, and authorities’ restrictions on OCV shipment.



- **Fuel provision to health facilities:** WHO has continued its support with fuel provision to targeted health facilities to ensure functionality and continuous provision of life-saving health care services. A total of 286,190 L was delivered to 56 health facilities across the country in June 2020.
- **Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs):** Anti-Cancer medicine funded by Kuwait, were dispatched to eight National Oncology Centres across the country to cover the needs of more than 35,000 cancer patients for a year's time. 82 NCDs kits were delivered to 56 health facilities in 19 and will serve for more than 25,000 patients with the most non-communicable disease such as cardiovascular, Stroke, Diabetes, and chronic lung disease. The quantity will cover the need for 6 months.



- **Nutrition Surveillance System (NSS):** a total of 9,191 children under five were screened for all forms of malnutrition in May; 31% of them under 6 months of age. A concerning decline in the number of children screened in May has been observed with a lower rate of nutrition service utilization typically occurs. However, the decrease in the number of children screened is also likely to be an impact of COVID-19 on healthcare-seeking behaviour. Chronic malnutrition remains of high concern, with 55 districts reporting a very high proportion of stunting, and a proportion of 45% of the total children screened. On the other hand, a total of 614 children were admitted with medical complications to WHO-supported 88 therapeutic feeding centres (TFCs) for the treatment of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM). The cure rate was reported at 92 % (579) with a case fatality rate of 1 %. The number of children admitted decreases as most of the available resources were repurposed and distributed to COVID-19 facilities.

**Partnership/  
Health Cluster (HC)**

- Health Cluster continued to support and guide partners towards a better-coordinated response with lifesaving health interventions based on the people's needs. That also included the coordinated response for COVID -19 preparedness and response strategies.
- During June 2020, Yemen Health Cluster conducted several coordination meetings to further improve health response operations by HC partners in which the cluster discussed various operational issues, including the latest epidemiological and health interventions situation as well as the main challenges facing partners in the field. The progress on the isolation units' operational status was also discussed as per the preparedness and response plan for COVID19.

**Funding Requirements in 2020**

WHO response requires USD 234.4M. As of June, 40.2M have been received in response to COVID-19 and outbreaks control and containment.



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