

Key Figures

21.2 million
People in need

15.2 million
People lack access to basic health services

12.6 million
People targeted for life-saving interventions

3.1 million
People displaced by conflict

3.15 million
Women of girls of reproductive age

504,000
Pregnant women

61,000
Women of reproductive age at risk of sexual violence, including rape



“My husband was working in another governorate when violence escalated in Taizz. All alone, I fled with my six month old baby to Ibb Governorate. We are here now living in a camp for displaced people. I was not able to carry any of my belongings. When I opened the dignity kit, I was thrilled to see the blanket inside. I am wrapping my baby with it now and hoping I will get more assistance”.

Situation Overview

Following 19 months of fighting, the armed conflict and its consequences continue to drive the large-scale humanitarian emergency in Yemen. On 8 October 2016, airstrikes hit a large community hall killing more than 140 and injuring 600 people according to local health authorities. The UN has condemned the attack and called for effective investigations into allegations of international crimes and violations of international law. A UN brokered 72-hour ceasefire from 19 to 22 October 2016 provided some respite to Yemeni’s but was short-lived and breached by warring parties. The Special Envoy for Yemen has now presented a new roadmap for peace for parties to the conflict.

An outbreak of cholera is spreading throughout Yemen. To date 71 cases have been confirmed in 11 governorates; eight people have already died in three governorates; and there are over 2,000 suspected cases across the country.

Currently, only 45 per cent of health facilities are functional across Yemen and even in those, the capacity to respond to the outbreak is severely compromised by the lack of equipment, medicines, and personnel. The overall cost of the cholera outbreak response plan stands at \$22 million.

Highlights of UNFPA Response

- UNFPA seized the opportunity of the **72-hour ceasefire** to deliver life-saving assistance for women and girls affected by the conflict. **Reproductive health kits** were provided to seven health facilities to meet the urgent reproductive health needs of nearly 30,000 pregnant mothers’ women and girls, in the most remote and heavily conflict stricken districts of Sa’ada Governorate.
- **3,000 dignity kits were distributed during the ceasefire** to affected areas across seven governorates, including Taizz Governorate, which has seen some of the most intense fighting and displacement.
- A total of 446 beneficiaries (374 female, 72 male) were reached with **gender-based violence services** in October, with the highest being for psychosocial support services (280) followed by health services support (179).
- UNFPA is supporting the **cholera response** through the health cluster with the supply of reproductive health kits for cholera treatment facilities.
- UNFPA met with the **Minister of Health** to present on the support provided by UNFPA during the crisis. Follow-up meeting is scheduled to discuss future support from UNFPA.
- A **donor mission** from the Government of the Kingdom of Netherlands and Government of Sweden was facilitated with a visit to a UNFPA supported shelter for survivors of gender-based violence. Upon realizing the magnitude of gender-based violence during this humanitarian crisis, proposals to support this area was requested by donors. This is in addition to the on-going agreement with the Government of the Kingdom of Netherlands for the supply of reproductive health commodities.
- In other **resource mobilization efforts**, a proposal is being submitted to country pooled funds amounting to \$650,000.
- UNFPA will host a **Gender Capacity Adviser** for the Humanitarian Country Team in Yemen, utilizing country pooled funds.

Challenges

- UNFPA continues to face significant challenges in **release of reproductive health commodities** (oral pill and male condoms) from Al Hudaydah port. This poses concerns for the future of the family planning programme in Yemen. UNFPA continues to advocate with national authorities on this matter.