

UNFPA Response in Yemen

SITUATION REPORT



A midwife hands over a newborn baby to her mother at the newly rehabilitated maternity wing of Al Mokha Hospital in Taizz, Yemen ©UNFPA Yemen

FAST FACTS



21.6M

In need of humanitarian assistance



13.4M

In acute need



20.3M

In need of health assistance



17.7M

In need of protection



4.5M

Internally displaced



5.5M

Women of reproductive age (15-49 yrs)



1.5M

Malnourished pregnant & lactating women



7.1M

Women in need of GBV protection

HIGHLIGHTS: JANUARY- MARCH

Eight years on, Yemen remains one of the world's largest humanitarian crises. A staggering 21.6 million people require some form of humanitarian assistance in 2023, and 80 per cent of the country's population struggles to access food, safe drinking water and adequate health services. These are the results of multiple overlapping emergencies that have pummeled the country: violent conflict, economic collapse, recurrent natural disasters and severely disrupted public services.

Women and girls are bearing the brunt of the crisis. An estimated 80 per cent of the 4.5 million people displaced in Yemen are women and children. Approximately 26 per cent of displaced households are headed by women.

Without access to lifesaving medicines, about **1 million women who are estimated to deliver in 2023 are particularly at risk.** Another 1 million women who would want to use family planning to postpone or avoid pregnancy will be at risk of unwanted pregnancies. **Over 1.5 million pregnant and breastfeeding women are projected to experience acute malnutrition sometime in the course of 2023.**

An estimated 7.1 million women and girls will require services to prevent and address gender-based violence in 2023. However, such services remain overstretched across Yemen, and completely absent in some hard-to-reach areas.

On 27 February, the UN and the Governments of Sweden and Switzerland co-hosted a **High-Level Pledging Event for the Humanitarian Crisis in Yemen** bringing together representatives of Member States, international organizations, UN Agencies, NGOs and civil society to raise funding to meet the humanitarian needs of Yemenis affected by the conflict. At the event, USD \$1.16 billion was pledged, almost 30 per cent of the 2023 Humanitarian Response Plan appeal for \$4.3 billion.

In 2023, UNFPA is appealing for US\$70 million to sustain programmes for women and girls in Yemen. Only 12 percent of this funding appeal has been received by March 2023. Lack of funding is forcing UNFPA to scale back lifesaving services. In turn, thousands of women will lose access to reproductive healthcare facilities and more than a million women could lose access to gender-based violence services and mental health care.

In the first three months of the year, **UNFPA's response reached nearly half a million individuals with life-saving reproductive health services, protection information and services and emergency relief,** with support to 84 health facilities, 29 safe spaces, eight shelters and five specialized mental health centres.

UNFPA GOVERNORATE RESPONSE

UNFPA's interventions cover 20 of the 22 governorates in Yemen. Overall coordination is handled by UNFPA's office in Sana'a. In other governorates, joint UN humanitarian hubs coordinate. UNFPA has presence in all operational UN humanitarian hubs. Services provided and people reached from January to March are detailed below:

HIGHLIGHTS: JAN- MARCH 2023



GOVERNORATE

PEOPLE REACHED

SERVICES DELIVERED

	Women reached with reproductive health services	Women reached with protection information & services	Health facilities supported with RH services	Women and girls safe spaces supported
Abyan	10,468	2,140	3	1
Aden	10,032	152	2	0
Al Bayda	16,555	1,201	4	1
Al Dhale'e	4,726	0	1	0
Al Hudaydah	27,003	12,342	11	5
Al Jawf	15,582	0	4	0
Al Maharah	3,350	10,899	1	1
Al Mahwit	7,530	1,956	3	1
Amanat Al Asimah	16,203	5,403	5	1
Amran	1,720	1,312	3	0
Dhamar	12,553	2,625	2	0
Hadramaut	9,465	7,638	3	2
Hajjah	37,690	4,081	7	1
Ibb	5,660	17,168	3	3
Lahj	2,630	3,407	1	1
Marib	39,475	16,127	6	5
Sa'ada	7,260	1,099	4	1
Sana'a	160	339	1	0
Shabwah	10,189	3,369	3	1
Taizz	94,059	35,317	17	5
Raymah	0	0	0	0
Socotra	0	0	0	0

RECLAIMING HER LIFE WITH LIVELIHOOD SUPPORT

Najiba, 35, a mother to five girls, was abused and abandoned by her husband when the conflict in Yemen escalated.

"Eight years ago, my husband came up to me and said he is travelling abroad to find a job. We have not heard from him since then," tells Najiba. "Our lives turned upside down. I was left with many responsibilities. I hardly had any income to feed my five girls," added Najiba.

Najib tried very hard to find a job to support herself and her girls. She found work in a relative's farm, which could only cover the food expenses for the family. The trauma of her husband's departure and her new role as the breadwinner of the family, took a serious toll on Najiba's mental and physical health.

A mobile protection team, reached out to Najiba in her village in Taizz Governorate; providing her with psychosocial support and referral to medical services. Najiba was also provided with a livelihood kit and an economic empowerment grant consisting of two goats.

"I am so thankful. I am feeling much fitter both in my mind and body. Although I still work on my relative's farm, the goats I received are helping me to make extra money, by selling goat milk and making cheese. I can now support myself and my girls without having to ask help from people," tells Najiba with a smile.

Since January 2023, nearly 8,000 survivors of violence were provided with livelihood support, through 29 safe spaces and eight shelters across the country that UNFPA supports with the generous contributions from Iceland, Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, USAID Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance and the Yemen Humanitarian Fund.

RAPID RESPONSE MECHANISM (RRM)

UNFPA is leading the efforts of three agencies i.e. UNFPA, UNICEF and WFP to distribute immediate, most critical life-saving emergency supplies to families who are newly displaced, on the move, in hard-to-reach areas or stranded close to the front lines. The RRM minimum assistance package is comprised of these components: (1) ready to eat food provided by WFP; (2) family basic hygiene kits provided by UNICEF; and (3) one female dignity/transit kit provided by UNFPA. A total of 2,848 RRM kits were distributed from January to March 2023. Other highlights for the period June 2018 to March 2023 include:

HIGHLIGHTS FROM JUNE 2018 TO MARCH 2022

Since June 2018, RRM kits were delivered to **614,275 families (4.3million individuals)**.

244,731 RRM kits distributed through the **Al Hudaydah** humanitarian hub from June 2018 to March 2023.

145,888 RRM kits distributed through the **Aden** humanitarian hub from June 2018 to March 2023.

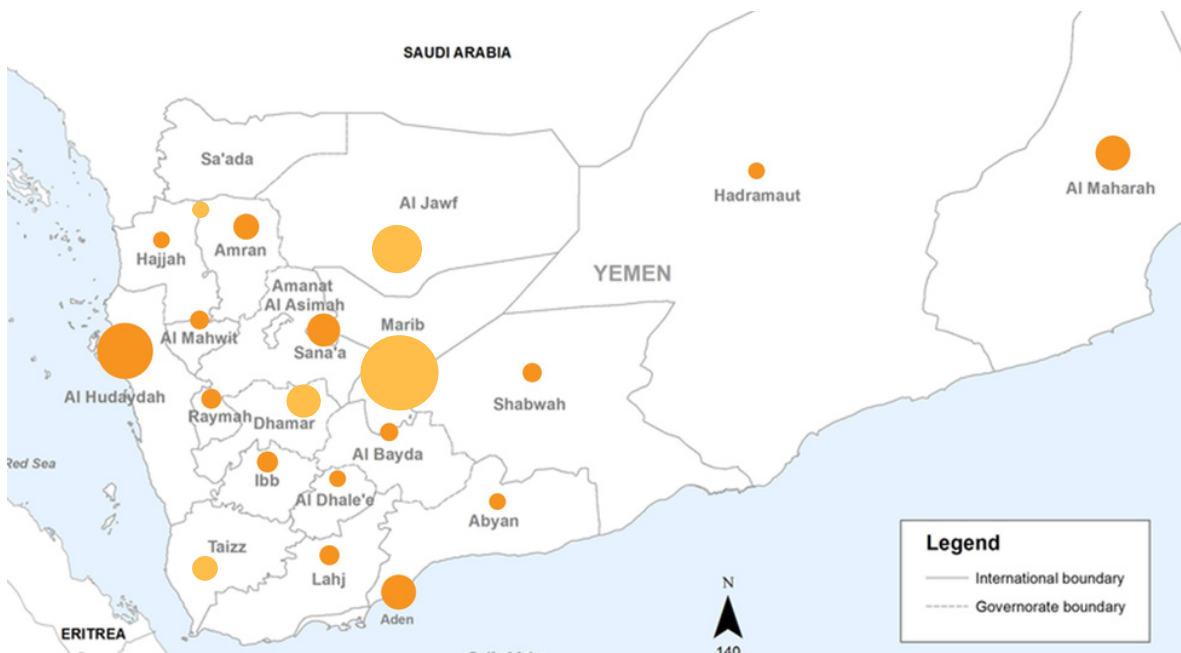
98,271 RRM kits distributed through the **Sana'a** humanitarian hub from June 2018 to March 2023

29,538 RRM kits distributed through the **Ibb** humanitarian hub from June 2018 to March 2023

95,847 RRM kits distributed through the **Sa'ada** humanitarian hub from June 2018 to March 2023



Distribution of rapid response kits in Al Jawf and Marib ©UNFPA Yemen/BFD



The RRM is operational country-wide. The map indicates RRM distribution by governorate and volume of distribution.

Donors to the RRM: European Union Humanitarian Aid, USAID Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance and Yemen Humanitarian Fund

IN THE NEWS

PEOPLE REACHED

	NO.
No. of people reached with reproductive health services	332,330
No. of safe deliveries supported	28,147
Individuals reached with family planning services	44,348
Dignity kits distributed	2,848
Individuals reached through the Rapid Response Mechanism	20,335
No. of women reached with protection information & services	126,575
No. of health facilities supported with reproductive health services	84
No. of safe spaces supported	29
No. of women shelters supported	8
No. of supported specialized psychological care centres	5



Violence plagues women and girls amid Yemen's relentless conflict
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8 years of conflict in Yemen, 8 things you need to know
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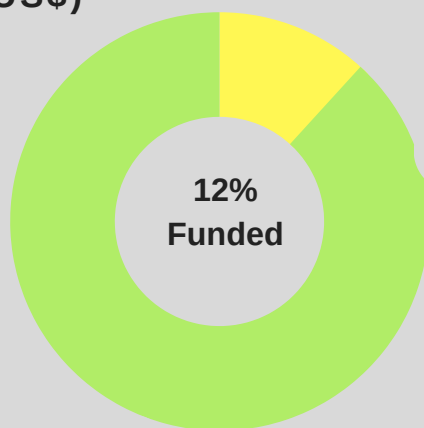
12.6 million women and girls in Yemen need life-saving support
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2023 UNFPA RESPONSE FUNDING STATUS (US\$)

\$70 M
REQUIRED

\$8.5 M
FUNDED

\$61.5 M
FUNDING GAP



2023 Donors (alphabetical order): CERF, European Union, Iceland, KSrelief, Netherlands, Norway, Qatar, Sweden, Switzerland, USAID, Yemen Humanitarian Fund

KEY CHALLENGES

- A non-permissive operating environment with limited humanitarian access and shrinking humanitarian space.
- Limited funding available for the continued provision of humanitarian services .
- Lack of national resources for the provision of basic social services.
- Lack of health workers in severely conflict-affected areas.
- Increasing restrictions imposed on implementing partners for humanitarian operations in conflict-affected areas.
- Delays in transportation of supplies due to bureaucratic impediments.