



## Flash Update #2

### Heavy rains and flash floods in Yemen

Photo: © UNFPA/Yemen

Country:	Yemen
Emergency type:	Climate disaster
Start Date of Crisis:	July , 2024
Date Issued:	15 August, 2024
Covering Period:	July 01, 2024 to August 15, 2024
Contact Persons:	Ali Syed, Humanitarian Specialist, <a href="mailto:asyed@unfpa.org">asyed@unfpa.org</a>

### Highlights

- Exceptionally heavy seasonal rains have caused significant damage and displacement across several areas in Yemen, exacerbating the dire humanitarian situation resulting from over nine years of conflict. The governorates of Al Hodeidah, Hajjah, Marib, Sa'ada and Taizz are among the hardest-hit. Local authorities and humanitarian partners report that nearly 180,000 people have been affected. Women and girls, who are already amongst the hardest hit by the conflict have seen vulnerabilities increase, particularly displaced female-headed households, who make up over 20 percent of those receiving emergency relief.
- Urgent needs include emergency relief items, shelter, multi-purpose cash assistance, food assistance, non-food items, water and sanitation, clothing and protection of civilians and provision of medical supplies to ensure the continuity of care, supply support, and health facility preparedness.
- Within 24 to 72 hours of a displacement alert the UNFPA-led multi-sectoral UN rapid response mechanism (RRM) has been activated in the affected areas to provide emergency relief to displaced and flood-affected families.. As of 14 August, RRM teams have verified 13,925 households (97,475 individuals) and assisted 11,452 households (80,164 individuals).
- Severe weather conditions are forecasted to continue into September. The FAO Agrometeorological Early Warning system and the UK Met Office have issued a new alert indicating that Ibb Governorate may receive over 300 mm of precipitation in the next 10 days. The Central Highlands and Southern Uplands are anticipated to experience the most intense rainfall with high risk of extended flooding.
- In 2024, an estimated 82 percent of people supported through the RRM were severely affected or displaced by climate-related shocks, while the 18 percent of those assisted were directly impacted by the conflict.

## Situation Overview

### Al Hodeidah, Hajjah, Al Mawhit and Raymah Governorate

- In Al Hodeidah Governorate the flooding has impacted 20 districts. The most severely affected districts include Al Marawa'ah, Al Zaidiyah, Al Qanawis, Zabid, Al Hawak, Al Hali, Al Luhaya, Al dureyhi, biet al faqeh and Az Zuhrah, where hundreds of homes and livelihoods have been damaged or destroyed.
- As of 14 August, the RRM has received alerts of 56,119 individuals affected by the severe weather conditions in Al Hodediah Governorate.
- Hajjah Governorate has also experienced significant flooding, with widespread damage reported across 13 districts, particularly in Abs, Hajjah City, Mustaba, Qulf Shamer, Kheyran, moharaq, Bani kais and Kuaydinah. Abs district in Hajjah Governorate has been identified as one of the most severely affected areas by the recent flooding in the governorate. The RRM has so far enrolled 26,046 flood-affected persons.
- Health facilities such as those in the districts of Bajel, Zuhrah, Zaydiah and Marawa have been impacted, including the UNFPA-supported Al Thawrah and Al Mahabisha Referral hospitals that still remain fully functional. The Health cluster has reported an urgent need for fuel to ensure the continuity of care, especially at the Al Thawrah Referral Hospital.
- In Al Mahwit Governorate, the flooding has been extensive, particularly in the districts of Bani Sa'ad. Several homes have been damaged or destroyed, and some infrastructure such as roads and bridges have been damaged, cutting off access to many affected communities. The floods have also inundated farmland and caused substantial losses to crops and livestock.



Map Sources: UNCS, ESRI.  
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Map created in Sep 2013.

### Marib Governorate

- More than 7,000 displaced families in 41 camps and IDP sites have been affected by the heavy rain, winds and lightning in Marib Governorate. Among them, nearly 3,000 families have been directly impacted with their shelters completely destroyed, while over 4,000 families have faced partial damage to their shelters and belongings.



### Al Jawf Governorate

- As of 7 August 2024, the humanitarian situation resulting from heavy rains and flooding continues to worsen in Al Jawf Governorate. In Al Hazm district, 244 families have been affected, 62 families in Al Maslub District and 27 families in Marashi District.
- Agricultural land, the main livelihood of affected facilities has been submerged in floods, with damage to crops, loss of livestock and other assets.

- Reportedly eight people have been struck by lightning in the affected areas and transported for treatment in Al Hazm Hospital.

#### Taizz Governorate

- On 2<sup>nd</sup> August heavy flooding hit nine sub-districts in Maqbanah, Ta'iz Governorate creating a catastrophic humanitarian situation. Fifteen people were missing, and seven people were reported dead.

#### Sa'ada Governorate

- On 23 July, Sa'ada Governorate in north Yemen experienced torrential rainfall and floods, resulting in extensive damages to families accommodated in IDP sites. The floods claimed the lives of three people, including a child and directly impacted an estimated 2,000 families. More than 1,000 shelters sustained damages.
- The poor drainage infrastructure exacerbated the situation, with floodwaters reaching 30-40 centimeters in some sites. This has intensified the suffering of vulnerable IDPs, deteriorating access to clean water and sanitation services.

### UNFPA Response

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#### Al Hodeidah, Hajjah, Al Mawhit and Raymah Governorate

- As of 14 August, a total of 60,081 individuals have been enrolled for RRM assistance and 44,772 people have been provided with emergency relief through the RRM.
- An inter-agency mission to Al Hodeidah with Representatives from UNFPA and OCHA to assess the flood impact and immediate needs is taking place from 13-15 August 2024.
- At present there is a shortage of immediate food rations (IRR) and basic hygiene kits in the Al Hodieda AoR, with coordination among UN agencies ongoing to receive items immediately to allow for scaling up of the response.
- Data collection and rapid needs assessments are ongoing to inform cluster-based second line responses.
- UNFPA supports 29 health facilities for the provision of reproductive health services in the three governorates, as well as 12 safe spaces for women and girls protection services.



#### Marib Governorate

- RRM teams have enrolled 4,200 families affected by the severe weather conditions. So far 724 families (5,068 individuals) have been provided with RRM kits since the onset of floods.
- UNFPA supports nine health facilities for the provision of reproductive health services in the three governorates, as well as five safe spaces for women and girls protection services.

### AlJawf Governorate

- Since 7 August, 2,009 individuals have been enrolled and assisted within the governorate through the RRM.
- UNFPA supports seven health facilities for the provision of reproductive health services in the Al Jawf and one safe space for women and girls protection services.

### Taizz Governorate

- The RRM teams assisted 969 families (6,783 individuals) affected by the heavy rains and flash floods.
- An inter-agency mission is planned for 17 August to further assess the impacts of the floods.
- UNFPA supports 17 health facilities for the provision of reproductive health services.
- UNFPA provides protection services for women and girls in five safe spaces..



### Sa'ada Governorate

- [RRM kits were distributed to 2,592 flood-affected families](#) (18,114 individuals) since July 2024.
- At present 556 complete RRM kits are available in warehouses.
- UNFPA supports eight health facilities for the provision of reproductive health services.
- UNFPA provides protection services for women and girls with support to one women and girls safe space.

## Urgent Needs for the Response

- Replenishment of RRM kits to assist 30,000 families.
- An estimated 150,000 blankets (5 blankets per family) are urgently needed to be distributed with the RRM kits, which would also cover winterization needs.
- Increase in the number of RRM teams to promptly respond to affected families.
- Enhancing logistical capacities for dispatching of RRM kits to ensure a prompt response.

## Challenges

- The limited supplies of RRM kits is hindering the response to the floods-affected families across governorates.
- The number of distribution and verification teams and logistical capacities available at present are limited to respond to the scale of humanitarian needs across the country.
- Damage to roads and infrastructure resulting from the flooding is impacting the reach of RRM teams especially in areas submerged in water.