



# Situation Report #03

## Humanitarian Crisis in Yemen



Photo: © UNFPA/Yemen

Country:	Yemen
Emergency type:	Conflict and natural disasters
Start Date of Crisis:	March, 2015
Date Issued:	Oct 23, 2024
Covering Period:	Jul 01, 2024 to Sept 30, 2024
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### Key Figures



**18.2 mill**

Total people affected



**4.5 mill**

Women of reproductive age



**406,825**

Estimated pregnant women



**2.9 mill**

People targeted with SRH services in 2024



**692,900**

People targeted with GBV programmes in 2024

### Highlights

- Exceptionally heavy seasonal rains have caused widespread damage and displacement across Yemen, worsening the already dire humanitarian crisis brought on by over nine years of conflict. More than 500,000 people have been affected since July 2024.

- The rapidly deteriorating situation across the Middle East, with attacks from and on Yemen, has damaged critical infrastructure in Al Hodeidah and Ras Issa and risks worsening Yemen's humanitarian crisis.
- Since January 2024, UNFPA's response has reached over 1.6 million individuals with life-saving reproductive healthcare, protection information and services and emergency relief, with support to 121 health facilities, 37 safe spaces, nine shelters and seven specialized mental health centres.

## Situation Overview

- After nine years of conflict, Yemen remains one of the world's largest humanitarian crises. **Over half of the country's population, 18.2 million people, require some form of humanitarian assistance in 2024.** They are bearing the brunt of conflict and displacement, protection concerns, climate emergency induced natural disasters, and economic deterioration.
- Against a backdrop of regional escalation, the humanitarian situation in Yemen continues to worsen, both in scale and severity. Food insecurity continues to rise. In August, an estimated 1.2 million people experienced critical levels of food insecurity – IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) – characterized by large food gaps and high levels of acute malnutrition. In addition, torrential rains in August 2024 led to localized flooding that devastated homes, disrupted agricultural activities, resulted in the loss of livestock and farmland and displaced nearly half a million people – mainly in parts of Marib, Al Hodeidah, Taiz and Ad Dhali<sup>1</sup>. Cholera also continues to spread. Since March this year, more than 203,000 suspected cases of cholera have been reported and more than 720 people have died. Women and girls account for 53 per cent of cholera cases.
- The deteriorating health system is struggling to provide basic healthcare services, especially reproductive health services in remote and underserved areas. **Only 45 percent of births are attended by trained personnel,** with significant disparities in health outcomes between urban and rural areas.
- The implementation of the humanitarian response continues to be challenged by limited humanitarian access, shrinking humanitarian space, security and bureaucratic impediments, and restrictions of the movement of female national staff, among others. A severe cash liquidity crisis across the country impacted the implementation of UNFPA supported activities in the third quarter with accelerated implementation planned for the fourth quarter as the liquidity crisis eases.

## UNFPA Response

### Reproductive Health

- UNFPA, in close coordination with local authorities and humanitarian partners, has been actively working to improve the delivery of maternal and neonatal health services. This includes the provision of reproductive health commodities, medicines, equipment and incentives to health care workers to ensure the sustained provision of reproductive health services.
- In response to the severe floods, UNFPA distributed essential medical supplies to 47 health facilities across multiple governorates to help flood-affected women and girls.



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.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ipcinfo.org/ipc-country-analysis/details-map/en/c/1157981/?iso3=YEM>

- Two mobile clinics, deployed in Marib governorate, provide an integrated package of reproductive health, medical consultations, nutrition services, and immunization to women and children in remote and underserved areas, including camps for displaced persons.
- UNFPA is supporting 60 midwifery students and 50 midwives operating out of home-based clinics to improve access to reproductive health services in remote and hard-to-reach areas.
- At present, 47 women are receiving treatment and care following surgical repairs for obstetric fistula at UNFPA-supported fistula centers in Sana'a and Aden Governorates. The most common cause of obstetric fistula is prolonged obstetric labor, which highlights the challenges pregnant women face in accessing appropriate and timely obstetric care in Yemen.
- UNFPA is continuing to invest in the provision of essential medical support services, such as medical counseling and referral services for reproductive health, in addition to the integration of women's protection services and reproductive health services, in order to enhance the overall quality of health service delivery.

### Women's Protection

- More than 22,951 women were reached with multisectoral GBV services through the UNFPA implemented case management system across 20 governorates, including 479 referrals to reproductive health services. Services provided include psychosocial support, specialized psychological services, medical assistance and legal aid.
- Thirty-seven safe spaces supported by UNFPA in 20 governorates continue to provide multi-sectoral protection services for women and girls, including life skills, vocational training and awareness raising. Nearly 4,000 women were supported with life skills and vocational training in the reporting period.
- Eight shelters, established by UNFPA in seven governorates, continue to provide GBV survivors with immediate shelter and safety to escape abuse and protection from further violence. In addition, life-saving GBV services are provided to ensure survivors' healing and recovery.
- During the quarter, more than 65,000 women, men, boys and girls were reached with awareness-raising sessions on a range of topics including GBV risk mitigation, prevention and response across 62 districts.
- From July to September, more than 100,000 people received mental health services through seven psychological care centers supported by UNFPA – over three quarters of them were GBV survivors.
- Continuing response challenges, particularly in the north, include restrictions on protection interventions for implementing partners and "Maharam" restrictions, where women must be accompanied by a close male family member to travel. This impacts both the delivery and access to GBV mitigation and response services.

### Young People

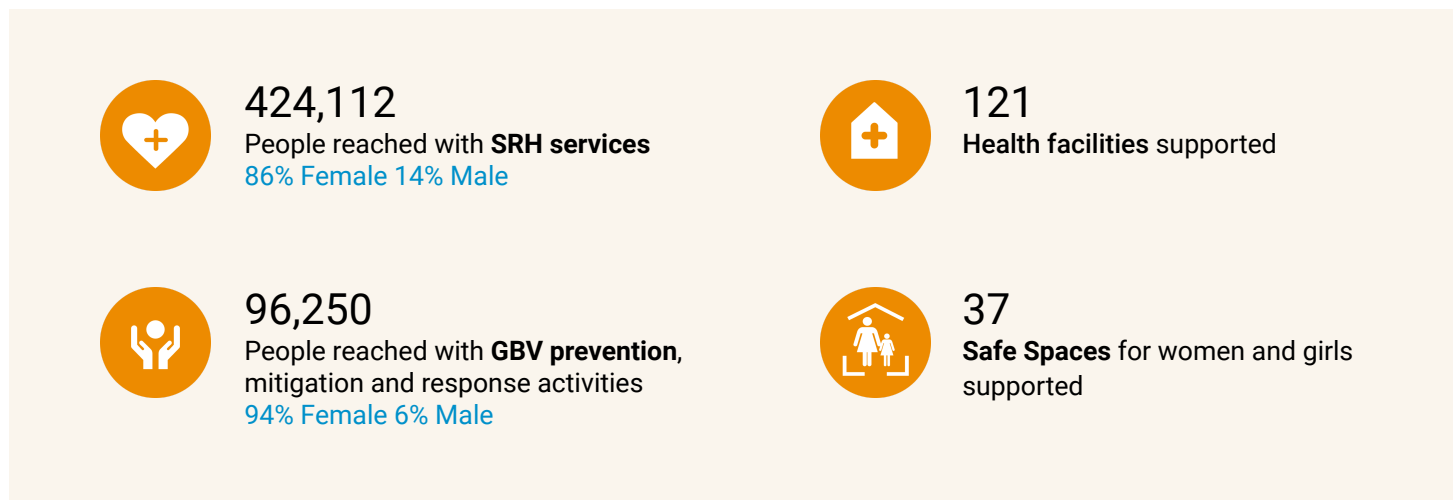
- Coordination and preparatory efforts were conducted for the establishment of three university-based youth health clinics, mobile youth health clinics, a youth training centre in Hadramout Governorate and implementation of youth peace and security initiatives.
- The implementation of planned activities was significantly impacted by the liquidity crisis facing Yemeni banks, thus affecting UNFPA's implementing partners and are to be accelerated in the fourth quarter.







### Rapid Response Mechanism

- From July to September 2024, the UNFPA-led multisectoral Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) delivered life-saving assistance to more than 350,000 individuals affected by conflict and natural disasters. Among those assisted, 98 percent were impacted by climate-induced events, while 2 percent were affected by the conflict. The RRM was activated within 24 to 72 hours of displacement alerts during the recent floods, delivering emergency relief to displaced and flood-affected families.

- Life-saving assistance provided through the RRM includes WFP food rations, UNICEF hygiene kits, and UNFPA dignity kits. Information collected during the RRM verification process helps to inform other coordinated responses among key partners, including cash and multi-sectoral assistance.

## Results Snapshots (July - September 2024)



	54,170	Dignity kits distributed to individuals
	3,170	People reached with Humanitarian Cash & Voucher Assistance for GBV and SRH
	2	Youth spaces supported by UNFPA
	9	Women's shelters supported by UNFPA
	7	Specialized psychological care centers supported by UNFPA
	2	Mobile reproductive health clinics supported by UNFPA

## Coordination Mechanisms

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### Women's Protection:

- UNFPA leads the Gender Based Violence Area of Responsibility (AoR) under the Protection Cluster with the Yemeni Women Union, a women-led organization as its Co-coordinator. The AoR operates at the national and sub-national level with presence in five UN hubs.
- UNFPA leads the implementation of core cluster functions bringing together partners working on women's protection, including UN agencies, international and national NGOs, among others. The AoR aims to address both immediate humanitarian service delivery and effective prevention and risk reduction strategies for women's protection.
- UNFPA also leads information gathering to inform strategic decisions related to prevention and mitigation of GBV through data collection, analysis and a dashboard. UNFPA leads the process of GBV humanitarian planning (Humanitarian Response Plan), implementation, resource mobilization, training and monitoring of activities under the GBV AoR

### Reproductive Health:

- UNFPA leads the Reproductive Health Working Group under the health cluster at the national and governorate level (coordinated through the UN hubs).
- UNFPA maintains a physical presence in all UN hubs, each staffed with a reproductive health coordinator, who leads the coordination of reproductive health interventions under the working group, provides technical support to implementing partners and conducts on-the-ground monitoring. This ensures adherence to quality standards, a commitment to the "leave no one behind" principle, while focusing on reaching the most vulnerable populations.

### Other working groups led by UNFPA

- UNFPA leads the UN Rapid Response Mechanism, a coordinated inter-agency platform that includes UNICEF, WFP, and IOM to deliver immediate, life-saving assistance to displaced families within 72 hours of a response triggered by conflict or climate induced disasters.
- UNFPA's role involves overseeing strategic coordination, resource mobilization, and the development of implementation strategies. UNFPA leads the flow of information, pre-positioning of supplies in collaboration with local authorities and humanitarian partners to ensure rapid response and data-driven planning.
- UNFPA also ensures the integration of protection and gender considerations into the RRM mechanism.

## Funding Status

In 2024, UNFPA appealed for US\$ 70 million in funding to maintain its critical support for women and girls aligning to the Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan.

UNFPA’s appeal for 2024 is currently 69 per cent funded.

Emergency funds totaling US\$ 500,000 were allocated by UNFPA’s Humanitarian Thematic Fund for UNFPA’s flood response in September 2024.

Donors to UNFPA’s humanitarian response in 2024 include Canada, CERF, European Union, Iceland, Japan, Netherlands, Norway and USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance.

