



HUMANITARIAN COUNTRY TEAM

COVID-19 PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE MONTHLY REPORT

JANUARY 2021

SITUATION OVERVIEW

In January, 22 new confirmed cases of COVID-19, 5 deaths and 32 recoveries were reported, bringing the total number of reported cases to 2,125, with 616 deaths and 1,428 recoveries. Health partners remain concerned that under-reporting continues for various reasons and that the official epi-curve underestimates the extent of COVID-19 in Yemen. Other factors that have had a negative impact on the COVID-19 response include a lack of adaptive behaviour by the population to reduce transmission, severe funding shortages for health workers and personal protective equipment (PPE) and long delays in importing COVID-19 response supplies. Partners continued working towards increasing surveillance; deploying dedicated COVID-19 staff within agencies; tracking the impact of the virus on routine priority health programmes; refining messaging to encourage behavioural change; and boosting intensive care unit (ICU) capacity. Partners have also been working to expand testing capacity through new technologies; to better characterize epidemiology; and to actively protect essential health services. Partners have begun to prepare for a second wave of COVID-19, including engaging with excluded and vulnerable groups to keep them safe and supporting essential health facilities to ensure they function throughout winter. In 2021, partners will promote COVID-19 vaccination, drawing on the global COVAX initiative, and improve the quality of care, especially at ICU level. The fuel and funding crisis risked exacerbating COVID-19 and the broader humanitarian response.

Number of COVID-19 Cases, Deaths, and Recoveries in Yemen



* Age disaggregation for cases and deaths is based on available data to WHO.



Number of COVID-19 Cases (Cumulative) Confirmed cases Deaths - Recovered 2,125 2 081 2 067 1.962 1,428 1.162 600 606 611 616 567 588 JUN APR MAY ALIG SEP OCT NOV DEC .IAN 2020 2021

COVID-19 Funding Status



\$270.5M 70%





SUPPRESSION

To suppress transmission of the virus, aid agencies continued Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) support. RCCE interventions supporting the integrated shielding initiative have started in Aden to ensure that populations and high-risk households have the knowledge and skills to apply COVID-19 prevention behaviors to reduce human to human transmission and protect the highest risk individuals from

The RCCE interventions included training of 65 community volunteers on interpersonal communication, community engagement and the shielding guidelines. The volunteers were then mobilized to lead engagement in communities in the targeted districts reaching 16,413 people through 2,600 house-to-house visits. The beneficiaries were provided with information on COVID-19 prevention and services, including the procedures to follow when someone has symptoms of the disease. The beneficiaries were also sensitized on the principles of shielding as well as disinfection and household-level infection prevention and control.

1.64 million

people reached in 45,000

community gatherings and

Over 40.692

calls to hotlines and radio

phone-ins

women social events

Number of people reached



16.5 million people reached through mass media



Community volunteers provide hygiene kits to families and members of Mother-to-Mother clubs

4.45 million engaged through house-to-house visits



people engaged on shielding and household infection prevention and control.

Mass media reach by Hub





3.6 million

people engaged through mosque events in 5,000 mosques



3.5 million people engaged through WhatsApp groups/trees created and managed by CVs,RLs,M2M members



students and parents reached through school health facilitators interventions in schools and at community level



Number of people reached in December: Safe water: 2.1 million Hygiene items: 159.6 k COVID-19 kits: 41.1 k

1.330

refugees participated in risk communication surveys in lbb, Hajjah & Al Hodeidah.

5.000



screenings were conducted at Kharaz Refugee Camp

2,695

17

hand-washing stations installed



water systems are being installed





SUPPLIES

The United Nations has procured more than 23,839 metric tons of medical equipment, testing kits and medicine from a highly competitive global market; 22,908 metric tons have already arrived in country and another 931 metric tons were in the pipeline at end of January. Still more is urgently needed, especially oxygen and personal protective equipment.







12,681 M³ arrived **87 M³** in pipeline



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SAVING LIVES

The UN and partners continue to work on expanding hospital capacity in key population centres. Aid agencies scaled up the number of intensive care units (ICUs) in COVID-19 designated hospitals from 38 to 59. In addition, partners are deploying two high capacity mobile field hospitals with nearly 100 beds and providing allowances to 9,000 frontline health care workers. In line with the COVID-19 strategy refresh, the focus was on triage, keeping patients and healthcare workers safe, referral pathways and capacity building.





SAFEGUARDING THE PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEM

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 for humanitarian partners. 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 women and malnourished children. In January, 2,779 health facilities continued to provide health services for malaria, and 956 health facilities provided cholera response services.

Throughout the COVID-19 crisis, Health Cluster partners and the private sector will safeguard the public health system by:

- Triaging acute and chronically ill people and treating them outside the 4,300 non-COVID health facilities.
- Maintaining provision of the Minimum Service Package in non-COVID health facilities.
- Providing essential medicines and vaccines to the people who need them the most, including cancer patients and children.
- Maintaining routine immunization activities and containing and responding to deadly disease outbreaks including cholera, diphtheria, dengue and malaria.
- Providing nutrition treatment to pregnant women and malnourished children.

