



Flash Update #1

Heavy rains and flash floods in Yemen

Photo: © UNFPA/Yemen

Country:	Yemen
Emergency type:	Climate disaster
Start Date of Crisis:	July , 2024
Date Issued:	8 August, 2024
Covering Period:	July 30, 2024 to August 08, 2024
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Highlights

- Heavy rains and flash flooding have caused significant damage and displacement across several areas in Yemen, with Sa'ada Al Hodeidah, Al Mahwit, Raymah and Taizz governorates being among the hardest hit areas; adding to the devastation and deteriorating humanitarian conditions resulting from over nine years of conflict.
- Urgent needs include emergency relief items, multi-purpose cash assistance, food assistance, non-food items, water and sanitation, clothing and protection of civilians and medical supplies to ensure the continuity of care, supply support, and health facility preparedness.
- The UNFPA-led multi-sectoral UN rapid response mechanism (RRM) has been immediately activated in the affected areas to provide emergency relief to displaced and flood-affected families.
- The RRM received an alert that 8,889 households (62,223 individuals) have been affected by the devastating floods in several governorates.
- As of 8 August 2024, the RRM has verified 2,147 households (15,009 individuals) and assisted 1,731 households (12,117 individuals). The verification process is ongoing in all governorates.

Situation Overview

Al Hodeidah, Hajjah, Al Mawhit and Raymah Governorate

- In Al Hodeidah Governorate the flooding has impacted 20 districts, affecting a total of 5,392 families based on reports from local authorities. The most severely affected districts include Al Marawa'ah, Al Zaidiyah, Al Qanawis, Zabid, Al Hawak, and Az Zuhrah, where hundreds of homes and livelihoods have been damaged or destroyed. The confirmed damages total 5,172 across the governorate, with 31 reported deaths and 5 people missing.
- Hajjah Governorate has also experienced significant flooding, with widespread damage reported across several districts, particularly in Abs, Hajjah City, Mustaba, Qulf Shamer and Kuaydinah. Thousands of families have been displaced, and there have been significant agricultural losses. In the Aflah Al-Yemen District, 15 families suffered total damage, and one person was seriously injured. In the Khayran Al-Maharaq District, 10 houses suffered total damage.
- 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 2,800 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 Referral Hospital however all currently 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.
- Schools have been temporarily closed and requested by local authorities to host families displaced by the flooding in Al Hodeidah Governorate.
- In Al Mahwit Governorate, the flooding has been severe, 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.



Taizz Governorate

- On 2nd August severe 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. Local authorities reported 70 buried drinking water wells, 350 washed away palm trees and mango farms, and significant damage to community assets including farms, solar pumps, generators, houses, a graveyard, a mosque, and 13 homes.
- Assessment teams noted road access difficulties due to damaged roads caused by heavy flooding, hindering response efforts.

Sa'ada Governorate

- On 23 July, Sa'ada Governorate in north Yemen experienced heavy rainfall and torrential 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, and 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

Al Hodeidah, Hajjah, Al Mawhit and Raymah Governorate

- By 8 August 2024, a total of 1,560 families (10,920 Individuals) were provided emergency relief through the RRM. This includes, 6,797 individuals from Al Hodeidah, 3,976 individuals in Hajjah, 665 individuals from Al Mahwit and Raymah.
- Data collection and rapid needs assessment is to be conducted immediately and shared for cluster-based second line responses.
- At present there is a shortage of WFP provided immediate food rations (IRR) and basic hygiene kits, with coordination among UN agencies ongoing to receive items immediately to allow for scaling up of the response.
- The RRM teams face challenges in accessing affected people due to severely damaged road infrastructure.
- The flooding has led to the erosion of landmines and unexploded ordnance from frontline to civilian areas, posing serious safety issues for affected people and for RRM teams providing relief.
- 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.



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.

Taizz Governorate

- The RRM teams assisted 154 families (1,078 individuals) affected by the heavy rains and flash floods.
- UNFPA supports 17 health facilities for the provision of reproductive health services.
- UNFPA provides protection services for women and girls with support to women and girls safe spaces.

Sa'ada Governorate

- The [RRM kits were distributed to 284 flood-affected families](#) in (1,989 individuals).
- At present 1,000 RRM kits are available in warehouses. An additional 3,000 kits are required to respond to further alerts in the immediate future in Sa'ada and Al Jawf Governorates.
- 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.