

ISSUE #09 | 12 OCTOBER 2021

FLASH UPDATE

ESCALATION AND RESPONSE IN MARIB GOVERNORATE



43,666 displaced people registered



42,763 people assisted with the Rapid Response Mechanism



108,873 displaced people assisted with reproductive health services



41,317 displaced persons assisted with women's protection services

SITUATION UPDATE

Intense fighting continues across frontline areas in Marib Governorate, with hostilities particularly rife in Sirwah, Rahabah, Mahilyah, and Al Abidyah Districts. Since the start of the escalation in January 2021, nearly 44,000 people have been displaced.

In Al Abdiyah District of Marib where clashes are currently ongoing, nearly 4,000 families are estimated to be stranded within the frontlines. Severe shortage of medical supplies and other essential commodities in the district are being reported with no humanitarian access to the area.

Recent escalation in fighting across five districts bordering Al Bayda and Marib Governorates led to more displacement. The situation remains volatile with further displacements expected given the shifting frontlines.

An estimated 70 percent of those newly displaced are women. Urgent needs as reported by partners include medical supplies, additional food assistance, non-food items, clothing and protection of civilians still trapped between frontlines.

With continued fighting, more civilians are expected to continue to flee towards the east of Sirwah, Rhabah, Al Jubah, Hareeb Districts and into Marib City and Hadramout Governorate, where IDP sites are already crowded and response capacities overstretched.



RRM distribution in Marib and mobile reproductive health clinics in operation.

UNFPA RESPONSE

RAPID RESPONSE MECHANISM

UNFPA continues to provide immediate assistance to those newly displaced in Marib through the activation of the Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM). UNFPA's RRM partner Building Foundation for Development is responding in five additional districts in Marib, which include Rahbah, Mahaliyah, Jabal Murad, Al Juban and Abdiyah Districts. BFD is also the RRM partner in Sirwah district and Al Bayda Governorate.

Since January 2021, the RRM has enrolled 43,663 individuals and assisted 42,763 of those displaced within Marib and to other governorates. Most of those displaced have been enrolled through the UNFPA-run dashboard, with the beneficiary lists passed on to the multi-purpose cash assistance partner, IOM, general food assistance partner, WFP and OCHA.

Currently, 3,000 RRM kits are being transported from Aden to Marib to be prepositioned at the Marib City sub-central warehouse. In addition, 2,000 kits are to be transported from Sana'a to Al Bayda sub-central warehouse within the coming week.

A shortage of ready-to-eat food rations at present is limiting the RRM in fully serving the needs of newly displaced families from the escalation in Marib.

The RRM provides immediate life-saving assistance to newly displaced households. This includes, ready to eat food provided by WFP, hygiene kits provided by UNICEF and women transit kits provided by UNFPA.

HOUSEHOLDS ASSISTED BY RRM 1 JAN - OCT 2021

GOVERNORATE	REGISTERED	ASSISTED
Marib	4,310	4,279
Al Jawf	1,032	1,023
Amran	33	33
Hadramaut	12	12
Al Bayda	74	74
Abyan	2	2
Lahj	1	1
Sana'a	459	459
Amanat Al Asimah	79	77
Dhamar	23	23
Taizz	58	57
Raymah	86	0
Al Maharah	1	1
Ibb	2	2
Al Hudaydah	1	1
Al Dhale'e	19	19
Shabwah	47	46
	6,239	6,118

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

Large-scale displacement continues to increase the demand for emergency reproductive health services in Marib and surrounding areas. Six integrated reproductive health and protection mobile teams are operational in frontline areas of Marib and Al Jawf. Eight health facilities are being supported by UNFPA to provide comprehensive and basic emergency reproductive health services, including normal deliveries and caesarean sections. UNFPA has also resumed its support to three key hospitals in Shabwa Governorate following the recent escalation in fighting in Marib that extended to Shabwa.

Since January 2021, 108,879 persons were provided with reproductive health services. This includes 16,509 individuals reached through mobile clinics and 92,370 individuals reached through health facilities. Since March, UNFPA has mobilized 50 community midwives in Marib. To date, the midwives have provided 15,510 women of childbearing age with reproductive health assistance. In addition, nearly 13,613 people were informed on COVID-19 prevention through awareness-raising sessions conducted by the midwives.

UNFPA delivered medical supplies to districts in Marib, Al Bayda and Shabwa Governorate. The delivery of medical supplies to Al Abdiya district, where a large number of families are stranded is pending clearances by government authorities.

With limited funding and rising needs resulting from the escalating hostilities in Marib and surrounding areas, UNFPA continues to prioritize its interventions, targeting acute needs in health facilities close to frontline areas, particularly along the borders of Marib and Al Bayda.

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

UNFPA supports four women and girls' safe spaces in Marib and Al Jawf and six mobile outreach teams to address the protection needs of displaced women and girls from Marib. The operations at the safe space in Hareeb District were stalled due to recent fighting and will resume once the hostilities ease.

A women's shelter, which was urgently needed in Marib has now been established, hosting 30 women at present. UNFPA-supported safe spaces in Al Bayda and Sana'a Governorate are also assisting women displaced from Marib. The services provided through these facilities include psychological first aid, legal assistance, psychosocial support, awareness on COVID-19 prevention, medical help, dignity kits, livelihood training, safe accommodation, and referral to other services.

Since January 2021, mobile teams and safe spaces have assisted 41,317 individuals. Trainings for service providers from health facilities, mobile teams and RRM distribution points in Marib and Al Jawf took place in September to ensure the full integration and referral of women's protection services with other services.