Flash Update

Escalation and Response in Marib, Al Jawf and Sana’a Governorates

Following military operations that escalated on 19 January 2020 within Marib, Sana’a and Al Jawf Governorates the humanitarian situation continues to deteriorate in these governorates.

From 19 January to date, humanitarian partners report that over 5,000 families have been forced to flee armed clashes in Nihm District in Sana’a Governorate, Sirwah District in Marib Governorate and Al Ghayl, Al Hazm and Al Maton districts in Al Jawf Governorate. The actual number of IDPs is likely to be much higher as most people have sought refuge with host communities.

The majority of those who have been displaced are in Marib City and the surrounding area living in overcrowded public buildings, IDP sites and with the host community. In addition, an estimated 700 families are scattered in Nihm and Bani Hushaysh districts in Sana’a Governorate.

To date, 3,578 newly displaced households (25,046 individuals) have been identified by the Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) partners, with reportedly increasing displacement.

Urgent needs as reported by partners include additional food assistance, non-food items, clothing and protection of civilians still trapped between the frontlines.

RRM distribution and mobile reproductive health teams at displaced camps in Marib and Al Jawf Governorates
UNFPA RESPONSE

RAPID RESPONSE MECHANISM

From 19 January to 22 February, RRM partners (BFD, IOM, IRY and YARD) have confirmed 3,578 displaced households in 20 districts across five governorate due to the recent upsurge in violence in Marib.

Of the households displaced, 3,311 households received RRM kits. The average response time was between 48 and 72 hours of displacements.

RRM partners were able to deploy mobile teams to verify, and provide on-the-spot assistance to those newly displace.

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.

UNFPA has dispatched additional RRM kits for the timely response to a possible influx of IDPs.

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

UNFPA supports health facilities providing reproductive health services that include assistance for normal deliveries and cesarean sections. The UNFPA-supported facilities in Al Jawf Governorate (operated through CSSW and ADRA) and Marib Governorate (operated through BFD) reported an increase in emergency reproductive health cases in the past month. The death toll is not confirmed yet.

Mobile reproductive health teams were deployed since 26 January through UNFPA partner BFD in Marib. Additional teams were deploy in Al Jawf since 1 February through UNFPA partner CSSW. The teams serve newly displaced persons in collective sites. To date, 4,415 displaced persons have been provided with essential reproductive health services and others referred to relevant services.

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

Mobile outreach teams were deployed by UNFPA partner CSSW in both Marib and Al Jawf. The teams identified urgent needs related to food, shelter, non-food items, WASH, health and protection. They also identified the current entrapment of civilians between the frontlines.

With UNFPA support, UNFPA-partner CSSW has deployed mobile response teams to assist newly displaced women and girls. The teams are providing psychological first aid and transit kits; identifying most vulnerable women and girls and referring them to relevant services. To date, the teams have assisted 1,205 families and 1,839 individuals.

UNFPA is supporting two women and girls safe spaces in Marib and one in Al Hazm district in Al Jawf. Visits to these safe spaces increased by 50 percent in the past month.