

SITUATION UPDATE

The situation in and around Marib remains volatile. Renewed fighting since the start of the year across parts of western, northern and southern Marib displaced more people mainly into Sirwah, Marib City and Marib Al Wadi districts.

The most recent escalation in hostilities has hit people in Sirwah district the hardest. Since early February 2021, more than 1,000 households are confirmed as being displaced from conflict-affected areas in Sirwah. More people are expected to be displaced in the coming days as fighting escalates in and around Sirwah.

Two UNFPA-supported health facilities in Sirwah district were shut down as a result of the clashes with services shifting to Al Rawdah district.

The newly displaced are some of the most vulnerable; with an estimated 70 per cent being women. Urgent needs as reported by partners include additional food assistance, non-food items, clothing and protection of civilians still trapped between frontlines.

Since January 2020, fighting in Marib, Al Jawf and Sana'a governorates has displaced some 18,424 families (128,968 people).

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FLASH UPDATE

ESCALATION AND RESPONSE IN MARIB GOVERNORATE



1,341 displaced households registered



1,271 households assisted with Rapid Response Mechanism



5,222 displaced people assisted with reproductive health services



1,993 displaced persons assisted with protection services



RRM distribution, mobile reproductive health teams at displaced camps and women's safe space in Marib.

UNFPA RESPONSE

RAPID RESPONSE MECHANISM REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

UNFPA has been able 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 Yemen (BFD) 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 and Al Bayda Governorate, giving them easier access to some of the newly accessible areas.

From 1 January to 20 February 2021, 1,341 households were registered, and 1,271 households assisted with RRM kits. The pending caseload of 70 households is to be covered within a day or two. Most of those displaced has 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, 2,000 RRM kits are positioned in Marib for distribution, with 1,000 kits positioned in the central warehouse in Marib.

RRM partners are responding with an average response time between 48 to 72 hours from the onset of displacement.

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.

A total of US\$1.5 million is required for the RRM response in Marib for the next six months.

RRM ASSISTANCE 1 JAN. - 20 FEB. 2021

GOVN.	DISTRICT	REGISTERED	ASSISTED	TO BE ASSISTED
Marib	Sirwah	454	437	17
Marib	Marib City	390	351	39
Marib	Al Wadi	112	98	14
Marib	Harib	22	22	0
Marib	Al Juban	161	161	0
Al Jawf	Al Hamz	95	95	0
Al Jawf	Al Kalaq	7	7	0
Al Jawf	Bart Anan	2	2	0
Al Jawf	Kabwashaf	57	57	0
Al Jawf	Rajuzah	41	41	0
		1,341	1,271	70

Large-scale displacement in recent weeks has resulted in an increase in the number of women requiring emergency reproductive health services in Marib and surrounding areas. Currently, two mobile reproductive health teams are operational in frontline areas of Marib.

From 1 January to 20 February, 5,222 displaced persons were provided with reproductive health services by the mobile teams. The teams also provide referrals to other services and awareness on COVID-19 prevention and mitigation among pregnant and breastfeeding mothers.

UNFPA currently supports four health facilities in Marib that includes assistance for normal deliveries and cesarean sections. Following recent clashes leading to the closure of UNFPA-supported health facilities in Sirwah, UNFPA shifted reproductive health services to Al Rawdhah Health Centre. UNFPA has also commenced the transfer of 51 reproductive health kits from Aden to Marib. These kits would reach an estimated 420,000 people with essential reproductive health services.

Reproductive health services in other health facilities in the governorate were suspended due to the shortage of funding. As fighting escalates in Marib and surrounding areas, additional mobile teams are needed to reach those newly displaced with emergency reproductive health services.

UNFPA requires US\$3.5 million to continue the provision of lifesaving reproductive health services in Marib for the next six months.

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

Two women and girls safe spaces and two mobile outreach teams are being operated by UNFPA partner Human Access in Marib. The safe spaces and outreach teams provide psychological first aid, legal assistance, psychosocial support medical help, transit kits, and referral to other services. During the reporting period, mobile outreach teams assisted 1,993 individuals.

There is an urgent need to expand women's protection services within displaced camps. The number of mobile outreach teams need to be increased immediately to meet rising protection needs. Urgent support is also needed to establish a women's shelter in Marib. These will be possible if more funding becomes available.

To continue and expand the provision of women's protection services, US\$1.5 million is required for the next six months.