

This report is produced by OCHA in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It is issued by the OCHA Yemen office. The next report will be issued when additional information on the emergency becomes available.

I. Situation Overview

ESCALATED ARMED CONFLICT IN AL HUDAYDAH GOVERNORATE

Armed conflict has intensified in Al Hudaydah Governorate. An increase in airstrikes, naval and ground shelling has resulted in scores of civilian casualties as well as damage to civilian infrastructure in several districts and in Al Hudaydah City. No changes are reported in areas of control or along major frontlines. Due to the ongoing fighting, overland access to Al Hudaydah remains limited to the northern entrance as the route via Kilo 16 to the east of the city remains inaccessible.

On 13 October, two minibuses carrying civilians were struck in Jabal Ras District, killing at least 15 people and injuring 20 others. Humanitarian agencies and the Ministry of Health rushed the injured people to Zabid and Bait Al Faqiah hospitals. Health partners are supporting the two hospitals, including through the provision of ambulances. Data compiled by WHO from health facilities shows that 170 people have been killed in Al Hudaydah and 1,700 others injured since June 2018. The actual number of casualties is likely to be much higher.

Humanitarian situation

Conditions remain difficult for civilians in Al Hudaydah City. Electricity is only available from expensive private providers. Humanitarian partners report that most health facilities are operating at reduced levels, though 11 in Al Hudaydah and one in Hajjah Governorates have suspended services due to ongoing military operations. Renal and diabetic patients are at particular risk because of the care and medicines they require. Access to reproductive health services has deteriorated.

Non-payment of monthly salaries is driving more doctors and essential medical staff to leave their positions at public health facilities in Al Hudaydah City. The only two oncologists at the Almal Cancer Treatment Centre have left.

School admissions in Al Hudaydah City for 2018 to 2019 have been extended to mid-October due to the low number of pupils registered since the start of September. Most public schools in the city are open, but many families are reluctant to send their children to

Fighting and airstrikes continue in various locations in At Tuhayat, Bayt al Faqiah and Ad Durayhimi districts and in Al Hudaydah City. From 3 to 10 October, 19 airstrikes were reported in several districts, hitting multiple locations. The fighting has damaged health facilities, houses and a factory in Ad Durayhimi and At Tuhayat districts. In Al Hudaydah City, fighting continued around Kilo 16 and the road to Sana'a. WFP was unable to access the Red Sea Mills, where 51,000 metric tonnes (MT) of wheat is stored, enough to feed 3.7 million people for one month.

Since June 2018, more than 425,000 people have been forced to flee their homes in Al Hudaydah Governorate. Humanitarian partners report that some families state that they are trapped by the military operations and want to leave, but do not have money to pay for transport. Recent fuel price increases, fewer vehicles on the roads and security concerns have hiked the transport cost to Sana'a from 3,000 Yemeni rial (YER) to 6,000YER.

school because of the security situation. Non-payment of salaries and displacement of teachers to areas outside the city has further affected the education system.



Mohammed and his family fled Al Hudaydah and sought shelter in a safer location.
©UNHCR/ Shadi Abusneida

Economic impact

The value of the Yemeni rial has sharply declined in Al Hudaydah City in the last few weeks. The unofficial

exchange rate strengthened from 720YER/US\$ to 705YER/US\$ before sliding down again to 732YER/US\$.

Oxfam reports that in shops food prices have risen by 20 to 23 per cent due to the fluctuating currency and profiteering by traders.

Shortages of fuel supplies and cooking gas persist in local markets in the four governorates of Al Hudaydah,

Hajjah, Raymah and Al Mahwit. Black market prices have risen almost 200 per cent above the official rate of 11,500YER for 20 litres of fuel, which was set by the Yemen Petroleum Company before the recent escalation in military operations across Al Hudaydah Governorate.

Sea ports

Al Hudaydah and Saleef sea ports are operational. During the period 7-10 October, six commercial vessels berthed at the two ports - four at Al Hudaydah and two at Saleef - carrying a total of 146,277 metric tons (MT) of fuel, wheat grains, soya and other commercial supplies.

In September, 26 commercial vessels berthed and discharged supplies in both sea ports, a 13 per cent increase compared with August when 23 vessels discharged cargo. Food supplies discharged at the ports were up by 54 per cent in September; a total of 434,351 MT was discharged compared to 146,613 MT in August.

III. Humanitarian Response

Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM)

Since June, Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) partners have identified a total of 71,212 displaced families from Al Hudaydah Governorate hosted in Al Hudaydah, Hajjah, Raymah and Al Mahwit governorates and 62,375 have received assistance. This includes 16,985 families who received multi-purpose cash transfers, 19,780 families who received non-food item (NFI) packages and 7,788 families who received emergency shelter kits (ESKs).



Despite the dire situation, humanitarian workers are working hard to assist as many people as possible. ©WFP-MENA

In response to a spike in reported suspected cholera cases, UNICEF and WHO, working with local health authorities, launched a second oral vaccination campaign in Al Hali and Al Marawi'ah districts in Al Hudaydah, and in Hazm Al Udayn District in Ibb Governorate. The campaign reached more than 300,000 people across the districts. Currently, seven diarrhea treatment centres are operational in six districts in Al Hudaydah Governorate. In Al Tuhayat District, the local health unit in Almaghris has resumed operations after it closed in September due to military operations.

UNHCR, working with a local implementing partner, completed the construction of 300 transitional shelters in internally displaced person (IDP) settlements in the Abs District of Hajjah. UNHCR, again working through a local partner, is also supporting six IDP settlements in Abs District while the Norwegian Refugee Council is supporting three other sites in the area.

In Hajjah Governorate, WFP's blanket food distribution for an estimated 16,000 families living in Aslem District is ongoing. As of 10 October, 13,045 households (78,270 individuals) had received food assistance. WFP is in the process of dispatching nutritional supplies to health units in Al Khawkhah District. Preparations are underway to dispatch nutritional supplies to Hays District; however, access and delivery of humanitarian supplies to both districts remains a challenge.

IV. Cluster response



SHELTER/NON-FOOD ITEMS/CAMP COORDINATION & CAMP MANAGEMENT

Response:

- UNHCR is distributing NFIs to 2,973 families and enhanced emergency shelter kits (EESKs) to 1,853 families in As Sukhnah District.
- In Abs District, the Danish Refugee Council has started the distribution of EESKs to 199 displaced families. The kits will provide families with critical lifesaving items.

- In Aden, the second meeting of the Sub-National Cluster was held to enhance coordination of interventions in critical IDP hosting sites in Aden and Lahj governorates.
- UNHCR completed the transfer of cash grants for rental subsidies for 52 families displaced to Aden and Lahj governorates, preventing eviction and enabling families to continue living in their preferred shelter type.
- Most of the schools that hosted displaced families from Al Hudaydah in Amanat Al Asimah and Dhamar were vacated; 376 families received cash grants for rental subsidies while seven will be assisted once they find houses to rent.



Schools in Al Hudaydah city are open but many parents fear to send children to attend class. ©UNICEF

- A total of 96 families who fled from Al Hudaydah settled in Amran. A UNHCR partner assisted 43 families with NFIs and 436 families with cash grants for rental subsidies.
- ADRA is distributing NFIs to 720 families and tents to 301 families in Dhamar Governorate with stocks donated by DFID.



LOGISTICS CLUSTER

Response:

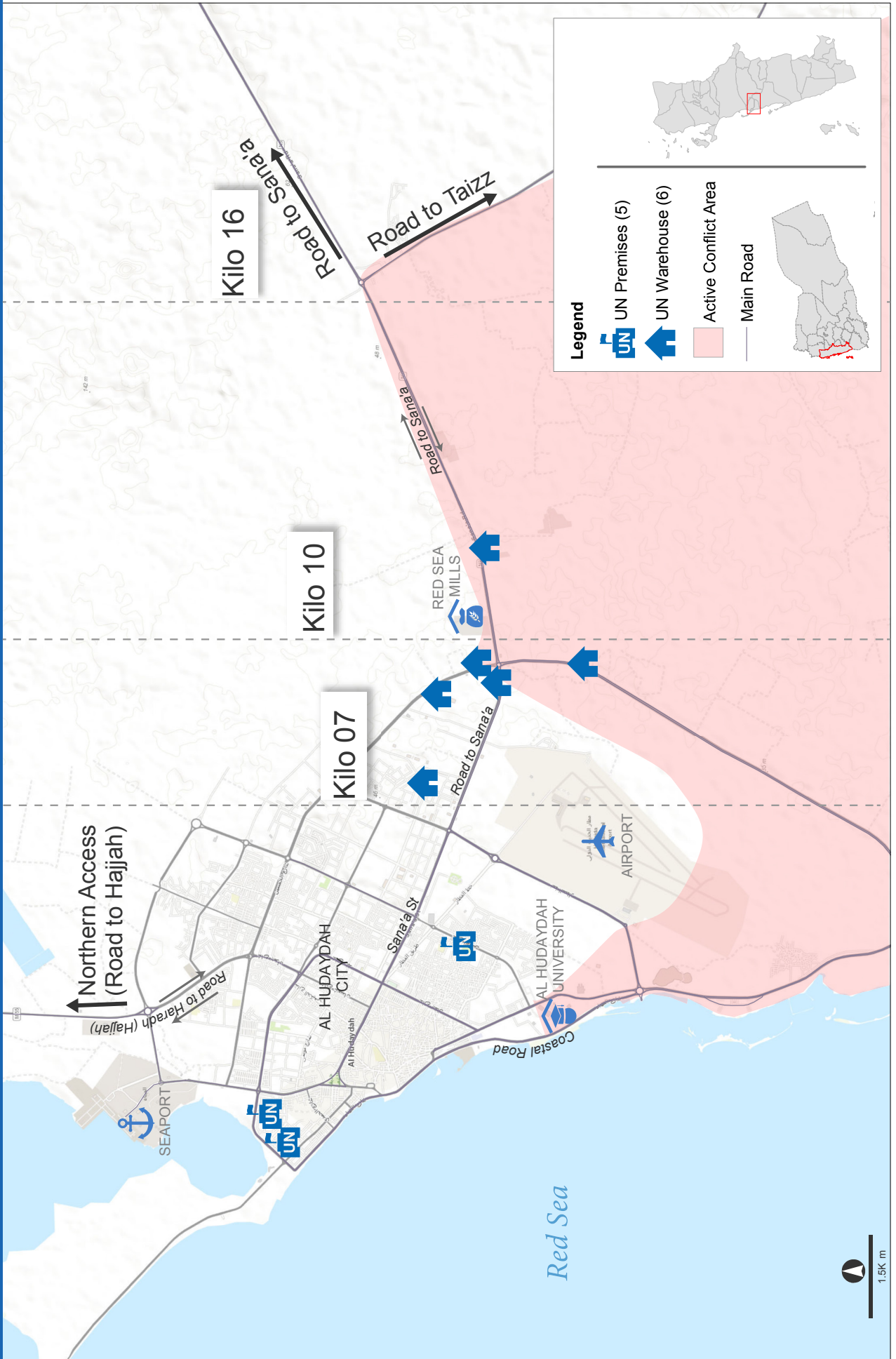
- RRM deliveries for Phase 9 are in the final stages.
- Phase 10 deliveries have already started in five districts in Al Hudaydah, Hajjah and Raymah governorates. Deliveries to remaining districts will start once the kits are available at the Logistics Cluster warehouse in Bajil; available kits are being loaded for delivery.
- Fuel deliveries to organisations that requested fuel in Al Hudaydah are expected to start by the end of the week.



WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE CLUSTER

Response:

- As part of the cholera response, the water supply network is being rehabilitated and water is being supplied through trucking in Al Hali District.
- Water is trucked and supplied to 5,238 households in Abs, Aslem and Ku'aydinah districts in Hajjah Governorate.
- Nine water monitors will oversee the delivery of water in At Tawilah in Hajjah.
- UNICEF, working with ACF, is trucking water to IDPs from Al Hudaydah in Foquam centre in Alburaiqa District in Aden. Solidarités International is also trucking water to IDPs.
- UNICEF and ACF distributed hygiene kits to 53 displaced households in Foquam.
- Rehabilitation of water points that supply 5,066 people is ongoing in Bani Sa'd, Badh Al Sofla, Bani Emarah in Al Mahwit Governorate.
- A total of 44,520 litres of water was distributed in Bani Ali and Bani Hamad in Bani Sa'd District in Al Mahwit.
- A partner provided 1,500 basic hygiene kits to IDPs, mainly in Alribat camp in Hays.
- UNICEF and a partner are trucking water for 30 water points in Hays District.



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations

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