



# Situation Report #1

## Humanitarian Crisis in Yemen

Country:	Yemen
Emergency type:	Conflict and natural disasters
Start Date of Crisis:	March, 2015
Date Issued:	April 29, 2025
Covering Period:	Jan 1, 2025 to March 31, 2025
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### Key Figures



<sup>1</sup> [Yemen Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan 2025 \(January 2025\)](#)

<sup>2</sup> Estimated figures are based on the Minimum Initial Services Package for Sexual and Reproductive Health in Humanitarian Settings (MISP) calculator.

## Highlights

- March 2025 marked a decade since the conflict escalated in Yemen. The conflict has decimated Yemen's economy, healthcare system, and infrastructure. In 2025, an estimated 19.5 million people need humanitarian assistance and protection services – 1.3 million more than last year.
- The ongoing regional tensions, attacks in the Red Sea and airstrikes on northern parts of the country pose grave risks to the already dire humanitarian situation in the country, and further endanger the vital flow of food, fuel, and medical supplies, including essential reproductive health commodities that support life-saving care for millions of women and girls.
- Lack of funding to UNFPA's response in Yemen risks cutting off life-saving services for 1.5 million women and girls and reversing hard won progress in reproductive health and women's protection, if funding shortages persist.
- In the first quarter of 2025, UNFPA reached more than 450,000 people with life-saving reproductive healthcare, protection information and services, and emergency relief, supporting 126 health facilities, 44 safe spaces, eight shelters, six youth spaces, and five specialized mental health centres.

## Situation Overview

- Women and girls continue to be disproportionately impacted by the humanitarian crisis as highlighted in the [Yemen Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan for 2025](#). They face severe protection risks, as well as limited access to basic services such as healthcare, especially maternal and reproductive care.
- **In 2025, an estimated 6.2 million women and girls are at risk of gender-based violence**, while over 90 per cent of rural areas lack the necessary prevention and response services.
- **In 2025, nearly 5 million women of childbearing age, including pregnant and breastfeeding women, are projected to face challenges accessing reproductive health services**, especially in rural and frontline districts, with a maternal mortality rate of 183 per 100,000 births. This is due to the non-availability of specialized female doctors, nurses and midwives, insufficient essential medical supplies, and limited access to services. Restrictions on the movement of female aid workers across governorates has further compounded the situation in northern areas.
- Yemen's healthcare system remains extremely overstretched. Some **40 per cent of Yemen's health facilities are partially functioning or completely out of service** due to shortages in staff, electricity, medicines and equipment, and funding; leaving millions without adequate care. **Only one in five functioning facilities is able to provide maternal and child health services.**
- Climate-related shocks are compounding the vulnerabilities faced by women and girls. **Yemen is among the world's most vulnerable countries to climate change, and among the least prepared to mitigate or adapt to its impacts.**<sup>3</sup> Around half of Yemen's population is exposed to at least one significant climate hazard, such as extreme heat, drought or flooding. For women and girls, the fallout of extreme weather conditions has wide-ranging and life-threatening consequences.



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.

<sup>3</sup> The [INFORM Risk Index](#) ranks Yemen as the fourth most at-risk country globally to humanitarian crises and disasters, and as the third most vulnerable to climate change.

- The implementation of the humanitarian response, especially for UNFPA, continues to be challenged by lack of funding, limited humanitarian access, restrictions on the movement of female national staff, and security and bureaucratic impediments.

## UNFPA Response

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### Reproductive Health

- UNFPA, in close coordination with local authorities and humanitarian partners, is focused on improving the delivery of maternal and neonatal health services to those most in need. This includes the provision of reproductive health supplies, medicines, cash assistance, equipment, and incentives for healthcare workers to ensure the sustained provision of services.
- In total, more than 388,000 women and girls were reached with reproductive health services. This includes 22,000 safe deliveries and over 5,000 emergency cesareans supported, as well as 44,000 people reached with family planning services, and 77,000 women with pre and postnatal care.
- UNFPA supported 126 health facilities, including 66 facilities providing comprehensive emergency obstetric care and 60 providing basic emergency obstetric and neonatal care. With only one in five functional health facilities providing obstetric care services across Yemen, these facilities are a lifeline for women of childbearing age.
- In order to improve the quality of service delivery, UNFPA continues to support health institutes with pre-service training for students, with on-the-job training for 100 midwives (60 from the north and 40 from the south), as well as anatomical models for training..
- Two mobile clinics have been deployed to Marib Governorate, providing an integrated package of reproductive health, medical consultations, nutrition services, and immunizations for women and children in remote and underserved areas, including camps for displaced people.
- 36 women are receiving treatment and care following surgical repairs for obstetric fistula at two UNFPA-supported fistula centres in Sana'a and Aden Governorates. The most common cause of obstetric fistula is lack of access to comprehensive emergency obstetric care when women experience prolonged labor, highlighting the challenges pregnant women face in obtaining skilled and timely obstetric care in Yemen.
- UNFPA is continuing to invest in the provision of essential medical support services, such as medical counseling and referral services for reproductive health, in addition to the integration of women's protection and reproductive health services, in order to enhance the overall quality of health service delivery.

### Women's Protection

- A total of 19,435 women were reached with multisectoral services through the UNFPA-implemented case management system across 20 governorates. Services provided include psychosocial support, specialized psychological services, medical assistance, and legal aid.
- Eight shelters, established by UNFPA in seven governorates, continue to provide gender-based violence (GBV) survivors with immediate shelter and safety to escape abuse and protection from further violence. In addition, life-saving protection services are provided to ensure survivors' healing and recovery.
- More than 44,000 individuals (97% women and girls) were supported with essential life skills and vocational training, fostering their independence and potential for economic empowerment.
- Awareness-raising sessions on GBV risk mitigation and prevention reached 33,000 women, men, boys and girls. This included the participation of religious leaders and public figures that helped to strengthen community engagement in women's protection.
- Mental health services were provided to nearly 62,000 people through five UNFPA-supported specialized mental health and psychosocial support centres, with a significant proportion being GBV survivors.
- UNFPA continued to drive advocacy for the prevention of child marriage and female genital mutilation through strategic collaborations with grassroots networks, religious leaders, men's groups, women's networks, and university

peer groups, thereby fostering sustainable and community-led change. Notably, in the north, UNFPA spearheaded the establishment of a national committee consisting of ten judges and 38 legal trustees to advocate against child marriage and referral of cases to UNFPA’s partners. This initiative has led to expediting child marriages cases in court and the prevention of more than 12 child marriages.

- Ongoing response challenges, particularly in the north, include restrictions on protection interventions for implementing partners and “Maharam” restrictions, where women must be accompanied by a close male family member to travel.

### Young People

- In the first quarter, 3,034 young people were reached with reproductive health information and services, awareness sessions, psychosocial support, and skills building through four youth mobile clinics, operational in Aden, Ta’izz, and Hadramout Governorates.

### Rapid Response Mechanism

- From January to March 2025, the UNFPA-led multisectoral Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) delivered life-saving assistance to 3,815 individuals across eight governorates. Among those assisted, 93 per cent of them were displaced by conflict.

## Results Snapshots (January - March 2025)

	<p><b>388,590</b> People reached with <b>reproductive health services</b> 85% Female, 15% Male</p>		<p><b>126</b> Health facilities supported</p>
	<p><b>58,490</b> People reached with <b>GBV prevention, mitigation and response</b> activities 95% Female, 5% Male</p>		<p><b>44</b> <b>Safe Spaces</b> for women and girls supported</p>

	1,931	Dignity kits distributed to individuals
	1,286	People reached with cash and voucher assistance for women’s protection and reproductive health
	6	Youth spaces and youth health clinics supported by UNFPA

	8	Women’s shelters supported by UNFPA
	5	Specialized psychological care centres supported by UNFPA
	3	Mobile reproductive health clinics supported by UNFPA

## Coordination Mechanisms

### Women’s Protection:

- UNFPA leads the Gender-Based Violence Area of Responsibility (AoR) under the Protection Cluster with the Yemeni Women Union, a women-led organization, as its co-coordinator. The AoR operates at the national and sub-national levels with a presence in five UN hubs.
- UNFPA leads the implementation of core cluster functions, bringing together partners working on women’s protection, including UN agencies and international and national non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The AoR aims to address both immediate humanitarian service delivery and effective prevention and risk reduction strategies for women’s protection.
- UNFPA also leads information gathering to inform strategic decisions related to GBV prevention and mitigation through data collection, analysis, and a dashboard. UNFPA leads the process of GBV humanitarian planning (Humanitarian Response Plan), implementation, resource mobilization, training, and monitoring of activities under the GBV AoR.
- From January to March 2025, the GBV AoR conducted funding [gap analyses](#) to assess the impact of funding cuts for the provision of women’s protection services, which threaten to cut off millions of the most vulnerable women and girls from protection services.
- Guidance for [safe identification and referral of survivors](#), was developed by the AoR to enhance the safety, confidentiality, and effectiveness of referrals, ensuring that survivors are able to access appropriate and timely support in a dignified manner.

### Reproductive Health:

- UNFPA co-leads the Reproductive Health Working Group with the Ministry of Health under the health cluster at the national and governorate level (coordinated through the UN hubs).
- UNFPA maintains a physical presence in all UN hubs, each staffed with a reproductive health coordinator, who leads the coordination of reproductive health interventions under the working group, provides technical support to implementing partners, and conducts on-the-ground monitoring. This ensures adherence to quality standards, a commitment to the "leave no one behind" principle, while focusing on reaching the most vulnerable populations.

### ✂ Other working groups led by UNFPA

- UNFPA chairs the inter-agency working group on youth alongside UNDP.
- UNFPA leads the UN Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM), a coordinated inter-agency platform that includes UNICEF, WFP, and IOM, to deliver immediate, life-saving assistance to displaced families within 72 hours of activation following conflict or climate-induced crises. UNFPA's role involves overseeing strategic coordination, resource mobilization, and the development of implementation strategies. UNFPA leads the flow of information, the pre-positioning of supplies in collaboration and coordination with local authorities and partners, and the delivery of RRM kits, which include emergency ready-to-eat rations, basic hygiene items, and dignity kits tailored to women's needs.
- UNFPA also ensures the integration of protection and gender considerations into the RRM mechanism while enabling cohesive inter-agency collaboration and long-term recovery planning.

## Funding Status

In 2025, UNFPA is appealing for US\$ 70 million to maintain its critical support for women and girls, aligning to the Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan. As of April 2025, only US\$ 18.5 million is available, leaving a US\$ 51.5 million gap.

The termination of funding agreements by the United States in February 2025 has significant implications for UNFPA's humanitarian response in Yemen, with US\$ 17.5 million in funding being cut for maternal healthcare, women's protection, and other life-saving services in 2025.

Donors to UNFPA's humanitarian response at present include Austria, the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), European Union, Netherlands, and Norway.

