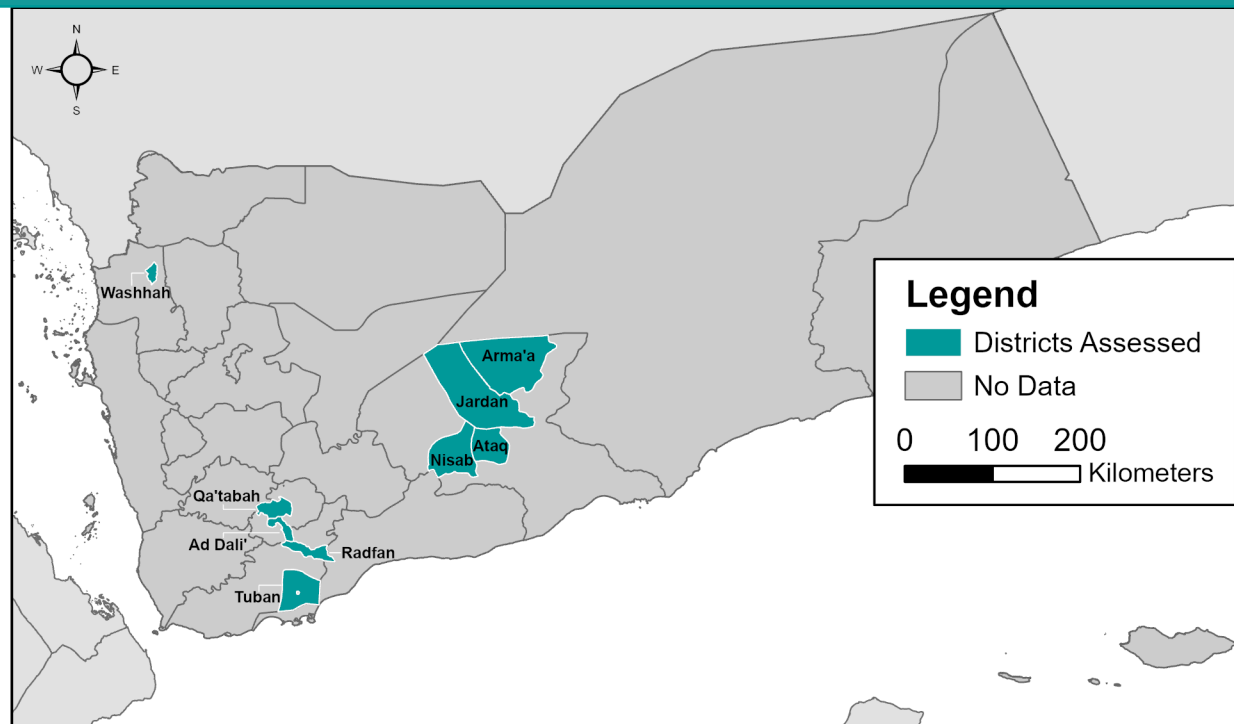


INTRODUCTION

The Yemen Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Cluster (YWC) launched the WASH Needs Tracking System (WANTS) with the support of REACH to provide high quality WASH data and inform more effective programming and planning. The WANTS comprises a set of harmonized monitoring tools which, through partner data collection, provide updated information on WASH access and needs throughout Yemen.

This situation overview describes all YWC partner assessments carried out between July and September 2021, including 39 key informant interviews (KIIs) and 197 household interviews. The situation overview triangulates WASH assessment findings with secondary data sources.



WASH RESPONSE UPDATES

The final 2021 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) sets forth a strategy to provide humanitarian aid to the people of Yemen. It was estimated that 3.85 billion United States Dollars (USD) would be needed in 2021 to reach the targeted 16 million people (representing 77% of the total 20.7 million people in need).

The YWC estimated that it would need approximately 330 million USD to provide WASH services in 2021.¹ As of August, only 26.3 million USD had been received by the YWC and its partner organizations,² which represents 8% of the estimated budget for providing WASH support presented in the 2021 HRP. Overall, the Yemen humanitarian response has been substantially underfunded for the first half of 2021, with almost every humanitarian sector having received less than 50% of their HRP budgets. However, at 8% of its target budget received, WASH is among the most severely underfunded sectors.

- In July and August 2021, 28 YWC partners have been providing WASH support in 181 districts across 20 governorates of Yemen.³
- The YWC sets out to provide WASH support to about 11.1 million people in 2021 - as of August, the YWC and partners have provided support to 7.6 million people, or 68.8% of their target.⁴
- The coverage of WASH support varies among the thematic areas and targets reached were the following: 100% for the sustained sanitation system (TA2); 65% for the sustained water system (TA1); 35% for the emergency water support (TA3); 20% for the emergency hygiene support (TA5); and 13% for the emergency sanitation support (TA4).⁴

1) OCHA [Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan](#) March, 2021 2) OCHA [Key Humanitarian Response](#) Accessed Sep 30, 2021. 3) Yemen WASH Cluster Partners Presence ([4W Matrix](#)) January - August, 2021. Accessed Sep 30, 2021. 4) Yemen WASH cluster. ["YEMEN - Humanitarian Dashboard \(January - August 2021\)"](#) Accessed October 7, 2021.

HUMANITARIAN PROGRAM CYCLE

The 2021 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO)⁵ estimates that 20.7 million people (66% of the Yemeni population) require some form of humanitarian assistance, with 12.1 million people in acute need. Lack of WASH services is one of the main drivers of need in Yemen, with 15.4 million people in need of WASH assistance. In addition, almost 18 million people, including more than 9 million children, lack access to safe water.⁶

FOOD INSECURITY

According to the World Food Program (WFP), the conflict in Yemen has left almost 16.2 million people experiencing the third phase of food insecurity based on the Integrated Food Insecurity Phase Classification (IPC 3+), 47,000 people in famine-like conditions (IPC5+), and 1.9 million children under the age of 5 suffering from moderate acute malnutrition. Further, more than 50% of the Yemen population is predicted to be living in poverty.⁷ WFP estimates an additional 589.7 million USD is needed to ensure the continuity of its operations during the upcoming six months. In August 2021, WFP targeted about 11.3 million people with general food assistance: 8.5 million people received food directly, about 2.3 million people received food vouchers, and 1.2 million people received cash assistance.⁸

In August 2021, the Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI) reports an increase of the food Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB) cost by 38% compared to August 2020; 9% between June and August; and an increase of 13.4% compared to April. In addition, an increase in the exchange rate by 7.5% was recorded in the South of Yemen between July and August. Furthermore, in August, a substantial (33%) decrease of the national water trucking price was reported in comparison with July; caused by a drop in water trucking prices in Al Hodeidah, Hajjah, Dhammar, Lahj and Al Jawf governorates.⁹

CONFLICT

Between July and September 2021, a total of 3,133 fatalities were reported across Yemen due to a total of 1,528 conflict events consisting of: 606 battles; 23 riots; 785 explosions and incidences of remote violence; and 114 actions of violence against civilians.¹⁰

Displacement is largely driven by the ongoing conflict, an estimated 158,000 people were displaced from conflict affected governorates to Marib as per the International Organization for Migration (IOM). Further, more than 70% of IDPs in Ma'rib in need of safe water systems, and around 90% lack access to adequate WASH services. WASH assistance is provided by IOM in 22 IDP sites. IOM supports the increased number of partners in districts such as Al Juba and Jabal Murad, where gaps in the WASH responses are significant.¹¹

COVID-19 and WASH

Yemen's first COVID-19 case was announced in April 2020 and on 5 October 2021 the number of confirmed cases had rose to 9,214 with 1,743 deaths. WASH interventions play an important role in the COVID-19 response, as hygiene is a key component of infection prevention. And although more than 11.2 million vulnerable people are targeted for assistance in 2021, WASH partners have so far received only 8% of the required fund.¹² As per WASH 4W data,¹³ 9 YWC partners conducted COVID-19 activities across 34 districts in 16 governorates between July and August, 2021.

According to WHO 311,483 vaccine doses had been administered in Yemen before the 27 July 2021, an amount that covered only one dose for barely 1% of the Yemeni population. Overall, Yemen had received around 151,200 doses of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine in August and 360,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine were received on 23 September 2021.¹⁴ Moreover, only 20% of the targeted emergency hygiene support was reached and 13% of the targeted emergency sanitation support was achieved which indicates a significant response gaps which needs to be prioritized till the end of the year based on YWC Humanitarian Dashboard.¹⁵

5) OCHA [Humanitarian Needs Overview \(HNO\)](#), 2021 6) OCHA [Key Humanitarian Response](#) August, 2021 7) WFP [Yemen Emergency Dashboard](#) August, 2021 8) WFP [Yemen Situation Report](#) August, 2021. 9) YEM, REACH [JMMI Situation Overview](#) August, 2021. 10) [ACLED Dashboard](#). Accessed on Sep 30, 2021. 11) IOM [Marib Response](#) August, 2021. 12) OCHA [Yemen Humanitarian Update](#) August, 2021. 13) WASH Cluster Partners Presence ([4W Matrix](#)) August, 2021. 14) IOM - DTM [COVID-19 Movement Restrictions](#) September, 2021 15) YEMEN [Humanitarian Dashboard](#) August 2021



KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEW (n=39): the findings below are based on 39 KIIs conducted across 39 communities in nine districts, in Ad Dali', Iahj, Hajjah, and Shabwah governorates. KIs are reporting WASH Needs for their own communities. Data was collected in June-August 2021 by ZOA, ACTED, MEDAIR, and The Yemen Family Care Association (YFCA). These findings should be interpreted as indicative of the WASH needs in the districts where the interviews were collected.

Water

Proportion of KIs that reported in the 30 days prior to data collection their community:

Used an improved drinking water source¹⁶ as their main source **54%**
Experienced water quality issues **33%**

Proportion of KIs reported that people in their community had water access problems in the 30 days prior to data collection:

Waterpoints are too far away **72%**
Waiting time at water points **51%**
Water is too expensive **41%**
Storage containers are too expensive **31%**
Waterpoints are difficult to reach **28%**
People don't like the taste/quality of the water **5%**
Water is not available **5%**
Some groups lack access **3%**
Waterpoints are closed **3%**

77% KIs reported people in their community do not treat their drinking water, for the following reasons:

Due to lack of materials **41%**
Because it is not needed **21%**
Do not know how to treat water **8%**
Because water treatment is not affordable **8%**

16) Defined by the WHO as a source that, is accessible on premises, available when needed and free from faecal and priority chemical contamination. 17) KIs could select more than one answer

Sanitation

Main sanitation facility type used by people in the community in the 30 days prior to data collection, as reported by KIs:

Open defecation **49%**
Flush or pour flush toilet **21%**
Pit VIP toilet **8%**
Pit latrine with a slab **8%**
Open hole **5%**
Hanging toilet **3%**
Pit latrine without a slab **3%**

Proportion of KIs reported that specific groups (minorities, IDPs, women, etc) faced sanitation access problems in the 30 days prior to data collection¹⁷

Women/girls **41%**
People with disabilities **38%**
IDPs **36%**
Elderly people **28%**
Marginalized people (minorities) **28%**
Men/boys **18%**

A majority of KIs (**54%**) reported that no one or few people in their community had access to a functional latrine in the 30 days prior to data collection.

Hygiene

A majority of KIs (**52%**) reported that no one or only few people in their community had enough soap in the 30 days prior to data collection.

Assessed communities per district

Districts	Number of assessed communities per district
Washhah	11
Ad Dali'	2
Arma'a	3
Ataq	3
Osaylan	3
Qa'tabah	1
Radfan	3
Tuban	12
Nisab	1

Participating partners:



each life matters



HOUSEHOLDS INTERVIEW (n=197): the findings below are based on 197 household interviews conducted in Tuban district, in Lahj governorate. Data was collected in June-July 2021 by MEDAIR and NRC. These findings should be interpreted as indicative of the WASH needs in the district where the interviews were collected.

Water

Proportion of households that reported in the 30 days prior to data collection their community:

Used multiple drinking water sources 48%
Had enough water for drinking, cooking, bathing and washing 49%

Proportion of households using each type of main drinking water source:

Piped water into public tap	36%
Water trucking	24%
Bottled water	15%
Protected well	11%
Piped water into compound	8%
Illegal connection to piped network	1%
Unprotected well	1%

88% of households reported that they do not treat their drinking water, for the following reasons:

Due to lack of materials	30%
Because it is not needed	29%
Do not know how to treat	28%
Because water treatment is not affordable	7%
Because it takes too much time	3%
Other	2%
Do not know	1%

Hygiene

Proportion of households using each type of handwashing device:

No device	56%
Simple basin/bucket, with no tap	23%
Sink with tap	10%
Other	7%
Bucket with tap	3%

72% households had issues accessing soap in the 30 days prior to data collection. Of the households that reported issues, the following issues were reported:

Soap is too expensive	90%
The market is difficult to reach/ too far away	5%
Other	5%

Sanitation

Proportion of households that reported in the 30 days prior to data collection that their household:

Used improved sanitation facilities ¹⁸	60%
Share their sanitation facility with at least one other family	31%

Main sanitation facility type used by households in the community in the 30 days prior to data collection:

Pit VIP toilet	30%
Open defecation	26%
Flush or pour flush toilet	22%
Pit latrine with a slab	8%
Hanging toilet	5%
Pit latrine without a slab	4%
Open hole	3%
Plastic bag	2%

18) Defined by the WHO as one that likely hygienically separates human excreta from human contact.

Participating partners:

