FLASH UPDATE: Flooding in Yemen

27 April 2020

During the last four weeks, Yemen has been facing an unprecedented series of flooding characterized by their intensity and their uncommon frequency for the season.

In the briefing note released by ACAPs on 23 April, damages were reported mainly in Sana’a, Lahj, Aden, and Marib governorates, with over 100,000 individuals directly affected. Shelter Cluster partners also reported casualties, damages to houses, and urgent needs in the governorates of Hajjah, Ibb, and Taizz. Rains and assessments are still ongoing, and figures of families directly affected by the flood continue to increase. Due to the lack of funding, available stocks related to Emergency Shelter and Non-Food Items kits in the 36 warehouses of the 10 largest partners are alarmingly low. Accordingly, the Shelter Cluster is currently able to cover only 23% of the reported needs. As a result, most vulnerable IDPs displaced by the conflict will be forced to live in makeshift substandard shelters. Furthermore, the dire living conditions of the 77% of IDPs who lack even plastic sheeting to protect themselves from the rain and natural elements will seriously increase risks related to water-born diseases as Cholera or COVID-19.

While verifying and assigning referrals to partners, the Shelter Cluster, in partnership with REACH-Impact Initiatives, conducted further analysis on flood susceptibility to identify most-at-risk sites and paths of a potential flash flood. In cooperation with the CCCM Cluster, the Shelter Cluster also rolled out sandbagging activities and provided additional guidance for communities to protect their sites, such as cleaning drainage or identifying safer locations. Regular updates are available on a dedicated page on the Shelter Cluster website.

Figures at a glance

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Families affected</th>
<th>Est. individuals affected</th>
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<td>18,608</td>
<td>130,256</td>
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4% (747 Families) 11.5% (2,138 Families) 7.2% (1,340 Families)

Stock Level

Emergency Shelter Kits
3,127 allocated 19,804 contingency

Non Food Items Kits
7,576 allocated 32,605 contingency

Allocated: distribution ALREADY planned

Source: Sub-National Shelter Clusters
The fully detailed map is available also in the Shelter Cluster website.