



Protection Cluster Yemen

KEY FIGURES

2,205,102 individuals
Internally displaced by conflict

949,470 individuals
Returned following displacement
owing to conflict

298,338 individuals
Targeted for assistance under the
Protection Cluster (*revised target
based on YHRP Mid-Year review, July
2016*)

353,224 individuals
Reached through Protection
assistance (*as of August 2016*)

16
Active Protection Cluster partners

\$ 45 million
Total funding request

The figures related to persons reached, partners and funding request relate to the main Protection Cluster only and do not include the figures for the Child Protection Sub-Cluster or the GBV Sub-Cluster.

PROTECTION CLUSTER UPDATE

JULY – AUGUST 2016

Introduction

This update aims to provide an insight into the protection situation of the affected population in Yemen and how Protection partners are responding to identified protection risks and needs.

This is the second update for 2016 and is based on contributions from Protection partners in Yemen¹. As the updates are developed, the Protection Cluster will endeavor to provide more analysis regarding the situation of people of concern in Yemen, how the current conflict has affected their lives, how they are managing to cope and what their needs are. The Protection Cluster continues to work with its partners and other relevant stakeholders to understand better the risks to safety and dignity that people in Yemen continue to face and remains committed to work in a collaborative spirit to identify how best to provide an adequate and inclusive response to address those risks.

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¹ The photograph is credited to CSSW Yemen.

CASH ASSISTANCE - POST DISTRIBUTION MONITORING

Submitted by UNHCR

Introduction

In June 2016, UNHCR conducted Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) for the unconditional cash assistance programme which is implemented by its partners. The Cash Assistance (CA) beneficiaries who were targeted by the survey were in Amant Al Asimah and Hajjah governorates who had received CA between March and May 2016.

The survey was conducted remotely through telephone calls and the questions corresponding to the objective were developed and converted into an ODK electronic Application to be completed on a tablet computer. Participants were asked a number of questions relating to several categories aimed at gauging the utility of the assistance provided, any protection issues that the activity generated and the level of accountability that was ensured.

Basic details

75 participants representing 593 individuals (family members) were interviewed, the sample consisting of 23% of the total number of beneficiaries receiving cash as per the beneficiary list for the time-frame in question. To arrive at the sample, 55 beneficiaries in Hajjah (which represented the total) were identified and that was matched through a random selection of the same number of beneficiaries from Amant Al Asimah to arrive at a total of 110 beneficiaries. In selecting these beneficiaries regard was also paid to the availability of contact numbers. Of the 110 beneficiaries selected, 75 were reachable and/or consented to participate in the survey.

In total, YER 4,080,600 was disbursed (approximately USD 16,322 at an exchange rate of YER 250 pre 1 USD). 100% of beneficiaries assisted were IDPs as opposed to vulnerable members of the Host Community. One beneficiary was an IDP from Aden in Amanat Al Asimah at the time of identification but had returned to Aden and collected the CA payment in Aden. 71% of the cases were identified for CA for Basic needs, 28% for Shelter (rental subsidies) and 1% for Health needs. 85% of the beneficiaries had not received any kind of assistance previously.

Main findings

In general, 31% of the assistance provided was spent on health needs as it was the number one priority for

the majority of the beneficiaries. Nevertheless, food can be considered as being as important as health as 30% of beneficiaries spent their cash payment on it. The third priority was for rent and shelter materials with 20% of the assistance spent to cover this need. Cash assistance was also put towards purchase of NFIs, debt repayment, purchase of clothes/shoes, water and other needs such as education, sanitary ware and reconstruction). 5% of beneficiaries reported that control over the cash assistance received had caused conflict.

The majority of the beneficiaries (92%) reported not being satisfied with the assistance provided and indicated that the assistance did not cover their needs. 85% of the beneficiaries expected to receive more than they received. Concerning the distribution process, all (100%) the beneficiaries reported that there were no safety risks at the collection sites and indicated that the ease of cash collection was "Good". All participants in the survey stated that they were not aware on how to report problems with the CA programme or how to make a complaint in relation to the programme. They requested to be provided with information related to this issue.

Conclusions

Based on the PDM, it is evident that there is a clear utility to the cash assistance programme that UNHCR and its partners are engaging in. However, it is equally apparent that the impact is limited based on the fact that the majority of survey participants indicated that they expected to receive more than the amount they actually did indicating further that the assistance did not cover their needs. On the plus side, based on the additional facts that survey participants indicated that they were successfully notified of being selected for CA, that they did not have to travel great distances to receive assistance, did not have to wait too long to receive their payments, did not encounter obstacles in receiving payments at the money transfer agent sites where security was also good, did not have to pay intermediaries and 100% received cash assistance through money transfer agents, it can be said that the implementation of the project is being conducted well.

PROTECTION TRENDS ANALYSIS

Submitted by INTERSOS

Introduction

In July 2016 INTERSOS released a trends analysis covering protection activities implemented in the first half of the year under a partnership agreement with UNHCR. Since October 2015, INTERSOS has been engaged in protection activities for conflict affected populations (IDPs, host communities and returnees) in Aden, Mukalla and Taiz through protection monitoring, legal assistance, general case management services, including cash assistance, rental subsidies and material assistance. Protection concerns are identified on the basis of individual interviews at the household level, through Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and with the support of outreach volunteers belonging to the affected communities.

Findings through FGDs

- Generalised violence in the place of origin is the main reason for displacement;
- In the location of displacement, most Persons of Concern (PoC) live in shared accommodation, for which they need to pay rent;
- Lack of privacy and overcrowding in shared accommodation often leads to increased tensions between family members;
- Access to medical care is challenging because of the distance from the place of residence to the closest functioning/operational health facility, transportation costs and the cost of treatment;
- Nutritional issues for elders and children are regularly reported, specifically in Mukalla;
- There is limited school attendance due to costs related to school materials and transportation;
- Child labor is very common, explaining school drop-out rates and low school attendance. Heads of household are often engaged in seasonal/irregular work and therefore rely on children for support to help sustain the family. While boys are engaged in manual work of different kinds (i.e. construction, hawking, fishing, etc.), girls work as domestic helpers and cleaners;
- Child marriage was reported as a common practice in the affected communities, both due to local traditions and economic factors.
- Service infrastructure is poor, especially in more remote villages, particularly when it comes to WASH;
- The intention of displaced people is generally to go

back to the place of origin if security is guaranteed. Only a few of the people who participated in FGDs declared that they would rather not return because life in the villages was easier and cheaper than in bigger urban centers;

- The increase in prices of fuel and primary goods over the past months has had a serious impact on the capacity to cope of many households already affected by the conflict and which are struggling to make a living;
- The lack of livelihood opportunities was highlighted.

Legal assistance

In relation to legal assistance, INTERSOS lawyers support PoC with general guidance about different issues. While in Aden the GBV concerns are clearly prevalent, in Mukalla alimony and custody of children are the more common issues.

In general terms counseling and advice services are most accessed with direct representation and mediation services accessed less by the conflict affected communities. In this regard, however, mediation between husband and wife is the most common issue tackled in Mukalla, while the most recurrent cases in Aden are related to domestic violence and alimony payments.

Access to documentation in both Aden and Mukalla relates to the same range of issues: missing IDs and birth certificates, and lost or damaged documentation. Missing documentation is particularly problematic for women and PoC living in rural and remote areas. INTERSOS lawyers provide information and guidance on how to obtain documentation, but because the competent offices are closed, it is particularly challenging for PoC to obtain documentation. In Aden the lack of valid identification has proven particularly challenging for IDPs coming from other governorates who have been exposed to harassment, arrest and expulsion.

BRIEFING ON CIVIL STATUS DOCUMENTATION AMONGST IDPS

Submitted by UNHCR

Through protection monitoring activities it has been observed that many IDPs do not have ID cards. Several are therefore using voting cards and school certificates to establish their identity although some are also using family cards and old ID cards. Some IDPs lost their ID cards during displacement but there is also a lack of understanding about the importance of IDs while some believe that IDs are not required if they have other forms of identification such as voting cards. These perceptions are especially held amongst women. Civil Status Documentation is extremely important for IDPs to ensure the security of their person, enable freedom of movement, and access basic services as Yemeni citizens as well assistance by humanitarian agencies.

IDPs are facing many challenges to obtain documentation in the current situation. Civil Registration Offices in some governorates are closed, such as in Sada'a. While in other governorates some offices are functioning they do not possess the physical cards to issue new national IDs. Therefore, temporary documents are issued that last for three months, after which the IDP must go through the same process again to obtain another temporary card, including the payment of fees which remain the same. Another challenge that the IDPs are facing is the need to travel far distances or to another governorate to have documents issued. In addition, the fees are an obstacle for IDPs because they see it as a waste and choose instead to prioritise the use of money on food and other basic necessities.

The issue was discussed within the Protection Cluster where the following suggestions were discussed:

- Engage in discussions with the Executive Unit of the government (which is responsible for IDPs) and the Civil Registration Authority for the development of a more systematic approach to documentation;
- Conduct awareness campaigns to educate IDPs on the importance of having Civil Status Documentation and how and where they may have such documents issued.

- Identify any differences in current implementation of procedures between the South and the North.
- Map civil registration offices that are closed/functioning.
- Prepare brochures with information for beneficiaries on how to obtain different types of documents.
- Coordinate with other actors providing assistance on civil documentation and establish referral mechanisms with humanitarian actors who identify people who need support to obtain civil documentation.

Document Type	Description	Utility
Birth certificate	An official document issued to record a person's birth, including such identifying data as name, gender, date of birth, place of birth, and parentage.	Facilitates health and educational services for children.
National Identity card	The national identity card is a portable document, typically a plasticized card with digitally-embedded information, that a person is required or encouraged to carry as a means of confirming their identity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proof of citizenship. • Affirms rights and preservation of property. • Essential for vital events such as birth, death, marriage and divorce. • Essential for exercising the right to vote. • Important for accessing services, including humanitarian assistance.
Family Card	An official document issued to identify the name of the head of the family, gender, number of wives and children, gender of children and birth dates.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proof of identity for the whole family. • Proof of kinship. • Used in social affairs transactions². • Used for determining heirs.

² Social affairs transactions may include issuing birth certificates or passports for children, establishing heirs for pension payments, adding dependents to medical insurance, etc.

10TH REPORT OF THE TASK FORCE POPULATION MOVEMENT
Submitted by the Task Force on Population Movement

Introduction and key statistics

In July, the Task Force on Population Movement (TFPM), which is a technical working group of the Protection Cluster, co-led by IOM and UNHCR, released its 10th report.

The 10th report affirms a population of concern, in connection with the ongoing conflict, of 3,154,572 individuals. This is composed of 2,205,102 IDPs who remain in a situation of displacement across 21 governorates, mainly in Taizz, Hajjah, and Sana'a, and 949,470 returnees in 19 governorates, mainly in Aden, Amanat Al Asimah and Taizz.

The report also provides figures on displaced and returnee populations in relation to displacement due to natural disasters, namely the two cyclones that made landfall in November, 2015 and the flash flooding in April, 2016. 24,744 individuals remain in displacement owing to natural events across 13 governorates with 41,730 returnees across 6 governorates.

Needs and shelter situation

The needs of IDPs, returnees, whether conflict or disaster related, and by extension members of the non-displaced host community remain high. Indicative data collected by the TFPM at the community level through key informants show that among IDPs, the top three needs include food (74%), shelter/housing (8%) and drinking water (6%). Overall WASH needs when looked at cumulatively were at 9%

Since the last report, the percentage of IDPs reporting food as their main need has increased from 49% to 74%. Based on the needs expressed in each governorate against the total number of displaced households per governorate, the top five governorates with the highest food needs are Dhamar (99.6%), Sa'ada (99.5%), Ibb (87.4%), Hajjah (86.4%) and Raymah (82.0%). The governorate with the least expressed for food need is Hadramaut (4.9%). Three governorates did not express a food need. These three governorates, all in the south, indicated the following needs: Aden - psychosocial support (71.42%), Al Mahara - psychosocial support (46.37%) and Socotra -

drinking water (56.45%). Amongst IDP returnees, the main needs are for food (38%), psychosocial support (34%) and access to income (12%). However, this varied between the different governorates. The returnees in only two governments expressed the need for psychosocial support: Aden (100%) and Al Bayda (83.33%).

With respect to shelter, the majority of IDPs are living in hosted situations (62%), while the next largest category are those that are in rented accommodation (19%). This is almost exactly the same as the respective percentages reported in the 9th report. Amongst returnees the vast majority (78%) have returned to their original homes with a small number (10%) residing in rented accommodation with a further 11% in hosted situations.

Displacement and return dynamics

Since the 9th report, which covered April, there has been an overall increase in conflict-related displacement of 152,009 individuals (+7%)³ owing to increases in IDP numbers in 14 governorates. 71% of IDPs have reported being displaced for more than a year, with 18% indicating having been displaced for 10 – 12 months (inclusive). On the other hand, there has been a reduction in the level of disaster related displacement of 2,280 individuals (-8%).

There has been an overall increase in the number of return by 184,491 individuals displaced by conflict (+24%). There has also been an increase in return of persons displaced by natural disaster of 7,937 individuals (+23%). This trend shows that displacement continues to be dynamic in Yemen with new displacement continuing to occur while at the same time returns are taking place. For this reason, these IDP returnees should be considered to remain within the displacement cycle as long as they have not achieved a sustainable reintegration. Of particular note is that in each governorate hosting returnees, a majority of the identified returnee population are generally concentrated to just the top 1 - 6 most locations at the neighborhood/village level, with the exception of Sa'ada.

³ Interim data collected in May showed a 3% increase owing to an overall increase in 11 governorates. Therefore since May, the overall increase is 4% while the overall increase since April is 7%.

UPDATES IN BRIEF

Oxfam is planning to undertake a mapping exercise in seven governorates to understand what are the various humanitarian, private and public services (such as health, food, education, safe-centers, legal assistance) available to conflict-affected populations. According to a study by the Community Engagement Working Group, the two most important types of information the affected populations require are where to access assistance and who is eligible for it. The aim of the mapping exercise is to provide such information to the affected population to enhance their awareness of the available services, strengthen community and self-based protection mechanisms, encourage better coordination for the delivery of humanitarian assistance between agencies and support inter-agency referrals to provide the services to the people in need. The exercise will be undertaken in Abyan, Aden, Al Dhahle, Amran, Lahj, Hajjah and Taizz by meetings only with service providers in these Governorates. The collected information will then be shared with interested institutions, humanitarian agencies and the affected communities in these Governorates.

The Task Force on Population Movement (TFPM) commenced a Multi-Sectorial Location Assessment as part of its displacement tracking activity. The data from the Location Assessment will be one of the primary sources of information for the upcoming Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) for 2017, which in turn will inform the 2017 Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan (YHRP) to be completed later in the year. OCHA has established a deadline of 15 September for all data sources to be provided and therefore the TFPM is gearing towards completing the Location Assessments by this point.

On 28 August, the Protection Cluster issued a report on the Protection Mainstreaming workshop that was conducted between 17 – 19 July. The workshop represented an important step for the Protection Cluster and signaled the PC's leadership on this cross-cluster issue. The workshop was conducted for all Clusters with the exception of the Education, Early Recovery and Logistics Clusters. The PC will now carry forward the work that remains to be done and is presently engaging with focal points within the Clusters to develop protection mainstreaming actions plans. The report is accompanied by a post-workshop evaluation with the feedback indicating a high level of satisfaction.