

# URGENT APPEAL FOR SUPPORT

## THOUSANDS IMPACTED BY UNPRECEDENTED FLOODS AND WINDS IN YEMEN



Strong winds in Ma'rib have devastated thousands of shelters, displacing families and damaging critical infrastructure. ©IOM/Haitham Abdulbaqi 2024



**USD 13,265,600 (6 months)**

Total Funding Required



**50,000 HOUSEHOLDS TARGETED\***

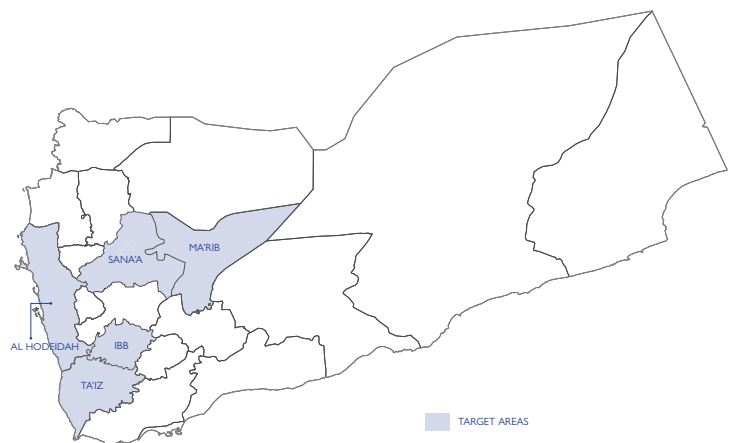
(350,000 individuals)

\*Please note, figures are subject to change due to continued severe weather incidents

### Sector Amount Required (in USD)

SHELTER/NON-FOOD ITEMS (SNFI)	\$ 5,850,000
CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT (CCCM)	\$ 3,745,000
MULTIPURPOSE CASH ASSISTANCE (MPCA)	\$ 2,118,600
HEALTH AND MHPSS	\$910,000
WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)	\$ 642,000

**\$ 13,265,600**





Heavy rains and winds hit Ma'rib hard, leaving a trail of destruction in their wake as families tried to salvage their belongings. ©IOM/Haithm Abdulbaqi 2024

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

Severe flooding throughout August 2024 along Yemen's West Coast, Ta'iz, Ibb and Sana'a in addition to violent wind storms in Ma'rib have caused destruction and devastation that have negatively affected thousands of already vulnerable households, highlighting the growing detrimental impact of climate change. Among the most vulnerable groups, are thousands of internally displaced persons (IDPs), many of whom have been displaced more than once, and now left with nothing as resources for the humanitarian response in Yemen have been on the decline. This unprecedented turbulent weather in Yemen is occurring amidst an ongoing acute outbreak of waterborne diseases throughout the country, further heightening the risk of spread and straining the capacity of already limited treatment facilities.

## MA'RIB

Since 11 August 2024, relentless strong winds have wreaked havoc on households and public infrastructure. A total of 73 IDP sites (an estimated 58,000 individuals) across Ma'rib City, Ma'rib Al Wadi and Raghwan districts have been severely impacted. The winds have caused the destruction of shelters and food supplies, sweeping away the belongings for tens of thousands of people and leaving debris scattered across sites. In addition, electrical and public service networks have been severely damaged, leaving vulnerable families without essential services that were already in short supply.

The Health Cluster has reported a severe disruption in provision of health services, calling on actors to provide rapid health support and temporary clinics to cover needs in more than 100 IDP sites. According to rapid needs assessments across 34 IOM-managed sites, more than 11,400 households have experienced either full or partial shelter damage.

IOM has been supporting a multisectoral response in close coordination with humanitarian actors to meet the most critical needs of impacted households, in addition to risk reduction activities to mitigate future impacts of unpredictable weather changes.

Despite the ongoing response efforts, urgent funding is required to address the rapidly increasing needs, as further severe weather events are expected throughout September.

**IOM is seeking USD 13,265,650 over six months to support 50,000 households (350,000) individuals living in high-risk areas across Ma'rib, Al Hodeidah, Sana'a, Ibb and Ta'iz.**

Although the majority are IDPs, at least 50 migrant households have also been impacted. These households are in need of multisectoral assistance as essential belongings have been blown away and lost. Further assistance is needed to repair the widespread damage to sanitation infrastructure and address urgent and growing health needs.



IOM teams distribute emergency shelter kits and essential supplies to flood-affected households in Ma'rib. ©IOM/Haithm Abdulbaqi 2024

## AL HODEIDAH AND TA'IZ

Torrential rains and flash flooding began in early August, hitting Ta'iz and Al Hodeidah governorates along Yemen's West Coast. In Al Hodeidah, all 26 districts have been affected, where according to the CCCM cluster, more than 9,000 families have been impacted. According to OCHA, a total of 36 deaths and 564 injuries have so far been reported. In Ta'iz, more than 5,100 families have borne the brunt of flooding. The heavy rains have resulted in significant damage to shelters, water sources and public infrastructure leading to electrical shortages, impacting livelihoods, along with loss of personal belongings and loss of essential medical supplies and equipment. In Al Hodeidah (Al Khukhah and At Tuhayta districts) the multisectoral needs assessments identified at least 700 households impacted by flooding, while in Ta'iz (Ash Shamayatayn and Al Ma'afer district) IOM estimates at least 850 households are in need of assistance across IOM-managed sites.



*IOM is on the ground providing urgent support to affected families, but the scale of the devastation underscores the critical need for continued resources. ©IOM 2024*

## IBB AND SANA'A

According to OCHA, the unprecedented rains have impacted at least 550 households in Sana'a, whose homes are now submerged under water. Similarly, in Ibb, an estimated 1,500 families have been affected by severe flooding, resulting in the unfortunate death of nine individuals.

## IOM'S ONGOING RESPONSE

### KEY FIGURES



**3,300 households**

reached with Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) kits (containing food, hygiene and dignity items) and Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA)



**4,300 households**

supported with family water storage tanks, desludging and latrine repair or construction



**1,885 individuals**

supported with health services and Mental health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS)



**2,600 households**

households currently being targeted with Cash for Shelter



**10** emergency committees activated, supporting awareness raising on flood risk reduction and available services, relocation of households from flood pathways and rapid site care and maintenance works

Since the onset of the August floods and windstorms, IOM being one of the first actors on the ground quickly mobilized to conduct rapid needs assessments and provide critical assistance with the resources currently available. The multisectoral response includes essential S/NFI, CCCM, WASH, MPCA, SNFI, Health and protection services to aid impacted households as follows:

- Cash for Shelter and Non-Food items
- Distribution of Rapid Response Mechanism kits, hygiene kits, NFI kits, plastic sheets, emergency shelter kits, tents and water tanks
- Construction and/or repair of transitional shelters, latrines, pits and water distribution points
- Activation and deployment of emergency committees and maintenance mobilizers
- Provision of MHPSS and emergency health care services
- Rapid needs assessments



Floods have torn through neighborhoods, leaving families struggling amidst the wreckage. ©IOM/Haithm Abdulbaqi 2024

## CRITICAL GAPS

The Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan faces a critical funding shortfall as of September 2024, with only 29.4% resources secured. The massive funding gap is further exacerbating the needs of the already vulnerable households, who are significantly impacted by the unprecedented weather events. Due to limited resources, IOM is currently unable to support 6,000 households (42,000 individuals) require multisectoral assistance within IOM-managed IDP sites. In addition, due to IOM's strong presence on the ground, the Organization continues to receive numerous requests from Cluster partners and local authorities to support thousands of households residing outside of IOM-managed sites.

IOM will work closely with local authorities, UN agencies, clusters and other key stakeholders to provide relief to thousands of households and implement works to reduce further negative impacts.



### SHELTER AND NON FOOD ITEMS (S-NFI)

- Market-based interventions including cash to access shelter materials and non-food items
- Distribution of shelter materials and household items
- Repair of damaged shelters
- Construction of transitional shelters



**\$ 5,850,000**  
Amount Required



**20,000** Target HHs



### CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT (CCCM)

- Flood risk reduction works (clearing flood paths, rehabilitation of channels, installation/repair of soil embankments)
- Maintenance, repair and upgrades of key infrastructure (such as Gabion Walls and flood channels)
- Awareness raising on risk reduction, safe areas and available services
- Continued deployment of emergency committees, supporting awareness raising, relocations and needs assessments



**USD 3,745,000**  
Amount Required



**50,000** Target HHs



### MULTIPURPOSE CASH ASSISTANCE (MPCA)

- Multipurpose cash assistance (one-off and multi round)



**USD 2,118,600**

Amount Required



**9,000** Target HHs



### WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

- Latrine and pit construction and repair
- Desludging
- Solid waste collection services
- Maintenance of water systems and distribution points
- Distribution of family water tanks and hygiene kits
- Hygiene promotion



**USD 642,000**

Amount Required



**5,500** Target HHs



### HEALTH AND MHPSS

- Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) activities
- Provision of operational support (incentives, supplies, equipment) to public health facilities and IOM mobile medical teams
- Rehabilitation of health facilities
- Referral support to secondary health services
- Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) for ongoing disease outbreaks



**USD 910,000**

Amount Required



**9,000** Target HHs

## IOM CAPACITY

In Yemen, IOM has well-established offices in Sana'a, Aden, Ma'rib (humanitarian hub manager) and Al Makha with more than 500 staff directly implementing multisectoral programming for vulnerable groups throughout Yemen, including displaced people, conflict-affected communities and migrants. IOM is one of the key Camp Coordination Camp Management (CCCM) partners in Yemen, currently serving as sub-national CCCM cluster lead and managing 91 sites throughout the cities of Al Hodeidah, Ibb, Ta'iz and Ma'rib (including Aljufainah camp - Yemen's largest IDP site).

The Organization also serves as the sub-national cluster lead for WASH, co-lead of the Rapid Response Mechanism sector, technical lead of the Cash Consortium of Yemen and lead of the Refugee & Migrants Multi-Sector. IOM continues to be a key health actor, currently supporting 20 health facilities and eight mobile medical teams throughout the country. During the 2023 flood season, in Ma'rib alone, IOM reached more than 114,000 individuals across 31 sites with emergency assistance and risk reduction works. Similar support was provided to at-risk and impacted households in Ibb, Ta'iz and Al Hodeidah.



IOM is offering crucial assistance to families whose shelters have been severely damaged, helping them to recover and rebuild. ©IOM/Haithm Abdulbaqi 2024

## CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

IOM places protection at the core of its humanitarian response in Yemen, recognizing the heightened vulnerabilities faced by displaced populations, migrants and host communities. The organization's approach is fundamentally rights-based, designed to safeguard the dignity, safety, and well-being of affected individuals. Central to this strategy is the mainstreaming of Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) across all interventions and support services. Acknowledging the complex and fragile context in Yemen, IOM embraces conflict sensitivity as a crucial component of its work. This commitment is reinforced by continuous conflict and protection analysis, enabling the organization to maintain agile and flexible operations in a rapidly evolving environment. IOM also prioritizes Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP), actively engaging communities in the planning and decision-making processes. This involves providing clear, context-appropriate information to empower informed choices and establishing robust community feedback mechanisms to ensure the quality and relevance of assistance for all population

groups including often marginalized groups (women, girls, persons with disabilities and elderly). Gender remains a key consideration in IOM Yemen's activities, where as the Organization promotes the participation of women and girls in programming, design interventions that meet their tailored needs and strive to ensure gender balance among staff. By integrating these principles - protection, PSEA, conflict sensitivity, AAP, gender - IOM strives to deliver a comprehensive response that not only addresses immediate humanitarian needs but also contributes to the long-term resilience and empowerment of affected communities in Yemen. The Organization further strives to reduce environmental impacts of its operations by incorporating measures to reduce waste, reliance on fossil fuels and pollution in its programming. This includes, but is not limited to, utilizing reusable, recyclable or biodegradable packaging for distribution of essential relief items, supporting solar powered water systems, and promoting environmentally sustainable practices into the procurement process.

## COORDINATION

The interventions outlined in this flash appeal are in line and complementary to the 2024 Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan and country level contingency plans. As a member of the UN Country team in Yemen, IOM is working closely with UN agencies, local authorities and communities to ensure an effective and coordinated response. IOM will ensure this robust coordination with response actors including UN agencies, international and national organizations as well as authorities throughout implementation of all proposed activities.



On-site assessments by IOM teams are crucial for determining the immediate needs and coordinating aid in the flood-stricken areas. ©IOM/Haithm Abdulbaqi 2024

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