



UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND

# SITUATION REPORT

## CRISIS IN YEMEN

October – December 2025

## Highlights

Yemen continues to face a severe humanitarian crisis amid significant political and military volatility. Internal conflict escalated in the eastern and southern governorates during the reporting period, while the overall humanitarian situation continued to worsen due to funding shortfalls, economic decline and political fragmentation. The operating environment in the north was further constricted due to arbitrary security measures, severely undermining the UN's ability, including UNFPA, to deliver life-saving assistance.

Sudden funding cuts impacted UNFPA's response in 2025, forcing the scaling back of critical services by almost 40 per cent. This left nearly two million women and girls without life-saving support, with an increase in preventable maternal deaths reported at health facilities where services were suspended.

By December 2025, UNFPA's humanitarian response had reached more than 2.1 million people with life-saving reproductive health and protection services and information, and emergency relief, through support to 72 health facilities, 34 safe spaces, eight shelters, six youth spaces and five specialized mental health centres.



**19.5 million**

Total people affected<sup>1</sup>



**4.9 million**

Women of reproductive age<sup>2</sup>



**681,730**

Estimated pregnant women<sup>2</sup>



**2.7 million**

People targeted w/ SRH services



**567,100**

People targeted w/ GBV programmes

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

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

## Situation Overview

Yemen remains entrenched in one of the world's most severe humanitarian crises, characterized by internal socio-political fragmentation, a shifting security landscape and a near-total collapse of essential services. Yemen is now among the most food insecure countries globally with women and children bearing the brunt. [An estimated 18.1 million people—more than half of the population—are projected to face crisis or above levels of food insecurity](#) between September 2025 and February 2026.

Yemen's already overstretched health system continues to deteriorate rapidly as reduced funding and operational constraints threaten the continuity of care amid widespread food insecurity and malnutrition, poor water and sanitation conditions and disease outbreaks. [Since January 2025, some 453 health facilities have faced partial or imminent closure](#). Fewer than half of health facilities currently provide basic emergency obstetric and newborn care, increasing the risks of maternal and neonatal mortality. Non-payment of health worker salaries, fuel shortages and persistent medicine stock outs have further compounded the crisis.

Women and girls face severe and escalating protection risks. An estimated [1.5 million girls in Yemen remain out of school](#), denying them their right to education and limiting their ability to break entrenched cycles of discrimination and violence. [Nearly one third of all girls in Yemen are married before the age of 18](#).

In December 2025, escalating tensions in the southern and eastern governorates exacerbated humanitarian needs, heightened protection risks, increased pressure on basic services and disrupted livelihoods—limiting safe access to health and protection services, particularly for women and girls. Since early December, more than [1,630 households have been displaced from Hadramawt to Marib Governorate](#).

The operating environment for the humanitarian response remains increasingly challenged by a lack of funding, limited humanitarian access, restrictions on movement and security and bureaucratic impediments.

## UNFPA Response

**Reproductive health:** More than 390,000 women and girls were reached with life-saving reproductive health services and information. This includes support for 20,420 safe deliveries, including 7,325 emergency caesareans. In addition, around 29,000 people accessed family planning services at UNFPA-supported facilities. UNFPA maintained the operation of 72 obstetric and neonatal care hospitals—42 provide comprehensive and 30 provide basic emergency obstetric and neonatal care—and deployed 58 community-based midwives.

In Hadramawt Governorate, during the escalation of hostilities, UNFPA continued to support six emergency obstetric and neonatal care hospitals. Reproductive health kits were also distributed to support 3,400 clean deliveries.

In close coordination with WHO, UNFPA expanded the coverage of the maternal death surveillance and response in Yemen, training 105 health care providers on notification and review of maternal deaths in seven southern governorates.

To ensure the consistent availability of essential medicines and supplies at health facilities, the electronic logistics management information system (ELMIS) was expanded to all priority emergency obstetric and neonatal care facilities across the country, with 381 personnel trained on its management. UNFPA also helped to strengthen the supply chain by infrastructural improvements and access to clean energy sources at 13 warehouses, with financial assistance from the Netherlands and the UNFPA Supplies Fund.

The update of midwifery educational standards was supported by UNFPA to improve the quality of midwifery education, in close consultation with higher educational institutes and the Ministry of Health. UNFPA also continues to support 100 students enrolled in a three year midwifery diploma.

With funding from the Netherlands, 114 health care providers were trained on the provision of mental health and psychosocial support services.

**Gender-based violence:** More than 20,400 women accessed multisectoral services through the UNFPA-supported case management system across 20 governorates. These services not only address immediate needs but also help to transform harmful norms and include psychosocial support, specialized psychological services, medical assistance and legal aid.

Eight operational shelters, established by UNFPA in seven governorates, continued to provide GBV survivors immediate shelter, safety from abuse and protection from further violence. Mental health services were provided to nearly 70,000 people through five UNFPA-supported specialized mental health and psychosocial support centres, predominantly GBV survivors.

Over 3,200 women and girls were supported with essential life skills and vocational training, fostering independence and potential for economic empowerment. Awareness-raising sessions on GBV risk mitigation and prevention reached nearly 64,000 women, men, boys and girls. This included the participation of religious leaders and public figures advocating for gender equality and the prevention of violence.

On 4 December, UNFPA, in collaboration with Aden University, launched the first comprehensive study on gendered social norms related to harmful behaviours/practices in both the north and south of the country. The research provides a critical evidence base to understand harmful gendered norms, analyse their impacts on women's security and social status and generate evidence-based recommendations to inform future programming.

Under the UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), a series of community-led initiatives were conducted to catalyze grassroots anti-FGM movements. This

included activating university clubs, youth peer networks and training 15 social and behaviour change ambassadors. In addition, 20 current and 40 potential cutters were provided with vocational training and literacy classes, while 30 survivors of FGM and 10 community influencers were provided with livelihood skills training.

**Adolescents and youth:** UNFPA significantly expanded its reach to adolescents and youth during the fourth quarter. A new youth centre was established in Hadramawt Governorate with financial assistance from the Netherlands. Over 125,000 young people were reached with essential health services and information through three youth-friendly health centres and four youth mobile clinics in Aden, Hadramawt, and Ta'iz Governorates.

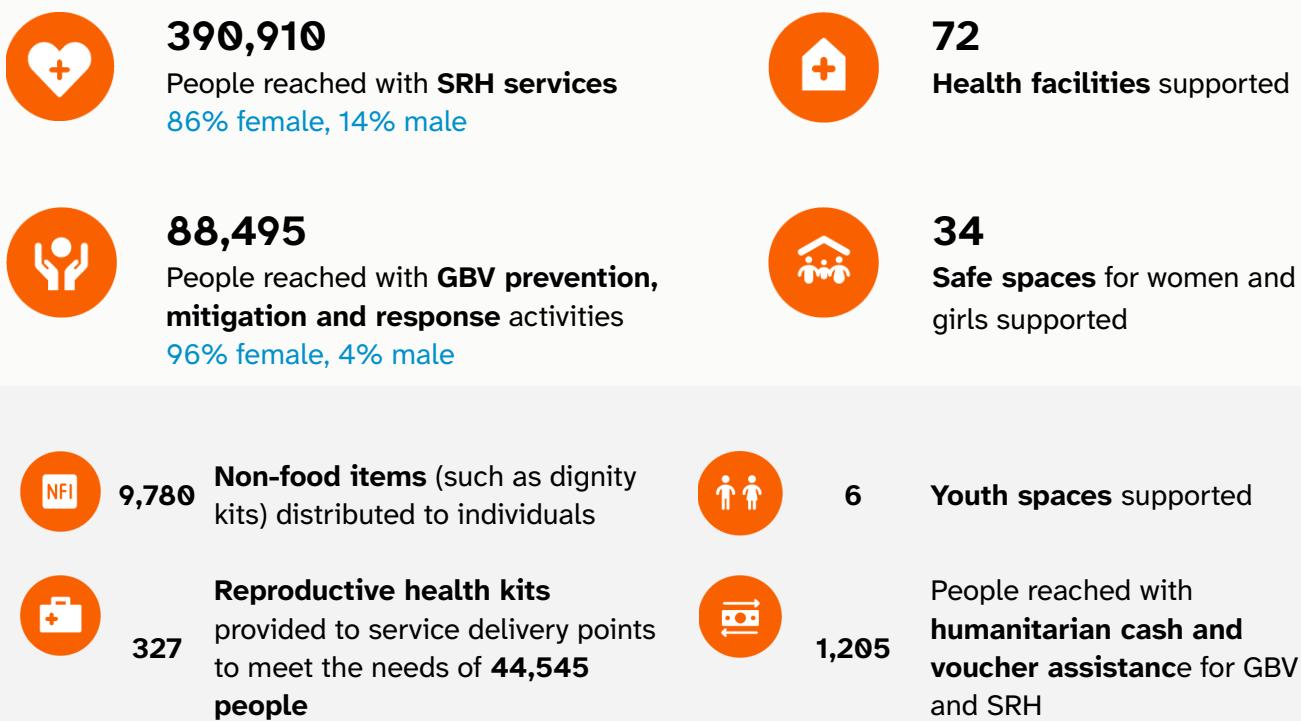
The Yemen Educators Network conducted health awareness and educational sessions for more than 120,000 young people; while over 6,500 young people participated in life skills building and vocational training across the three UNFPA-supported youth spaces.

**Rapid response mechanism:** The UNFPA-led inter-agency Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) provided life-saving emergency relief to nearly 70,000 individuals across 248 sub-districts in 16 governorates with the financial assistance of the European Union Humanitarian Aid (ECHO). Among those reached, 83 per cent were displaced or affected by climate shocks; 15 per cent were newly displaced by conflict; and 1 per cent were affected by airstrikes. Women and girls made up 50 per cent of those reached, of whom 23 per cent were female-headed households, while an estimated 15 per cent were persons with disabilities.

In December, when escalations in hostilities in the Hadramawt Governorate triggered population movement towards Marib, the RRM—the first line of response—was activated, delivering emergency relief to more than 8,500 people within 72 hours of displacement, despite overstretched services, limited access and logistical constraints.



## Results Snapshot (Oct-Dec 2025)



## Coordination Mechanisms

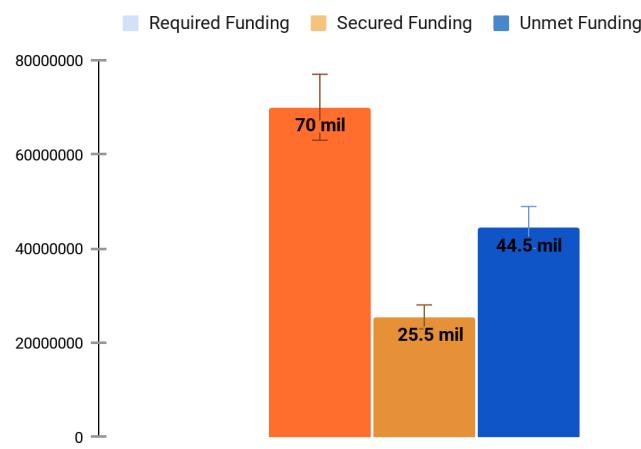
UNFPA co-leads the **Reproductive Health Working Group** with the Ministry of Health under the health cluster.

The **GBV AoR**, co-led by UNFPA and the Yemeni Women Union, spearheaded a campaign marking 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence under the global theme: '*End Digital Violence Against All Women and Girls*'. A series of advocacy events and training initiatives were held across Yemen, culminating with a joint event on the International Day for Human Rights, supported by UNFPA, UN Women and OHCHR. The event created a platform for stakeholders working on women's protection to discuss challenges faced, share good practices and strengthen collective efforts to end all forms of violence against women and girls in Yemen.

The inter-agency RRM coordination mechanism led by UNFPA, in partnership with UNICEF, WFP and IOM, implemented through local partner networks, continued to serve as a joint platform for rapid assessments, harmonized targeting and time-bound delivery of multisectoral emergency assistance. The mechanism was able to harmonize triggers and response thresholds, consolidate partner reporting and support operational decision-making for prepositioning and mobilization of supplies to ensure the delivery of emergency relief within 48 to 72 hours of a displacement trigger.

## Funding Status

In 2025, UNFPA appealed for US\$70 million to maintain its critical support for women and girls, aligning to the Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan. By the end of the year, only US\$25.5 million had been received, leaving a funding gap of US\$44.5 million. Donors to UNFPA's humanitarian response in 2025 included Austria, the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), the European Union, Iceland, the Netherlands, Norway and the Yemen Humanitarian Fund.



**“What saved me was many things working together: safety, therapy, being believed, learning a skill and having people who supported me instead of judging me.”**

— [Lutifa\\*](#), a 16-year-old GBV survivor, speaks of the support she received at a UNFPA women and girls' safe space in Hadramawt Governorate (name changed for privacy and protection.)

## For more information

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