



YEMEN



Faced with a dire health situation as a result of the ongoing conflict, Yemen's priority is to provide relief while counting on support from WHO for ensuring a smooth transition towards recovery and health systems strengthening in the medium term.



NATIONAL HEALTH STRATEGY, 2010-2025

27 584 213 TOTAL POPULATION, (2016)	65 YEARS LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH, (2015)	202\$ TOTAL HEALTH EXPENDITURE PER CAPITA, (2014)	71% TUBERCULOSIS TREATMENT COVERAGE, (2016)
76% OUT OF POCKET EXPENDITURE AS % OF TOTAL HEALTH EXPENDITURE, (2014)	4% GENERAL GOVERNMENT HEALTH EXPENDITURE AS % OF GENERAL GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE, (2014)	6% EXTERNAL AID AS % OF TOTAL HEALTH EXPENDITURE, (2014)	25% ANTENATAL CARE COVERAGE, (2013)
7 HOSPITAL BEDS PER 10 000 POPULATION, (2010)	34% RURAL POPULATION WITH ACCESS TO IMPROVED SANITATION FACILITIES, (2012)	71% DTP3 IMMUNIZATION COVERAGE AMONG 1-YEAR-OLDS, (2016)	45% BIRTHS ATTENDED BY SKILLED HEALTH PERSONNEL, (2013)

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SOURCE: WHO GHO & WB

CURRENT PRIORITIES

The past years of war have had a devastating impact on the country's health situation: Lately faced with a looming cholera epidemic, the collapsing health system is struggling to cope, with more than half of all health facilities closed due to damage, destruction or lack of funds.

A humanitarian response plan was consequently elaborated by MoH in order to address the population's most pressing health needs, along the following objectives:

1. Provide integrated primary, secondary and referral health services, surveillance and response, and medical supplies in priority districts.
2. Strengthen RMNCH interventions, including violence against women.
3. Support community-based health initiatives and sustain the main pillars and health infrastructure.
4. Strengthen health sector coordination and health information systems.

WHO will help ensuring a smooth transition from these emergency measures towards recovery and health systems strengthening in the medium term, in line with the country's National Health Strategy 2010-2025.

LINKAGE TO UHC

In the years preceding the conflict, the country had made promising progress towards UHC, with a coverage rate for health services of nearly 70% at the time and a strong policy focus on elaborating a sound health financing plan, in conjunction with development partners. These processes were put on hold with the start of the conflict in March 2015. A reprioritization exercise was undertaken, with support from WHO, for the UHC-Programme activities, in order to identify feasible actions in light of the difficult, new context, notably:

1. A minimum, costed service package (MSP) was developed
2. A full set of data on all levels of health service provision has been gathered using the WHO tool "Health availability Resources Mapping System". This data is now used as a basis for planning by WHO and other partners in Yemen.
3. Exploring innovative methods for health financing such as contracting of NGOs and civil society to compensate for lack of provision from public health facilities.
4. WHO-led development of Health Joint Programme as a bridge between the humanitarian response and development efforts

Sources: All data WHO 2016 unless otherwise stated

WHO SUPPORT TO DATE

- Minimum service package updated
- Service Availability & Resources Assessment (SARA) HeRAMS "Health availability Resources Mapping System" conducted
- Development of the "Health Joint Program" within the bridging framework of the UN

Remaining gap: Water and Sanitation systems remain disrupted

↳ **Recommendation: Engage in innovative health partnerships with WASH providers.**

Remaining gap: Shortage of medicines and medical supplies

↳ **Recommendation : Coordinate the partnership planned activities with the country emergency response framework.**

Remaining gap: Poor quality of health services

↳ **Recommendation : Tailored capacity-building measures at decentralized levels.**

Remaining gap: Shortage of health services and non-payment of public health facilities staff

↳ **Recommendation : Consider Performance-based financing and contracting of NGOs and civil society for provision of health services.**

Stories from the field:

Teaming up to save lives: A statement by WHO, UNICEF and WFP



Following their joint visit to Yemen in July 2017, WHO Director-General, Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, UNICEF Executive Director, Anthony Lake and WFP Executive Director, David Beasley issued the following joint statement: "As we drove through the city, we saw how vital infrastructure, such as health and water facilities, had been damaged or destroyed. More than 30 000 health workers haven't been paid their salaries in more than 10 months, but many still report for duty.

"We also saw the vital work being done by local authorities and NGOs, supported by international humanitarian agencies, including our own. The delivery of food supplements, intravenous fluids and other medical supplies, including ambulances, is ongoing, as so is the rebuilding of critical infrastructure and the water and sanitation network.

"The Yemeni crisis requires an unprecedented response. Our 3 agencies have teamed up with the Yemeni authorities and other partners to coordinate our activities in new



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