



**World Health
Organization**

Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean

SITUATION REPORT MARCH 2021 ISSUE NO.3 Yemen Update



WHO support in the fight against COVID19, thanks to the support of partners. Photo: WHO

HIGHLIGHTS

COVID19 Response: WHO in partnership with UNICEF, supported the arrival of the first batch of 360,000 doses of AstraZeneca COVID19 vaccines shipped through the Covax facility.

P 03

Infection & Prevention Control: WHO and the Ministry of Public Health & Population on 13-15 March organized an Infection & Prevention Control (IPC) workshop in Aden for 42 reproductive health workers from 11 governorates to improve the quality of IPC at Maternal & Newborn health departments.

P 05

WHO & partners continue their fight against child malnutrition through increasing its support to therapeutic feeding centres (TFCs), reaching 100 TFCs to improve access to treatment for severely malnourished children with medical complications.

P 06

Malaria Control & Prevention: As part of their joint Malaria Control & Prevention Project, WHO and KSR relief distributed in March 1200 sprayers for indoor residual & larviciding spray, 1200 valves, and spare parts to support malaria vector control campaigns in targeted governorates in Yemen.

P 07



Photo: WHO/Omar Nasr



30.5M
ESTIMATED
POPULATION*



20.7 M **
NEED HUMANITARIAN
ASSISTANCE



4,361***
COVID-19
CONFIRMED CASES



20.1M ****
IN NEED OF HEALTH
ASSISTANCE

NUMBER OF WHO STAFF & OTHER CONTRACTS MODALITY IN
COUNTRY: 300

HEALTH SECTOR

45

HEALTH CLUSTER PARTNERS

19 M

TARGETED POPULATION –YHRP 2020

MEDICINES DELIVERED TO HEALTH FACILITIES/PARTNERS
SEPTEMBER

251,900

LITERS OF FUEL DELIVERED

* Yemen HNO 2021
** Yemen HNO 2021
*** COVID-19 Report as of Mar 2021
**** Yemen HNO 2021



WHO Response
COVID19 Response

Photo: WHO Yemen/Omar Nasr



360,000 doses of AstraZeneca COVID18 vaccines. Photo: WHO Yemen

As COVID19 cases in Yemen continue to rise, WHO in partnership with UNICEF, supported the arrival of the first batch of 360,000 doses of AstraZeneca COVID19 vaccines shipped through the Covax facility. This will support health workers & other vulnerable populations will be protected.

Furthermore, as part of their support to the national COVID19 response, during February and March, WHO with the support of Islamic Bank for

Development supported central public health laboratories in Aden, Taiz, Mukalla & Sayoun with laboratory supplies, reagents, and PPEs to expand laboratory testing capacity. Moreover, WHO provided essential equipment, and lifesaving medicines and medical supplies including PPEs, IV fluids & life-saving medicines to 16 COVID19 treatment centers in Yemen to improve case management, including severe cases.

In addition, WHO distributed 700 oxygen cylinders to health facilities in Yemen to avoid preventable deaths and families of hospitalized patients paying a premium for scarce oxygen supplies.



Photo: WHO Yemen



Photo: WHO Yemen

Infection & Prevention Control workshop

WHO and the Ministry of Public Health & Population on 13-15 March organized an Infection & Prevention Control (IPC) workshop in Aden for 42 reproductive health workers from 11 governorates to improve the quality of IPC at Maternal & Newborn health departments.



Infection & Prevention Control Training. Photo: WHO Yemen

WHO and partners continue their fight against child malnutrition

The humanitarian crisis in Yemen continues to exacerbate the situation on the children, with nearly 2.3 million children under the age of five in the country are suffering from acute malnutrition in 2021. Of these, 400,000 are expected to suffer from severe acute malnutrition and could die if they do

malnutrition (SAM) with medical complications. The cure rate was reported at 94% (1,112) with a case fatality rate of 2% (20). Moreover, to maintain the essential services provision in TFCs, WHO supported distribution of drugs, therapeutic milk and furniture to 68 TFCs in 13 governorates



Case Management of severe acute malnutrition training. Photo: WHO Yemen/Omar Nasr

not receive urgent treatment. WHO and health partners are scaling-up to respond. In February 2021, WHO increased its support to therapeutic feeding centres (TFCs), reaching 100 TFCs to improve access to treatment for severely malnourished children with medical complications. A total of 1,317 children were admitted to these WHO supported TFCs to treat severe acute

malnutrition across Yemen. And to increase the quality of health care service delivery, in February WHO trained 150 health workers from 10 therapeutic feeding centers covering an area with 40,350 children under five on new guidelines for case management of severe acute malnutrition with medical complications.



Inpatient management of SAM with complications workshop. Photo: WHO Yemen

Malaria Control and Prevention

As part of their joint Malaria Control & Prevention Project, WHO and KSRelief distributed in March 1200 sprayers for indoor residual & larviciding spray, 1200 valves, and spare parts to support malaria vector control campaigns in targeted governorates in Yemen.



Distribution of sprayers for malaria vector control campaigns. Photo: WHO Yemen

eDEWS Training

WHO and the Ministry of Health in Aden conducted a training on the upgraded electronic Disease Early Warning System (eDEWS). The training aims to equip par-

ticipants from 12 governorates with the necessary knowledge & skills to run the upgraded system & ensure early detection of outbreaks.



eDEWS Training. Photo: WHO Yemen

Support to Chronic Diseases

In March, WHO continued to distribute medicines and medical supplies to cover the need of almost 100,000 patients with the most chronic disease such as cardiovascular, hypertension, and diabetes. The support was delivered to 72 health facilities in 22 governorates. Moreover, WHO distributed 48 non-communicable disease NCD Kits in Amanat Alasima to cover al-

most 100,000 patients for 6 months, in addition to providing 28 health facilities with several test devices for the most NCDs. Also 119,952 Epotine vials were distributed to 13 dialysis centers in seven governorates (Aden, Al-Dhalee, Al-Mahara, Hadramout, Mareb, Shabwah, and Taiz.). The mentioned quantity will cover the annual need of almost 1500 dialysis-dependent patients.

Mental Health Training

WHO with the support of Japan, has facilitated a training program to bridge the gap in the mental health sector organized in Aden by the Ministry of Public Health & Population for a total of 250 healthcare workers in #Yemen. The first session was held this week.



Mental Health Training. Photo: WHO Yemen

Support for health facilities

In March, WHO continued support to health facilities across Yemen, including dialysis centres and central public health laboratories, including Al-Hudayda, Raymah, Al Mahweet, Hajjah and Hadramout, through the provision of medicines and medical supplies to ensure the delivery of essential health care services.

The supplies delivered, cholera kits, nutrition kits, surgical supplies, PPE equipment,

hygiene kits and infection control, dialysis supplies, and other medicine and medical supplies.

Besides, WHO continued its support to targeted health facilities by providing 251,900 litres of fuel and 4,446,460 litres of water to health facilities across the country. This support will ensure functionality and continuous provision of life-saving health care services.

Epidemiological Update

COVID -19

In March, health authorities reported 2,088 new confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 260 associated deaths, bringing the total number of reported cases to 4,361, with 892 deaths as of the end of March.

However, health partners remain concerned that under-reporting continues for various reasons and that the official epi-curve underestimates the extent of COVID-19 in Yemen.

Cholera

From 28 December 2020 to 28 March 2021, a total of 14,246 suspected AWD/cholera cases were reported from northern governorates, with two associated deaths. Within the last three epidemiological weeks, 14 governorates reported suspected case, with 57% of suspected cases reported from four governorates: Sana'a (21%), Al Hudaydah (17%), Ibb (10%) and Al Bayda (9%).

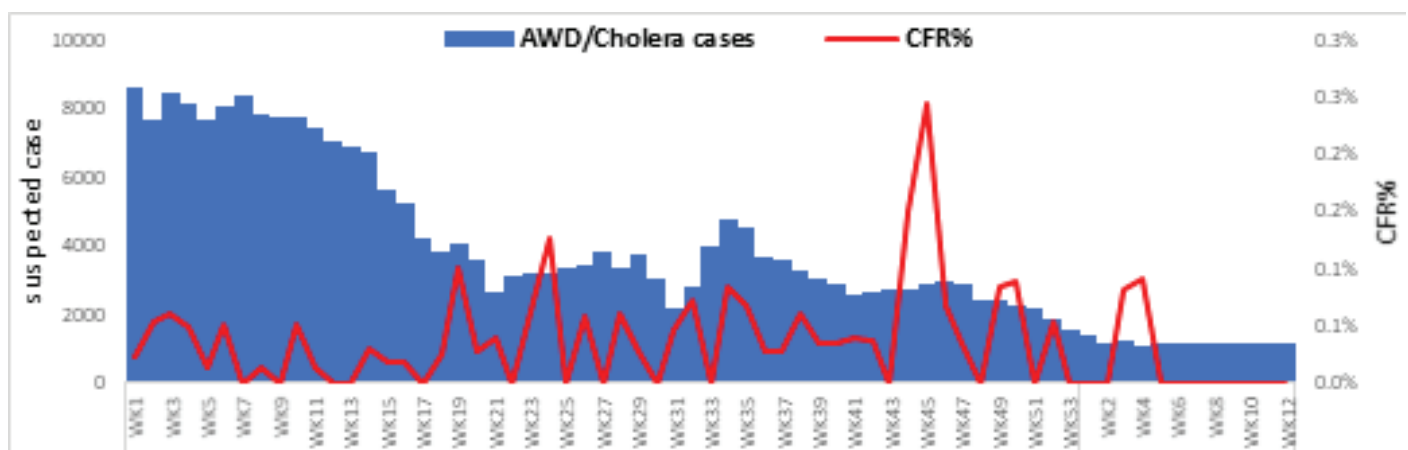


Figure 1 The trend of suspected cholera cases between epidemiological weeks 1, 2020 to 12, 2021

Diphtheria

From 28 December 2020 to 28 March 2021, a total of 261 probable cases from northern governorates, including 14 associated deaths, were reported. Within the last 3 epidemiological weeks, 12 governorates reported probable cases with 74% of probable cases reported from five governorates: Sa’ada (23%), Amanat Al Asimah (16%), Al Hudaydah (13%), Hajjah (11%) and Dhamar (11%).

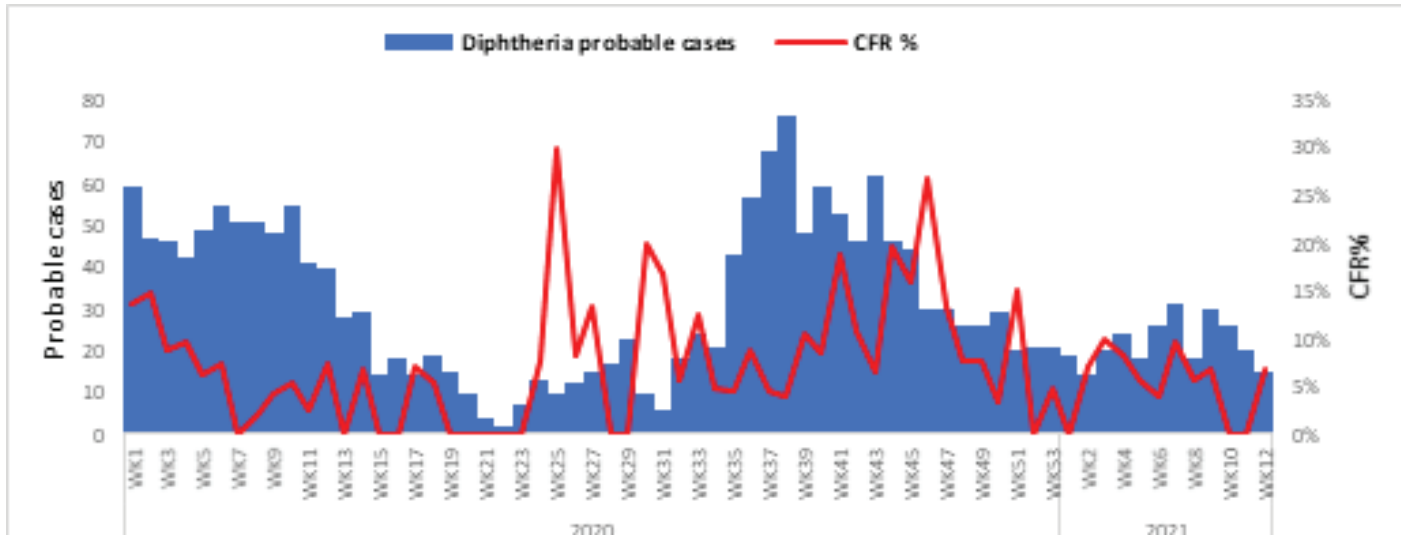


Figure 2 The trend of probable diphtheria cases between epidemiological weeks 1, 2020 to 12, 2021

Dengue Fever

From 28 December 2020 to 28 March 2021, a total of 1,396 suspected dengue fever cases were reported from northern governorates, with one associated death. Within the last 4 epidemiological weeks, 99% of suspected cases were reported from 4 governorates: Al Hudaydah (82%), Al-Maheet (8%), Hajjah (5%), and Al Bayda (4%).

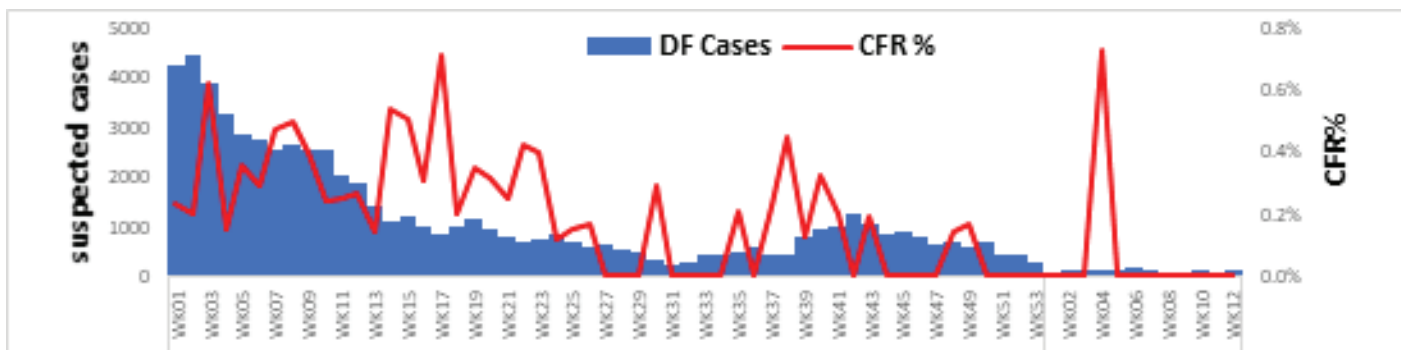


Figure 3 The trend of suspected dengue fever cases between epidemiological weeks 1, 2020 –12, 2021

Measles

From 28 December 2020 to 28 March 2021, a total of 3,034 suspected measles cases were reported from northern governorates, with 20 associated deaths. Within the last 3 epidemiological weeks, 12 governorates reported suspected cases with 67% of suspected cases were reported from four governorates: Sa'ada (31%), Amran (16%), Amanat Al Asimah (12%) and Sana'a (8%). Children under the age of five represent 73% of the total suspected cases.

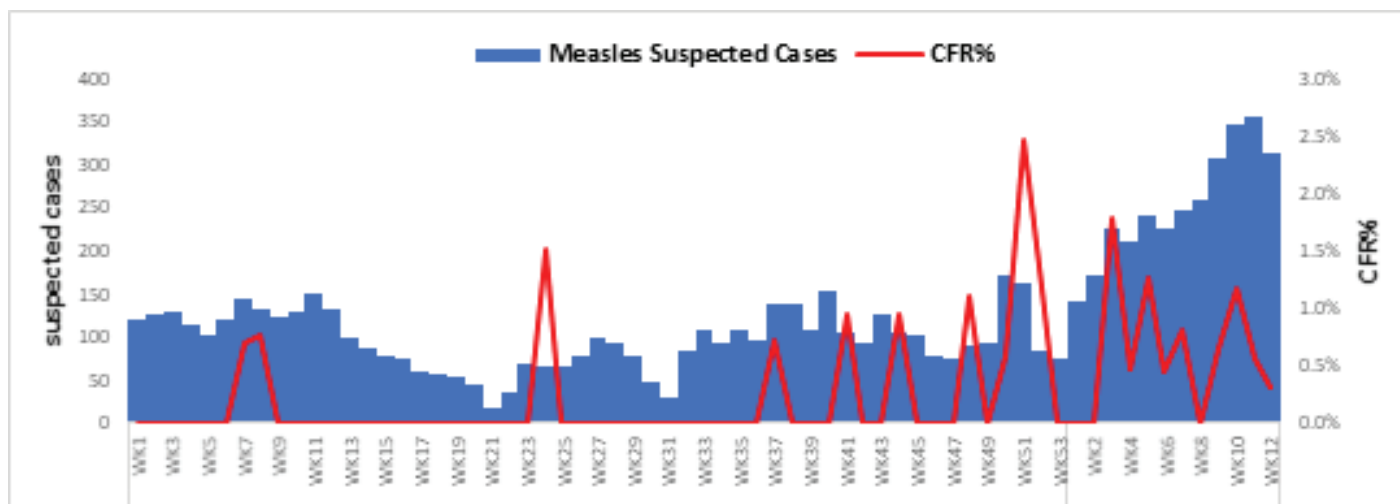


Figure 4 The trend of suspected measles cases between epidemiological weeks 1, 2020–12, 2021

SARI

From 28 December 2020 to 28 March 2021, a total of 1,263 suspected SARI cases were reported from northern governorates, with 46 associated deaths. Within the last 4 epidemiological weeks, 12 governorates reported suspected cases with 85% of suspected cases were reported from four governorates: Amanat Al Asimah (51%), Dhamar (20%), Amran (9%) and Ibb (5%).

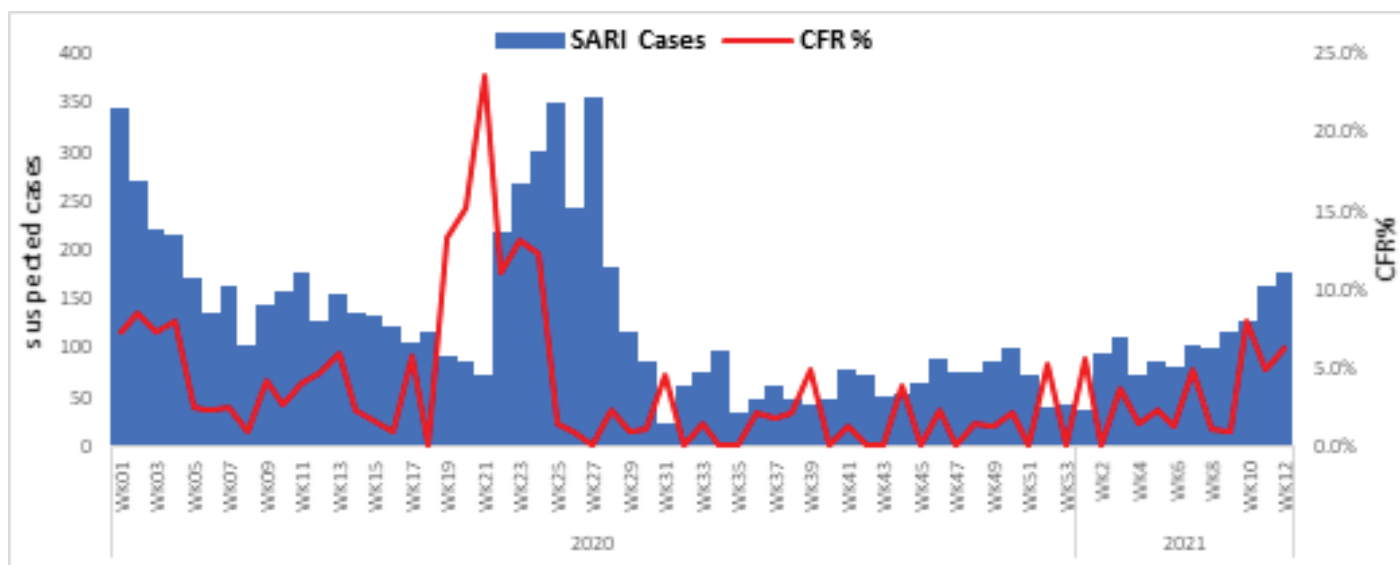


Figure 5 The trend suspected SARI cases between epidemiological weeks 1, 2020 to 12, 2021

Nutrition

As a total of 48,431 children under five were screened for all forms of malnutrition in February 2021, 24% were under six months. Acute Wasting by Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) was detected in 21% of the total children aged 6-59 months screened in March 2021, with the highest rates recorded in Al Hudaydah and Taiz. Children found with acute malnutrition were referred to appropriate nutrition services.

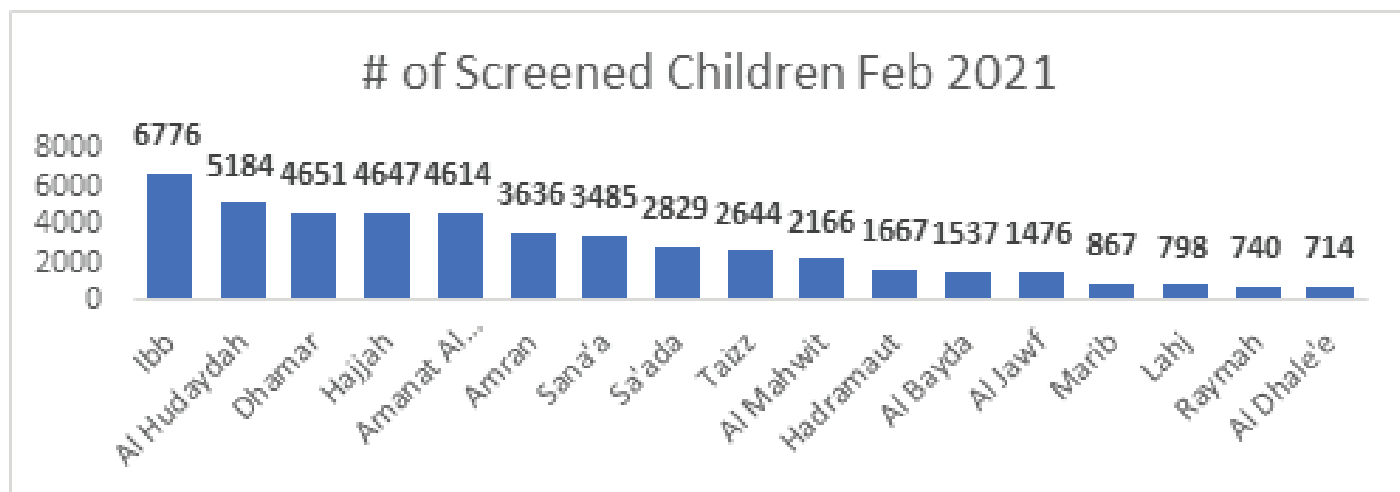


Figure 6 Number of children screened for severe acute malnutrition in February 2021





**World Health
Organization**

Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean

Contacts:

Dr Adham Rashad Ismail ABDEL MONEIM, WHO Representative in Yemen: ismaila@who.int
Sufyan Al Mathani, Communication Officer, WHO Yemen: almathanis@who.int