

MA'RIB FLOOD AND STORM RESPONSE

JULY 2022



The shelters of more than 130 displaced households were completely flooded in Saylat Al Rumala site in Ma'rib. © IOM 2022

Over 5,000

households directly affected in IOM managed sites

Key Response Activities

- Rapid Needs Assessment
- Registration and Referral
- Rapid flood risk reduction



853 Shelter kits distributed



182 NFI kits distributed



712 RRM kits distributed

On 13 July 2022, strong winds and rains hit Ma'rib around 1:00 in the morning, causing extensive damage to shelters and facilities in IDP hosting sites across the governorate. Displaced families in the sites are particularly vulnerable to harsh weather conditions given the precarious nature of their shelters, which are often makeshift structures or tents.

On 14 July, IOM Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) teams carried out assessments across 34 sites managed by IOM, to ascertain the extent of the damage and map urgent needs. Over 4,500 families had their shelters either fully or partially damaged in the storms. In total, 541 shelters were fully damaged and in need of replacement, with another 4,000 partially damaged and in need of repair. WASH assessments found that 190 latrines were fully damaged, and in need of rehabilitation or replacement. A total of 541 households had non-food items (NFIs) destroyed or lost in the storms; 712 households were in need of Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) kits due to destroyed stocks and supplies; and 505 households required food rations. In addition, as a result of the flooding and stagnant water, communities are at heightened risk of communicable diseases including gastrointestinal, skin and respiratory diseases.

The flood defense Gabion Wall, constructed by IOM in Al Jufainah displacement site prevented large-scale flooding across the site which currently hosts over 10,000 households. However, technical assessments found that some 20 meters of the wall were damaged in the storm, and in need of urgent repair.

A multi-sectoral response was launched on the same day to cover urgent needs. CCCM teams assessed, registered, and referred over 5,000 affected families across the 34 sites, and relocated families from identified flood paths to safer locations. Shelter, NFI and RRM distributions were initiated, with 345 tents, 853 shelter kits (plastic sheets, ropes, sandbags), 712 RRM kits (hygiene, food and dignity kits, plastic basins, jerry cans), and 182 NFI kits (mattresses, blankets, buckets, kitchen sets) distributed to 1,560 displaced families between 14 and 17 July.

Several thousand additional shelter kits are being procured to meet the needs of the remaining households. In addition, IOM is ensuring the provision of emergency and primary health services to affected sites. Mobile medical teams have been raising awareness on the dangers of children playing in stagnant water, reaching over 200 men, women, boys and girls.

Rehabilitation of the collapsed Gabion Wall in Al Jufainah commenced on 15 July, as well as the construction of two additional flood prevention walls. Machinery was made available in two sites in order to construct embankments for

rapid flood risk reduction, while flood risk reduction tools (wheelbarrows, pickaxes, buckets, shovels) were distributed to communities in eight sites for household level irrigation, and 800 sandbags were distributed across four sites. Meanwhile, the WASH team began to rehabilitate 170 latrine pits, with 50 pits already de-sludged.

No injuries were reported as a result of the storms. However, significant infrastructure damage, as well as bodies of standing water and mud, pose a hazard to the safety and health of site residents. CCCM and WASH teams launched hygiene promotion campaigns to mitigate the risk of children playing in standing water, as well as to prevent the spread of communicable disease, this is further being complimented by awareness raising conducted by mobile medical teams. Meanwhile, WASH teams are monitoring standing water, and are on standby to drain flooded areas if the water is not absorbed in the coming days.

In addition, sensitization campaigns with local authorities and community groups are ongoing around the importance of preserving embankments, gabion walls and drainage channels in good condition. In Al Jufainah, community members opened the gabion walls in some areas to allow for vehicle access, which compromised the wall's integrity and caused flooding of shelters due to water overflow.

IOM is preparing for further rains by identifying evacuation centres in sites in case of future flooding, as well as ensuring workers are on standby for rapid emergency drainage and shelter repair.

IOM aims to complete all planned distributions and rehabilitation works by the end of July and will continue to monitor emerging needs. The Organization continues to closely coordinate with the Executive Unit (the local authority responsible for IDPs), clusters and partners working in IOM sites to respond to the needs of affected families.



63 households received tents and RRM kits in Al Rawda Al Jadeeda site on 15 July. © IOM 2021



Embankment construction for rapid flood risk reduction in Al Jufainah camp commenced on 14 July. © IOM 2021

IOM'S ONGOING WORK RESPONDING TO THE FLOODS IN MA'RIB IS SUPPORTED BY

