

MARIB RESPONSE

16-31 JANUARY 2021



Workers constructing a school through IOM support in Marib ©IOM 2021/ E. Al Oqabi

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Moving into 2021, protracted conflict continues to affect hundreds of thousands of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and host community members in Marib. Civilians are bearing the devastating impact of renewed hostilities, seeing their homes and community infrastructure damaged, being forced to flee to safety. During this reporting period, the fighting has so far impacted civilian areas in Jabal Murad, Mahliyah and Sirwah districts, affecting women and children the most. Humanitarian access to many areas in Marib continues to be a challenge and basic services remain overstretched.

Increased fighting or shifts in frontlines will lead to another wave of displacement, with more people predicted to flee into Marib city and surrounding areas. IOM estimates that 106,449 people have been displaced by the fighting since January 2020, and partners estimate that significant changes to frontlines could displace an additional 385,000 people, who will likely move further into eastern Marib, Hadramaut and Shabwah. While people flee conflict-affected areas, at least 4,500 migrants are estimated to be stranded in Marib city – many of whom are unable to access basic services and in dire need of food, shelter, health and protection assistance.

HUMANITARIAN IMPACT AND NEEDS

People in Need



161,451

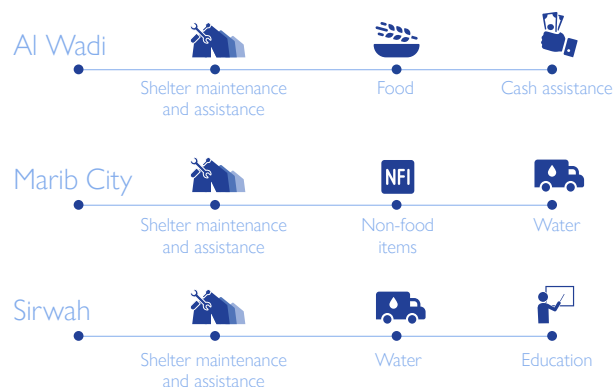
- 45% of IDPs with no access to health services
- 95% of IDP hosting sites with no access to reliable waste management systems
- 78% of IDPs lack some form of civil documentation
- 60% of IDPs in need of shelter and NFI support

Before the escalation of hostilities in 2020, Marib governorate already hosted the largest displaced population and IDP hosting site in Yemen. The surge in fighting since January 2020 has displaced an estimated 15,207 families (106,449 people), adding to the hundreds of thousands already sheltering in the governorate. More than a year since the first wave of displacements, people continue to move to Marib city and surrounding areas, a majority fleeing conflict for the second time. IOM estimates that 60 per cent of new IDPs are settling into crowded displacement sites or informal settlements with inadequate services. With the situation showing no sign of easing, there are continued concerns around the resources and capacities needed to respond.

Humanitarian gaps exist across the response, and some of the largest are in shelter maintenance, waste management and hygiene, health, food and education. IOM estimates that around 70 per cent of displaced families in Marib lack access to reliable, safe water systems, and over 90 per cent of new arrivals (13,000 HHs) lack access to adequate latrines. Only one IDP hosting site in Marib city (Al Jufainah Camp) has temporary learning spaces or a permanent education partner presence—which still covers only 20-30 per cent of the needs. IOM also estimates that 45 per cent of IDPs do not have sustained access to health services. Of the 125 IDP sites in Marib, IOM and partners are able to provide sustained support in 34 sites, down from 46 sites in 2020 due to stretched capacities. As of January 2021, IOM and partners are providing support in 34 out of the 125 IDP sites in Marib, down from 46 sites in 2020. This decrease is a testament to the limited partner resources in Marib, with one partner ceasing support due to lack of funds. The 15 sites which report no access to food assistance are also of particular concern to the Organization.

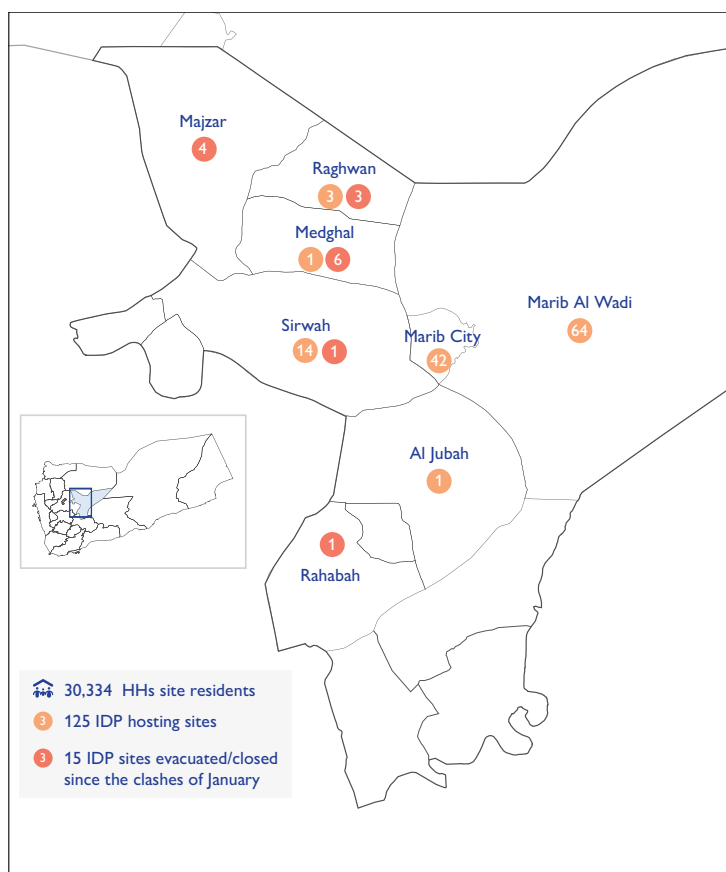
Needs Assessments Primary Findings

Priority needs per district



Gaps¹

- 120 sites: Inadequate shelter maintenance services
- 124 sites: Inadequate WASH services, protection support and livelihood
- 116 sites: Inadequate health services
- 124 sites: Inadequate livelihood opportunities
- 121 sites: Inadequate nutrition support
- 100 sites: Inadequate education services



¹ As reported by site focal points

Migrants in acute need



52% of migrants in need of food

84% of migrants do not have access to health services

Stranded Migrants

In Marib governorate, IOM estimates that over 4,500 migrants are stranded, with an increase of 200 Ethiopian migrants coming from Shabwah during the second half of January 2021, an estimated 20 per cent of which are children. They have settled in the area of Batha Bin Mueyli before continuing on their journey to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA). Batha Bin Mueyli is a transit settlement where IOM provides basic services for migrants, including WASH, NFIs and protection. As the border with KSA is closed migrants will be staying at the settlement indefinitely. IOM will continue to offer services in the area and work to limit tensions between migrants and Yemenis, as well as between long established migrants and newer arrivals. Additionally, migrants' movements from Marib towards Al Jawf and Sa'ada continued to slightly increase during the reporting period.

Many of the new arrivals, especially women, report suffering violence and abuse on their journey, particularly at checkpoints, with no means of seeking help. Women and girls are the most exposed to risks of exploitation and, and are often exploited by traffickers and smugglers, who control their freedom of movement and sources of income, for example, women cannot leave where they are being held unless to use unsanitary latrines and when they reach their destination, they are expected to pay back the trafficker. During the reporting period, IOM estimates that around 100 women have been forced to move to Sana'a to work as domestic labourers until the KSA border opens. Other migrant women are increasingly being forced to work off debts on farms in Marib or moved to Sana'a to work as domestic labourers.

IOM is responding to the needs of the most vulnerable migrants prioritizing life-saving interventions such as distribution of tents, relief items, food and water, facilitating health referrals as well as providing individual support to vulnerable cases and victims of trafficking. With protection risks for this group worsening, greater partner presence and capacity is needed to ensure an adequate and timely response to the widespread needs. One of the greatest needs among the migrant population is food, along with health services.



A migrant woman registers at an aid distribution outside of Marib city ©IOM 2021

ADVOCACY POINTS

1. IOM encourages partners to provide a dedicated response in Marib. There are current humanitarian response gaps not being met and IOM anticipates further shocks and increased needs in the months to come. IOM operates a shared humanitarian hub and can provide logistical support and office space, please refer to IOM Yemen's Marib Booking Procedures brochure for further information.
2. Maintaining the relative stability of Marib is a priority and IOM is concerned about further displacement as well as the humanitarian impact on civilians. Those partners that have influence should continue to advocate against an escalation of hostilities.
3. IOM encourages partners to prioritize vulnerable migrants in humanitarian planning and response efforts, recognizing the life-threatening conditions migrants are facing in Yemen.

RESPONSE HIGHLIGHTS

The IOM Marib team is comprised of 17 international and 90 national support and programme staff in Marib as well as nearly 200 community mobilizers and enumerators. Fifteen international staff are currently in Marib, leading response activities. IOM is assisting in coordinating response efforts in Marib through its leadership of the CCCM and Health sub-national clusters, co-leadership of the WASH sub-national cluster, Marib-based focal point of the protection cluster, and as S-NFI Contingency Pipeline Manager. IOM is also working closely with the Ministry of Public Health and Population (MoPHP) and the Governorate Health Office (GHO) on COVID-19 preparedness and response activities. IOM operates the humanitarian hub and continues to welcome increased partner presence, facilitating most recently the World Food Programme (WFP) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) presence in Marib.



IOM's CCCM team carries out assessments in IDP hosting sites in Marib
©IOM 2021/E. Al Oqabi

 **15,207**

Newly displaced HHs registered by IOM



14,769 14,769 HHs Received RRM
12,069 HHs Received MPCA

 **6,826**

Shelters provided

 **7,686**

NFI kits distributed

 **19,510**

Plastic sheets provided

 **83,726,700**

Litres of safe drinking water provided²

 **1,452**

Latrines constructed

 **1**

Primary school under construction

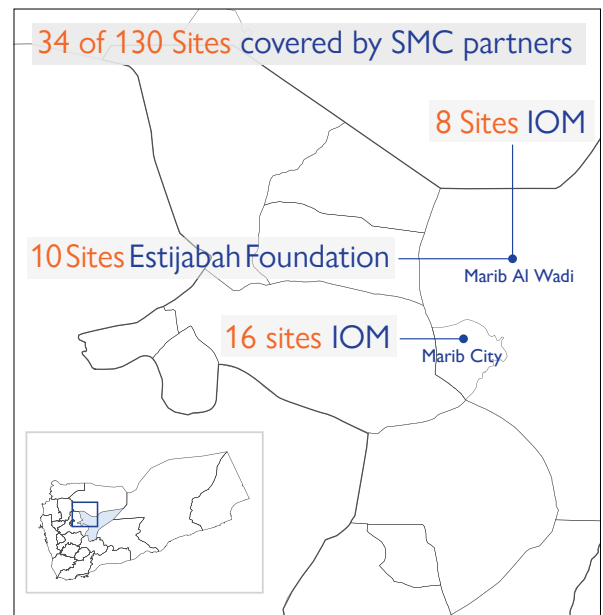
**Response updates from 21 January 2020 to 31 January 2021*

² 6,071,000 liters provided in the period covered by this report. The monthly amount increased from 1,943,000 litres since January, because of the rise of IDPs in need.

IOM & PARTNER COVERAGE³

SITE CARE & SITE MAINTENANCE

- **15,216 households** in 34 IDP hosting sites receiving site management support; 91 IDP hosting sites (15,118 IDP HHs) not supported by site management and coordination partners.
- **24 out of 130 IDP** hosting sites receive regular site care, maintenance and risk reduction support. In Marib city's largest displacement site, the electricity system is being upgraded benefiting around 9,000 HHs, and the entrance of the site is being improved to facilitate access and reduce the risk of flooding, including the relocation of 110 HHs, from marginalized communities, from the flood valley to a secure site within the camp.
- **8 IDPs sites** in Sirwah, Marib City and Marib Al-Wadi districts targeted for flood risk reduction activities: flood ways constructed, roads damaged by the Marib dam overflow repaired, and embankments have been finalized; 2km gabion wall is under construction in Al Jufainah Camp; at least 8 sites assessed by IOM teams require flood risk reduction support.
- **8 Community centres** and 12 playgrounds in Marib City, Al-Wadi and Sirwah districts to improve living conditions in 8 sites at final stage of completion.
- **1 Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC)** office space rehabilitated and expanded to accommodate local authorities, clusters meetings and agencies offices. The second floor of the building is under construction, while rehabilitation to the existing ground floor are planned, including a conference annex for meetings.



SHELTER & NON-FOOD ITEMS (S-NFI) AND RAPID RESPONSE MECHANISM (RRM)

- **2 RRM partners** responding to the emergency needs of newly displaced persons inside and outside IDP hosting sites in 7 districts, with 5 districts inaccessible due to conflict. Additional resources for frontline RRM activities are needed to sustain the RRM response.
- **5,293 HHs** were displaced into Marib City, Marib Al Wadi, Raghwan, and Hareeb districts between August 2020 and January 2021 alone. More than half of this IDP caseload was displaced for more than one time, arriving mainly from Medghal district and into IDP hosting sites (54%) and urban or rural areas (46%).
- **1,517 newly displaced households** received emergency shelter kits (ESK), tents, non-food items (NFIs) and emergency latrines through IOM's nationwide multi-sectoral contingency pipeline.
- **18,374 HHs** received ESKs, NFI and family tents since January 2020.
- **3,661 HH** supported with cash for shelter rehabilitations and 200 Transitional shelters were constructed.
- **IOM is conducting cash for shelter** rehabilitations targeting **800 families** in 5 IDPs sites, however this is only covering 3% of the required shelter rehabilitation needs in Marib. In addition, IOM is conducting a need assessment for transitional shelter construction targeting 1000 families in 4 IDPs sites, covering only 3% of the shelter rehabilitation need in all the IDPs sites in Marib.

WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE (WASH)

- **1,452 family latrines** constructed in Marib city, Marib Al Wadi, Sirwah districts, with approximately 10,000 IDP HHs estimated to be in need of sanitation services.
- **14 IDP hosting sites (3,789 HH)** received water for drinking and household use daily, and 6 IDP hosting sites (2,423 HH) with access to rehabilitated or expanded water networks, with 20 additional IDP sites requiring access to safe water.
- **6 IDP hosting sites (1851 HH)** benefitted from regular waste collection since 19 October. 879 m³ of waste removed since the beginning of the intervention.

³ Details on the coverage of needs and gaps are based on IOM analyses and estimations in locations the Organization is present

PROTECTION

- **700 migrants** received drinking water in Bin Muaili.
- **1,609 migrants** received two rounds of food kits in Marib City and Al Wadi.
- **1,310 migrants** received blankets in Marib City and Al Wadi.
- **190 migrants** received emergency shelter kits, 128 migrants received dignity kits and 486 migrants received hygiene kits in Marib Al Wadi.
- **105 women migrants** received dignity kits.
- **24 migrants** received protection cash assistance.
- **269 IDPs** were registered and identified as vulnerable in Al Wadi and Marib city.
- **49 IDPs** were provided with temporary shelter kits in Sirwah and Marib city.
- **61 IDPs** received NFIs kits in Sirwah, Marib city and Marib Alwadi.
- **194 IDPs** assisted with cash for protection assistance.



A laboratory worker looks at a patient's test result in Alshaheed Hayel Hospital, Marib ©IOM 2021/ E. Al Oqabi

HEALTH

- **1 fixed clinic** and **4 mobile** outreach teams are covering 26 IDP hosting sites, carrying out 1,500 consultations per week on average. There are currently 39 sites in need of sustained access to health services.
- **1 mobile clinic** to start operation in February 2021 to support migrants and IDPs hosted in Bin Al Mouali and Al Hadbah sites in Marib city. The service will also be extended to members of the host community.
- **1 secondary healthcare facility** in Al Shaheed Mohammed Hail Hospital supported through human and material resources to enable the provision of health services to IDPs and host communities in Marib city.
- **50 health workers** in Al Wahdah hospital in Al Hosoun subdistrict supported with financial incentives to help run Obstetrics and Gynecologist departments, neonatal intensive care unit, and pediatric outpatient clinic.
- **101,329 primary healthcare consultations** and 8,629 reproductive health consultations provided, reaching 51,854 people in 26 IDP sites and host communities.
- **2 isolation centers** established and equipped in Al Jufainah and in Al-Marda IDP sites.
- **22,569 newly displaced persons** received emergency health services, including 3,859 children under the age of 5 screened for malnutrition, and 746 of them referred for nutritional support.
- **1,347 newly displaced children** reached with routine vaccination, and 2,070 pregnant women reached with ante-natal care.

TRANSITION & RECOVERY

- **2,992 households** benefited from livelihood interventions, including multi-purpose cash assistance, cash for work and vocational training and business start-up kits.
- **1 primary school** under construction in Marib city.
- **26 community-based activities** under review in Marib City, Harib, Al Wadi, Al Juba, and Sirwah.

IOM'S RESPONSE IN MARIB IS SUPPORTED BY

