Yemen: Escalating Conflict Flash Update 29 | 9 May 2015 (10.00)



Daily Key messages

Conflict continues to intensify. Every day families are forced to flee their homes, while other conflict affected people are cut off from critical basic services. The onset of heavy rains exposes these people to greater health risks. Humanitarian partners need unfettered humanitarian access and security to distribute aid supplies in-country and to scale up assistance.

Overview

Between 8 and 9 May, intensive airstrikes were carried out in Sa'ada Governorate. The airstrikes hit several areas, including the government compound and Al Majbalah market. Airstrikes, shelling and heavy clashes also took place in another eight districts of Majz, Haydan, Al Dhaher, As Safra, Razih, Shed'a, Saqayn and Kitaf wa Al Boqe'e on 9 May. Airstrikes also continue in Amran and Hajjah governorates.

Displacement and casualties

In Sa'ada Governorate, several casualties were reported on 8 and 9 May in Majz, Saqayn, and Kitaf wa Al Boqe'e Districts. Four people were reportedly killed and 10 more injured in Sa'adah town, and three more were injured in Amran town, according to unconfirmed reports.

Families are reported to have fled from the Sa'ada Governorates Districts of: Sa'adah City, Kitaf wa Al Boqe'e, Majz, Haydan, Razih, Shed'a, Al Dhaher, As Safra and Saqayn. Many have arrived in nearby Governorates of Hajjah, Amran, Al Jawf and Sana'a. Clear figures of the newly displaced are not yet available, as families continue to arrive in Amran and Sana'a. In Sana'a and Amran most IDPs are staying in public buildings, such as schools, universities and government facilities, as well as with relatives.

As of 9 May, local authorities estimate around 4,000 displaced families had arrived in Amran Governorate, the majority to Khamir, Houth and Amran districts. Local authorities estimate 2,000 – 2,500 families have arrived in Sana'a, but partners have confirmed the arrival of 300 families.

Insecurity hampered needs assessments on 9 May, due to airstrikes in both Sana'a and Amran. Displacement figures are estimates, to be verified through assessments.

Access and humanitarian response

Pending finalization of assessments following the displacement from Sa'ada, partners estimate substantial needs in the food, WASH and shelter and NFI sectors, particularly as it is now the heavy rainy season, and lack of shelter poses significant health risks.

To address the needs of people displaced from Sa'ada Govenorate to Amran and Sana'a Governorates, partners have mobilized response efforts to deliver 1,000 food rations, 600 NFI shelter kits, water tanks and jerry cans, water trucking, and two mobile health teams to Amran during the week. Partners plan to begin delivering NFIs and 600 food rations to the displaced families in Sana'a on 10 May.

Around 28,000 people were reached with food assistance in Amran and Sana'a from 7 - 8 May.

For further information, please see:

http://www.humanitarianresponse.info/operations/yemen,http://www.unocha.org/yemen

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