



2020 COVID-19 RESPONSE RECAP NEWSLETTER

UNDP Yemen Office

UNDP's integrated approach to the COVID-19 pandemic is framed around three objectives:

PREPARE

Support health systems by procuring medical supplies, leveraging technology, and ensuring health workers are paid.

RESPOND

Help prevent the spread of the virus through targeted support to key sectors and social protection for the most vulnerable.

RECOVER

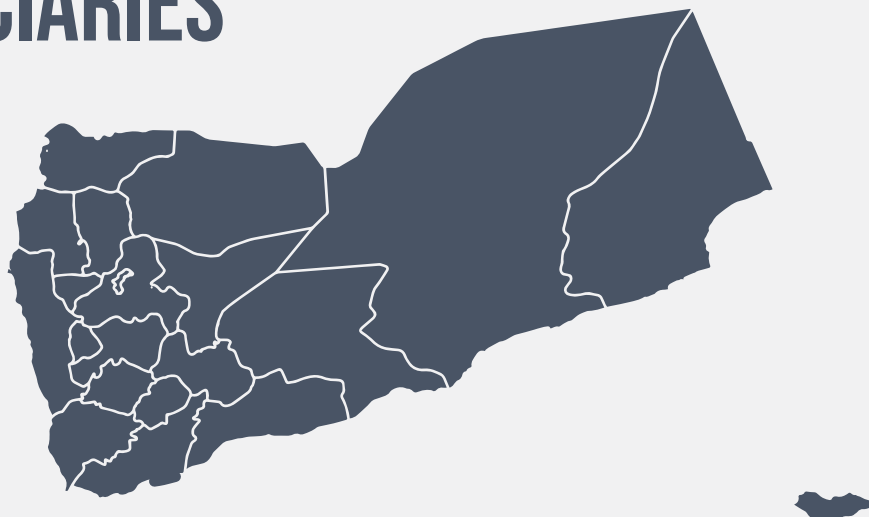
Assess the social and economic impacts of COVID-19 and take urgent recovery measures to minimize long-term impact, particularly for vulnerable and marginalized groups.

In early 2020, as Yemen entered its sixth year of on-going conflict, the COVID-19 pandemic presented new risks. A crisis within a crisis, the Yemeni healthcare system was already overstretched and lacked the resources to cope with the additional influx of patients. For a country that relies on 90 per cent imports for its food and receives approximately 15 per cent of its gross domestic product in remittances, the decline of global finances was felt particularly hard in an economy already suffering.

Thanks to the continued support of our international donors, UNDP was able to quickly mobilize local partners to operationalize the national COVID-19 response plan in Yemen.

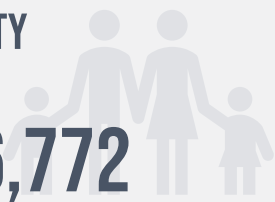
Some significant achievements have been made, covering a wide range of sectors affected by COVID-19 including health, livelihoods and economy, business, security, and law enforcement.

BENEFICIARIES



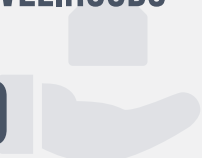
COMMUNITY
OUTREACH

9,876,772



ECONOMIC & LIVELIHOODS
SUPPORT

381,000



LAW ENFORCEMENT
INSTITUTIONS SUPPORT

58,150



HEALTH SYSTEM
SUPPORT

801,092



MICRO & SMALL
BUSINESS SUPPORT

70,923



TOTAL

11,187,937

COVID-19 COMMUNITY OUTREACH

By providing Yemenis with critical knowledge of how to protect themselves and their families from COVID-19, UNDP aims to empower communities, inspire sustainable change, and rebuild and strengthen social cohesion.



AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS

168,450

community members

78,436+

children were reached
through awareness
raising sessions

10,204

households received
COVID-19 protection
and hygiene kits and
awareness materials

9,130,000

Yemenis received
information through
radio campaigns and
UNDP's social media
platforms: [Facebook](#),
[Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#)



264,000

Yemenis received
information through
rural household
campaigns

155,000+

COVID-19
awareness-raising
posters and leaflets
were distributed to
communities across
Yemen



6,600

people viewed
UNDP's awareness
raising video on
how-to prepare
children for the
return to school

BUILDING LOCAL CAPACITY

100,000

masks were produced
by Village Cooperative
Council (VCC) members



18,930

Yemeni youth
mobilized in

2,000+

villages to
deliver

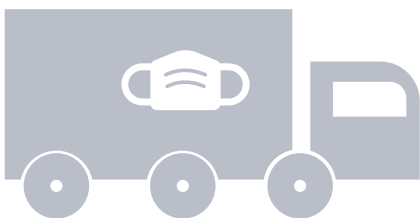
4,500

self-help
initiatives



70,000

facemasks were
distributed to
UNDP's local
project partners



40

women trained to
make WHO-compliant
homemade sanitizer



HEALTH SYSTEM SUPPORT

Yemen's already strained healthcare system lacked the critical equipment and skilled human resources required to effectively respond to COVID-19. To help limit the virus' spread and ensure COVID-19 positive cases would receive adequate care, UNDP provided skills training, built and rehabilitated sanitation facilities, and supported production and procurement of essential machines and protective equipment for healthcare staff and community members.

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE

20,000

people benefitted from **40** public toilets and hand washing stations with COVID-19 awareness posters

¹ Aden, Hodeida, Ibb, Mukalla, and Sana'a



7,000

Yemenis benefitted from construction of Abs healthcare center

757,000

benefited from

10

handwashing stations installed at

8

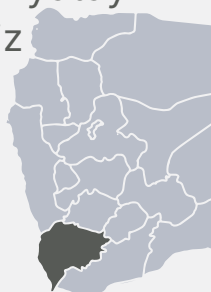
health centers in Aden, Hadramout, and Lahj



Hygiene materials distributed to

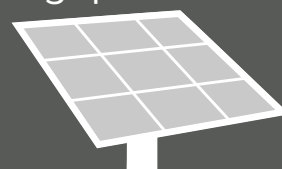
1,000

hand washing stations in Ash Shim'yatayn District, Taiz



38

COVID-19 health isolation centers and hospitals assessed to determine energy gaps



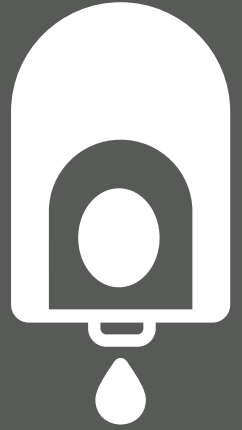
36

off-grid vaccine refrigerators installed in Abyan, Lahj, and Taiz with remote monitoring devices for rural health centers



16

people from Aden and Lahj were trained in producing hand soap and hospital gowns



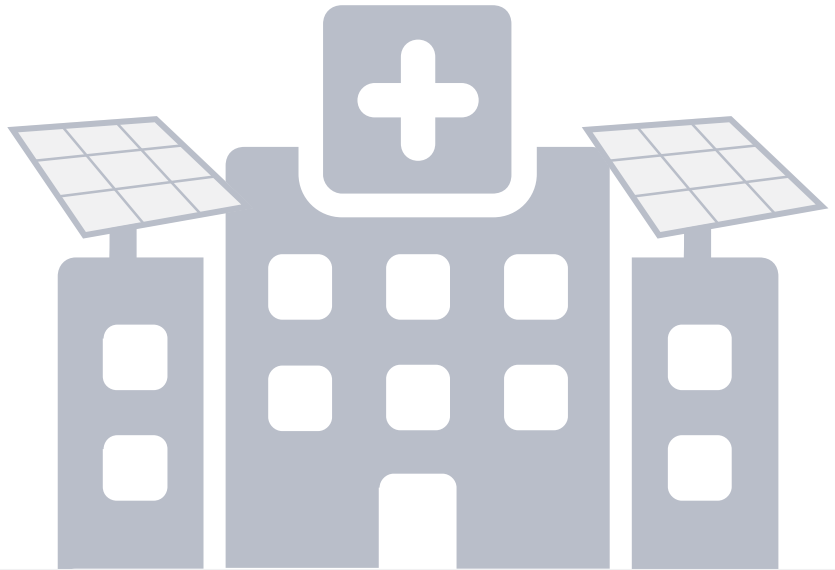
9

COVID-19 Isolation Centers

3

Sana'a healthcare centers² provided off-grid solar power systems

² Al-Zaidiya Hospital in Hodeidah, Isolation centre in Abss, Hajjah and the Typical Police Hospital (TPH) in Amanat Al-Asimah



3

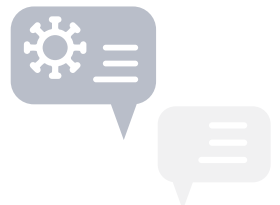
health centres³ improved capacity and performance due to maintenance of water and sanitation facilities

³ Ibid



2

COVID-19 kiosks established in Hajjah (Abs and Bani Qais) with local community support



Healthcare facilities across country⁴ provided Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), testing, and other medical equipment to ensure staff protection and patient care:

⁴ Aden, Hadramout, Hodeidah, Lahj, and Sana'a

5,600
medical masks

1,085
oxygen tubes

432
N95 respirators

416
boxes of medical respirators

326
sets of protective medical eyewear

300
and **5,150** pairs of medical gloves

215
sets of protective clothing

200
oxygen face masks

200
sets of bed sheets

200
pillows

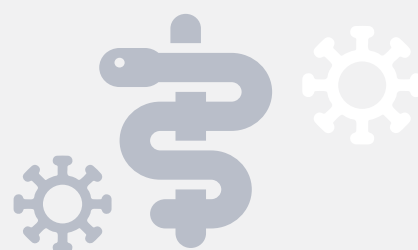
182
face shields

143
5-litre soap containers

100
oxygen baskets

15
mobile cleaning trolleys

12
oxygen cylinders



PROTECTING HEALTHCARE WORKERS

1,395

health
staff

7,516

women community
health workers
trained in COVID-19
prevention
measures



441

health workers from
8 hospitals across
Yemen⁵ received
PPE packages
including:

⁵ Al Haymah Ad Dakhiliyah District, Bani
Matar District, Hamdan District, Jehanah
District, Nehm District in Sana'a

12,480

face masks

12,480

pairs of gloves

2,496

bottles of
sanitizer

2,405

information
flyers

75

COVID-19 awareness
posters

323

healthcare workers
from

9

health centers⁶
benefited from staff
incentive programmes
aimed to ensure
adequate staff levels in
key facilities

⁶ Amanat, Al-Asimah, Hadramout, Hajjah,
Hodeidah, Lahj, and Sana'a

70

healthcare workers
and staff **(24 women)**⁷
trained to provide
medical services for
COVID-19 positive
patients, benefiting

1,120+

(500 women)

⁷ Al-Zaidiya Hospital in Hodeidah and the
Isolation centre in Abss,

53

specialized doctors
hired for COVID-19
prevention training
for field consultants



49

healthcare workers⁸ trained in COVID-19
prevention measures and pandemic surveillance

⁸ Aden, Hadramout, and Lahj



LOCAL INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS

12

young engineers
were supported with
technical expertis⁹
and financial
resources to develop
low-cost prototype
designs for:

⁹ Engineers without Borders and
University of Wisconsin, Madison

Ventilators



**Mask
production
machines**



**Disinfection
tunnels**



**PPE for
front line
workers**



COVID-19 EMERGENCY HEALTH RESPONSE AND RECOVERY PROJECT

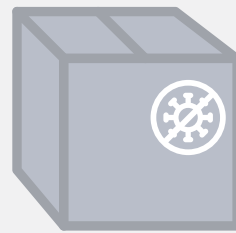
Building resilient health systems projects were designed to support authorities' efforts to help contain Yemen's COVID-19 spread, to establish a foundation for a transition to recovery, and to return to the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) pathway.



Launched in late 2020, a **US\$ 600,000** agreement was signed with Al Kuraimi Islamic Microfinance Bank as part of the Public Private Partnership strategy for COVID-19 response in Aden, Hodeidah, Sana'a, and Taiz. Supported by WHO, it aims to:



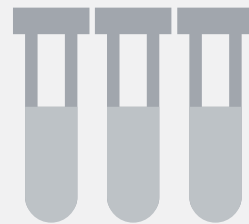
Improve Aden's health waste management



Provide PPE for health workers in Aden and Taiz



Support an incentive programme for Aden, Hodeidah, and Sana'a health workers



Improve the transportation of test samples in Taiz

15

health workers trained in biosafety and biosecurity to manage COVID-19 in laboratories and health care facilities

Developed a support plan for Telemedicine in Aden in collaboration with Aden Medical School



Participated in regular COVID-19 coordination meetings to support Ministry of Health



ECONOMIC AND LIVELIHOODS SUPPORT

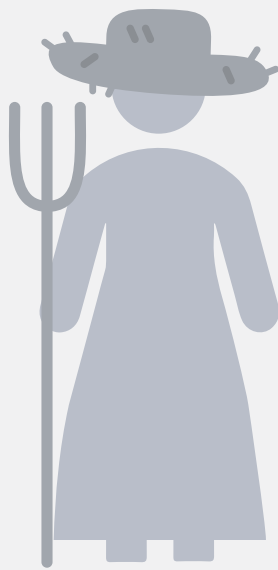
As a country already facing rapid economic decline, with high unemployment and increasingly unaffordable costs, earning regular income during COVID-19 is a matter of life or death for many Yemenis.

To help combat the high costs of living, UNDP provided unconditional cash transfers and immediate income opportunities through cash-for-work to ensure families can purchase essential PPE, basic food, and household goods needed to survive.



150,000

women from rural, low socio-economic areas provided cash transfers and door-to-door COVID-19 and nutrition awareness to enable food and essential goods purchases



25,000

participated in short-term employment, enabling the purchase of essential goods and PPE for nearly

150,000

family members

6,000

smallholder farmers, fishermen, and livestock breeders benefitted from cash assistance, technical support, and COVID-19 awareness



350

COVID-19-sensitive¹⁰ sub-projects implemented in water, sanitation and hygiene, agriculture, and roads across **22** governorates, providing income to

50,000+

workers

¹⁰ Precautions include safe distancing, sanitation, and PPE

MICRO, SMALL, AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISE (MSMES) SUPPORT

COVID-19 forced many large companies to close to ensure employee safety giving MSMEs a unique opportunity to fill the production void. UNDP financially and technically supported MSMEs to produce critical PPE for healthcare sector and communities, while ensuring jobs and contributing to the local economy.

YEMEN'S FIRST EVER BUSINESS-TO-BUSINESS (B2B) E-COMMERCE PLATFORM



developed, enabling businesses to digitally connect with each other and buyers

57,800



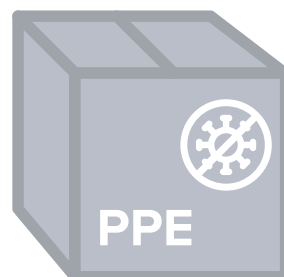
non-surgical masks ordered by Aden's Ministry of Health from UNDP-supported small enterprises

2,773

small enterprises received awareness raising materials

103

Established micro-businesses – including **37** for mask production and 16 for soap¹¹—resulting in production of **10,000** masks, **200** hospital gowns and **100** face shields



¹¹ Abyan, Hajjah, Hodeidah, and Lahj

Digital Socio-Economic Impact Assessment (SEIA) assessed

1059 MSMES

in **7 sectors**. It aimed to understand the socio-economic situation for enterprises and guide the development of a response strategy



12

existing Aden-based small enterprises trained to produce liquid soap



10

training of trainers conducted for liquid soap production resulting in **354** litres of liquid hand soap produced by small businesses

IN TOTAL, UNDP-SUPPORTED MSMES HAVE PRODUCED



57,800

NON-SURGICAL
MASKS



360

HOSPITAL
GOWNS



354

LITRES OF
LIQUID SOAP

WITH A REVENUE OF OVER YER 11.8 MILLION (US\$ 19,700)

SECURITY, LAW AND JUSTICE INSTITUTIONS SUPPORT

During a crisis, maintaining strong, trusted institutions can ensure the safety of Yemen's most vulnerable, including those incarcerated. UNDP-supported the continued and safe operations of Yemen's justice and security authorities by providing PPE and COVID-19 awareness training.



10,000+

people from Ministry of Justice offices, healthcare facilities, and refugee camps provided PPE¹²

¹² In six districts in Aden, Hadramaut, and Lajh in partnership with Search for Common Ground



4,000+

awareness raising posters, **1,000** brochures, and **230** banners disseminated security sector¹³

¹³ Amran, Dhamar, Mahwit and Sana'a

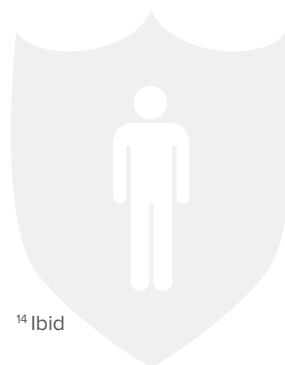
3,100

Coast Guard personnel received PPE in Aden and Hodeidah



300

security and justice officials were taught COVID-19 prevention measures¹⁴



¹⁴ Ibid

250

Sana'a's Civil Defense Authority and police hospital staff benefited from COVID-19 surveillance equipment and prevention materials. By providing maintenance and equipment to hospital, training in aforementioned was possible

100+

security, law, justice, and correctional facilities received hygiene kits and PPE in **21** governorates¹⁵, benefitting **39,300** people

¹⁵ In partnership with Yemen Peace School: Al-Amanah, Al Baydah, Al-Dhale'e, Al-Jawf, Hajjah, Hodeidah, Ibb, Raymah, Sa'adah, Sana'a, and Taiz, governorates. National Prisoners Foundation: Abyan, Aden, Al-Amanah, Al-Mahrah, Al-Mukalla, Hadramaut, and Sabwah governorates. Mysarah Foundation: Amran, Dhamar, Mahwit, and Sana'a governorates



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