

SHELTER/NFI/CCCM CLUSTER END YEAR REPORT 2017

BACKGROUND

Close to three years of relentless conflict in Yemen has devastated the lives of millions of people. An alarming 20.7 million people in Yemen needed some kind of humanitarian or protection support, with some 9.8 million in acute need of assistance. An estimated 4.5 million people needed emergency shelter, essential household items, or CCCM support including IDPs, host communities and returnees.

According to the TFFPM (Task Force for Population Movement) 16th report in September 2017, Shelter remains the third most critical need for both IDPs and Returnees after Food and access to income/financial assistance. Emergency assistance for newly displaced families remains a significant challenge as the majority of displaced families live in precarious situations for several weeks before basic emergency shelter and NFI assistance is provided. Over the year an increasing number of families admitted to owing their landlords' large sums of money for rent, others left their rented accommodation out of shame or were forced out by the landlords. The percentage of populations in IDP Hosting sites rose from 19 per cent at the end of 2016 to 23 per cent at the end of the 2017 indicating that people are running out of adequate shelter options.



KEY FIGURES



4.5 M
PEOPLE IN
NEED



2.2 M
PEOPLE
TARGETED



894,882
PEOPLE
REACHED



106 M
TOTAL
REQUIREMENTS

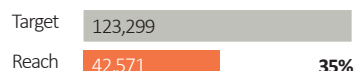


28 M
FUNDS
RECEIVED

ACTIVITIES AND TARGETS

SHELTER

of households assisted with Emergency Shelter



of households assisted with cash assistance for rental subsidies



of collective centers rehabilitated / extended

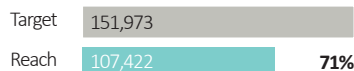


of houses rehabilitated / reconstructed



NFI

of households assisted with Non-Food Items



of households assisted with winter NFIs kits



of PDM conducted



of households assisted with return kits



CCCM

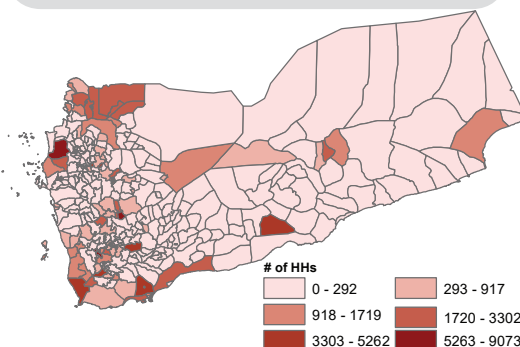
of sites covered with Baseline assessment



of capacity building programs conducted



MAP OF DISTRICTS OF IMPLEMENTATION



GAPS & CHALLENGES



Insufficient funding



Finding alternative shelter solutions for IDPs



Economic Blockade



Reach and Coverage

LOOKING AHEAD IN 2018



Decentralization and capacity building of Sub National Cluster leads



Identification and implementation of appropriate durable shelter and CCCM solutions using cash as a tool



Development of technical and policy guidance



Improvement of IDP Hosting Site Management and Coordination Capacity



Systemization of more nuanced gap assessment and prioritization of locations



Enhance Information Management capacity to support the Cluster

Highlights

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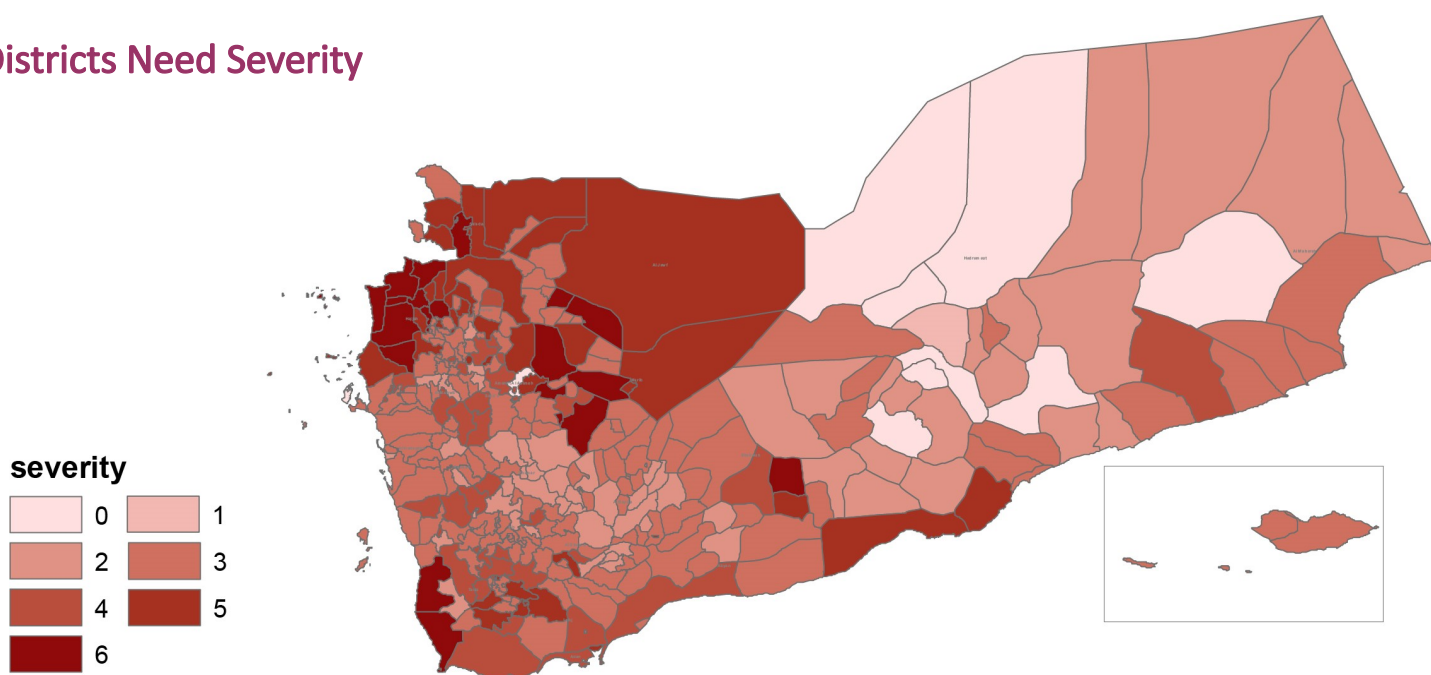
Background

Close to three years of relentless conflict in Yemen has devastated the lives of millions of people. An alarming 20.7 million people in Yemen needed some kind of humanitarian or protection support, with some 9.8 million in acute need of assistance. An estimated 4.5 million people needed emergency shelter, essential household items, or CCCM support including IDPs, host communities and returnees.

An estimated 17 million people – 60 per cent of the total population - are food insecure. At least three million people have fled their homes, public services have broken down and less than half of the health centers are functional, with limited medicine and equipment. Access to safe water has become a major challenge and the lack of proper sanitation increased the risk of communicable diseases. A spike in cholera cases in April 2017 further compounded the situation. As of 31st December 2017, just over 1,000,000 suspected cholera cases had been reported, with 2,237 associated deaths.

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Districts Need Severity



The Shelter NFI/CCCM Cluster - WHO WE ARE

Leadership: The Shelter/NFI/CCCM Cluster in Yemen is a coalition of strategic National and International Partners and UN Agencies that provides a service and support network to its Partners. The Cluster is led by the UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) with IOM (International Organization for Migration) as Co-Chair. The collaboration aims to improve the effectiveness of humanitarian response in accordance with the IASC (Inter Agency Standing Committee) guidelines, to meet high standards of transparency, predictability and accountability to affected communities.

Strategic Guidance: The Shelter/NFI/CCCM Cluster has a SAG (Strategic Advisory Group) made up of 10 organizations with one representative from each organization. The SAG guides the Cluster in a consultative and collaborative manner, on policy decisions, strategic direction and coordination mechanisms.

Structure: The Shelter/NFI/CCCM Cluster comprises a National Cluster based in Sana'a that provides strategic and policy guidance on issues that are of relevance to the whole country. There are also 6 Sub National Clusters in 6 Hubs namely Aden, Hudaydah, Ibb, Taiz, Sana'a and Sa'adah. The Sub National Clusters are led by UNHCR in Aden, Al Hudaydah and Sana'a Hubs; NRC in Southern Taiz; ACTED and HFY (Humanitarian Forum Yemen) in Ibb/Northern Taiz and UNHCR and Alekram Development Charitable Foundation in Sa'adah Hub. The aim is to have all Sub National Clusters Co-led by a national and international Partner as part of the Cluster decentralization and capacity building strategy.

Modus Operandi: The Shelter/NFI/CCCM Cluster is consensus driven; it leads by agreement of most, if not always all, of its members. It is therefore a partnership and thrives on the mutual support of its various members and stakeholders. It is not an enforcement or regulatory body and does not police its membership but facilitates holistic coordinated and sustainable shelter NFI and CCCM solutions.

Coordination - WHAT WE DID

General Meetings: Eleven (11) general Cluster meetings (two of which were video linked to the sub National Cluster in Aden) were held to coordinate shelter NFI and CCCM assistance, identify and address policy and strategic issues as well as gaps and overlaps.

SAG Meetings: Seven (7) SAG meetings were held to discuss and take strategic decisions on; the 2017-2018 Shelter/NFI/CCCM Cluster Strategy; developing the contingency plan for Al Hudaydah displacement response, Periodic Monitoring Report (PMR) for 2017; supporting the HRP (Humanitarian Response Plan) 2017 and 2018 including our priority activities and supporting the YHPF (Yemen Humanitarian Pooled Fund) 1st and 2nd Allocation strategy. Technical support and policy guidance needs were also addressed including establishing TWIGs (Technical Working Groups). An open and transparent process to identify Sub National Cluster Coordinators in Ibb, Taiz and Sa'adah was also developed and validated by the SAG and led to the identification of Sub national Cluster Coordinators in 2/3 Hubs with Sa'adah slated for January 2018.

Ad hoc Meetings: Five (5) Ad hoc meetings were held during the year to discuss issues that could not be discussed at the General meetings and did not require a TWIG to be established. Ad hoc meetings were called; for the discussion of the changes to the new EESK (Enhanced Emergency Shelter Kit), for eligible Humanitarian Pooled Fund (YHPF) Partners to strategize the allocations for a request by an NNGO Partner to give a presentation on 'Access to Fuel Energy for Cooking', for a request by the Nutrition Cluster to give a presentation on IYCF (Infant Young Child Feeding) and for UNOCHA to explain the workings of the FTS (Financial Tracking System).

Technical Working Group (TWIG) Meetings: Fifteen (15) TWIGs meetings were held to develop technical and policy guidelines. The TWIGs were constituted to develop guidelines on NFI distributions; Cluster emergency response; Yemen IDP Hosting Sites; rental subsidy; Enhanced Emergency Shelter Kit; and Cash for Shelter. This significantly improved the response capacity of our Partners and harmonized our interventions at a certain standard. 18 more TWIGs on various priority areas are planned for 2018 that will be Co- led by an international and a national Partner as part of the Cluster capacity building strategy.

Missions: Eight (8) technical and coordination support missions were carried out by the Cluster Coordination Team (CCT) in Aden, Ibb, Sa'adah, Hajjah, AlHudaydah, Taiz and Amran. These were primarily to confirm the need for Sub National Cluster coordinators in Ibb, Sa'adah and Taiz; confirm the need for NGO technical support in Shelter in Aden and engage with the Sub national Cluster Partners to understand the gaps, resources and priorities. The CCT also monitored partners distributions in Taiz and engaged with beneficiaries to discuss possible alternative shelter solutions. The missions also fostered closer relationships with Governmental authorities in the North and South to understand the challenges they were facing and reiterate the aim of the Cluster to support their efforts.



Collaboration 4 Coordination: The CCT attended some 60 collaborative meetings over the year, primarily the ICCM (Inter Cluster Coordination Mechanism), the HCT (Humanitarian Country Team) as well as RCT (Regional Coordination Team) meetings to influence and agree on policy and practical issues affecting the humanitarian community. In addition, the Cash and Markets and Information Management working groups were also supported with various initiatives through their meetings. The Shelter/NFI/CCCM Cluster also invested in coordination by inviting several Clusters namely Protection, Nutrition and WASH, to give presentations on issues of mutual interest and to open avenues for collaboration.

Shelter/NFI/CCCM Cluster Activities – WHAT WE PROVIDED

Funding and Targets: According to the September 2017 TFPM report there were 2,014,026 Yemenis in 335,671 families displaced in 21 Governorates since March 2015 and 956,076 returnees in 159,346 families across 20 Governorates. This meant that 10.3% of the population experienced displacement due to conflict over the past almost three years.

In 2017 the Shelter/NFI/CCCM Cluster requested for \$ 106 Million out of which some 20% was received and reported by 12 Cluster Partners to provide assistance to some 40% of the population targeted. The Cluster HRP 2017 targeted some 2.2 million conflict affected IDPs with 4.5 million people in need of which 3.9 million were in acute need. As at 31st December 2017, 894,882 people were assisted through 63 Cluster Partners.

Assistance Overview: At the end of December, 42,571 families were assisted with EESKs/materials, 107,422 families assisted with NFI kits, 21,127 families assisted with Winter kits, 6,407 families assisted with winter cash grants and 17,803 families provided with cash for rental subsidies. In the South mostly, 2,208 families were enabled to regain access to their damaged houses by rehabilitation or reconstruction through cash grants. The main focus of shelter and NFI assistance was for displacement due to conflict emergency in the hot spots of Taiz, Sa'adah, Al Jawf and Al Hudaydah providing thousands of families with the possibility to stop running and find temporary respite in a place safe from the conflict and violence.

Flood Assistance: The Cluster also provided emergency shelter assistance to 3,612 flood affected victims in Sa'adah, Hajjah and Al Jawf. Because most of the houses in these locations are constructed with mud they are quickly washed away along with all the possessions of the families making the provision of both emergency shelter and NFIs imperative.

Returns: In the South the Cluster focus was on returns with some 2,208 families assisted with shelter rehabilitation grants to repair their homes so that they can live in safety and dignity. The amount of cash provided is challenging as families lament that it can normally only provide rudimentary rehabilitation of a small section of the home to make it safe for habitation, and not complete rehabilitation.

Winter Assistance: During the winter months from October 2017 – February 2018 the Shelter/NFI/CCCM Cluster developed a comprehensive strategy and guidelines including criteria for geographical prioritization and beneficiary selection. As at the end of December 2017 some 6,407 families (43,801 individuals) had been supported with Winter cash grants and some 21,127 families (134,185 individuals) were provided with winter kits. This assistance enabled thousands of families and especially young children and vulnerable individual to survive yet another harsh winter in displacement.



Solutions As part of its strategy to find solutions to the plight of IDPs, the Shelter/NFI/CCCM Cluster developed and supported a YHPF funded pilot project with ACTED in Ibb Hub to support the identification of shelter solutions for families living in IDP Hosting Sites (Spontaneous settlements and collective centers), specifically Schools. It involved designing an engagement process with beneficiaries through a series of FDGs (Focus Group Discussions) to find solutions to their shelter challenges, identifying what resources the beneficiaries can provide and how the Partner can complement.

Through this engagement process, a more profound understanding of the challenges faced by families living in IDP Hosting sites and an appreciation and validation of their role in solving their own problems while recognizing their need for external support to overcome these challenges was highlighted. Shelter interventions will be accompanied by simple income generation and livelihoods opportunities to afford families the dignity to stand on their own two feet, earn their own living and provide for their families as they did before the war.

Capacity Building: Capacity building is an important aspect of the Cluster strategy and over the past year some 10 training sessions were carried out by the Cluster and its Partners targeting 234 individuals, approximately 31% of what was planned. The Cluster however has prioritized capacity building and will expand its repertoire of training methodologies to include mentoring and Partnerships between National and International NGOs and UN Agencies to ensure a continuum of knowledge transfer.

IDP Hosting Sites (Collective Centers and Spontaneous Sites) : By the time the third phase of the baseline assessment was published in December 2017, 16 out of the 22 Governorates were covered enumerating 776 IDP Hosting Sites hosting some 95,021 individuals in 13,574 families. The baseline assessment enabled the Cluster to raise the visibility with Donors and Partners on the immense needs and gaps in these sites, articulate a more focused IDP Hosting Sites (CCCM) strategy and push for the establishment of a TWIG on IDP hosting Sites. Assistance in IDP Hosting Sites was harmonized and agreement reached with other Clusters on the 'minimum integrated assistance package' to be applied. This supported the integrated response methodology in IDP Hosting sites and host communities that was prioritized for the Yemen Humanitarian Pooled Fund 2017 first and second allocations and in the HRP 2018. At the request of the HCT, a donor briefing was held to explain the results and highlight the response plan.



Engagement with NGOs: As part of the Cluster strategy to better engage with its National Partners a Working Session was organized for National NGOs during which the Cluster system, responsibilities and activities of the Cluster was explained and discussed. The unique perspective and challenges of National partners was discussed and recommendations were made on how to address these challenges and make better use of the knowledge, experience and resources available to National Partners. The aim is to improve the reach and coverage of the Cluster through its National Partners who are in significant numbers, are much closer to the beneficiaries and have a deeper understanding of their culture, needs and priorities.

Technical Support and Policy guidance – HOW WE DID IT



One of the fundamental tenets of the Shelter/NFI/CCCM Cluster is the search for consistent and equitable assistance in shelter, NFI and CCCM for the affected populations. In order to do this in the most efficient manner the development and formulation of policy guidance that provides the overall direction the Cluster seeks to pursue on particular issues and technical guidelines that provide detailed instructions on how specific aspects of an intervention are to be implemented, are developed. Policy guidance and Technical guidelines are developed through Technical working groups comprising Cluster Partners with specific knowledge, experience and interest in the particular policy or guidelines being developed.

Over the year the Shelter/NFI/CCCM Cluster worked on the following Strategies, policies and technical guidelines:

- * Shelter/NFI/CCCM Cluster strategy 2017-2018 <https://goo.gl/PX95n2>
- * Al Hudaydah Contingency Plan 2017 <https://goo.gl/GcEbcP>
- * The Guidelines on IDP Hosting Sites in Yemen <https://goo.gl/NMz5bK>
- * The Cluster Emergency Response Planning <https://goo.gl/k9UJht>
- * Guidelines on distribution of Shelter and NFI kits <https://goo.gl/sKzRLR>
- * Shelter/NFI/CCCM Guidance on the use of Rental Subsidy <https://goo.gl/8xWhPN>
- * Emergency Sealing-Off Kits (ESOK) <https://goo.gl/xrQ5Ku>
- * Enhanced Emergency Shelter Kit (EESK) <https://goo.gl/CRVkp7>
- * Humanitarian Needs Overview 2018 <https://goo.gl/WdtsxY>
- * Humanitarian Response Plan 2018 <https://goo.gl/oWwyjN>

The Shelter/NFI/CCCM Cluster through an extensive consultation process identified 18 technical support gaps prioritized that TWiGs will need to establish to provide policy guidance, strategy and technical guidelines in 2018.

Gaps and Challenges

Given the context there were several challenges encountered:

Insufficient funding. The cluster was only 20% funded out of the total 2017 YHRP appeal of \$106 million USD. Which severely restricted the ability of the Cluster to cover a large part of the needs identified.

Finding alternative shelter solutions for IDPs currently living in schools or other public buildings for close to three years now and facing high pressure from the host communities to vacate the premises. Supporting these families to search for more sustainable shelter solutions has to be intensified and adequate resources identified to respond.

Economic Blockade. Ports, notably Al Hudaydah, work at reduced capacity due to damaged infrastructure and fuel shortages. Further dysfunctionality of Al Hudaydah port would be a humanitarian disaster. Damaged roads and bridges hamper the transport of imports to markets. With depleted savings and overstretched safety nets the purchasing power of the average citizen has decreased considerably

Reach and coverage: sporadic clashes, hostilities and military confrontations remained a challenge impeding access to populations in need. The increasingly difficult access to some of the most affected locations sometimes means that the beneficiaries who need assistance most are deprived due to security and cumbersome clearance processes.






Looking Ahead In 2018

The Shelter/NFI/CCCM Cluster has a Cluster Strategy that has been agreed up till the end of 2018. However the Cluster will engage in a number of initiatives to ensure the strategy produces the desired results and impact on the affected populations.

In order to achieve this the following actions are planned

- ⇒ Decentralization and capacity building of Sub National Cluster leads to ensure that the capacity to respond is developed as close to the beneficiaries as possible
- ⇒ Appropriate shelter with a durable oriented outlook developed including systematic use of Cash for Shelter. Collaboration with the EERC (Emergency Employment and Community Rehabilitation) Cluster to undertake pilot initiatives to identify methodologies for implementing more sustainable solutions
- ⇒ IDP Hosting Sites (CCCM) - Site coordination and Management and beneficiary engagement including complaints mechanisms and referral systems development. CCCM+ - Promote the Use of Cash as a tool for integrated CCCM response – coordination and collaboration with others
- ⇒ Development of resources for the Cluster – establishing TWIGs to develop policy and technical guidelines, Partners database including list of CBOs/NGOs etc
- ⇒ More nuanced gap assessment and prioritization of locations and activities to ensure there is a dynamic analysis of needs and gaps that is regularly updated based on the response provided and situational changes
- ⇒ Systematic engagement with Local Authorities so that they see the Shelter/NFI/CCCM Cluster as an asset in the IDP response and engagement with traditional and non-traditional Donors as Partners in the response
- ⇒ Systematic Capacity building initiatives – Peer to peer experience exchange, seconding international staff to NNGOs, remote management principles, individual and group training initiatives
- ⇒ Enhance Information Management capacity to support the Cluster objectives – move database to ActivityInfo, link Partners database and systematize impact monitoring

Overview of the Shelter/NFI/CCCM Response

Type	Emergency Response (For less than 6 months)	Transitional Solutions (displaced for longer than 6 months / host)	Durable Solutions
			
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Provision of essential Non-Food Items ⇒ Provision of Emergency Shelter ⇒ Provision of Winterization Support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Provision of essential Non-Food Items ⇒ Provision of Emergency Shelter ⇒ Provision of cash assistance for rental subsidies ⇒ Upgrade / Basic Shelter Maintenance ⇒ Provision of Winterization Support ⇒ Construction / Rehabilitation of Transitional Shelter ⇒ Site Management and Coordination Support and Monitoring ⇒ Conduct IDP Hosting Sites Baseline Assessment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Provision of cash grant for rehabilitation/reconstruction of damaged/destroyed houses
Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Prepositioning – Rapid Response Teams – Warehouse Coordination – Integrated Responses focused on enhancing the protection space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Move from in-kind to cash and vouchers – Integrated responses – Access to services for those located in IDPs hosting sites – Site management and coordination support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Data collection informs sustainable comprehensive return response

Operational Themes and Interventions

Excerpts from Projects in 2017

Abs Development Organization

Shelter assistance operations, which is shelter kit distribution provided by the UNHCR for IDPs in the Al-Ukashia camp, Abs district, Hajjah governorate, to people affected by floods. This response was distributed by Abs Development Organization for Women and Children, the implementing partner of the UNHCR. This assistance was provided to 574 families in July 2017.



Assessment and monitoring of Shelter units for vulnerable IDPs in Hajjah Governorates

To reduce the vulnerability of 1500 IDPs affected by conflicts through building cottage of local materials in Abs district (Al-Manjjarah, Al-Mohsam, Al-Merwagh, Al-Makhzan, Dorinah AlSufla, Dorinah Al-Oliya, Walah, Bajra and Al-Dumah) from August 2017. Shelter and infrastructure established, improved and maintained for 1500 IDPs and Host community in the targets areas. Implementation by UNHCR and supervision by Abs Development Organization.

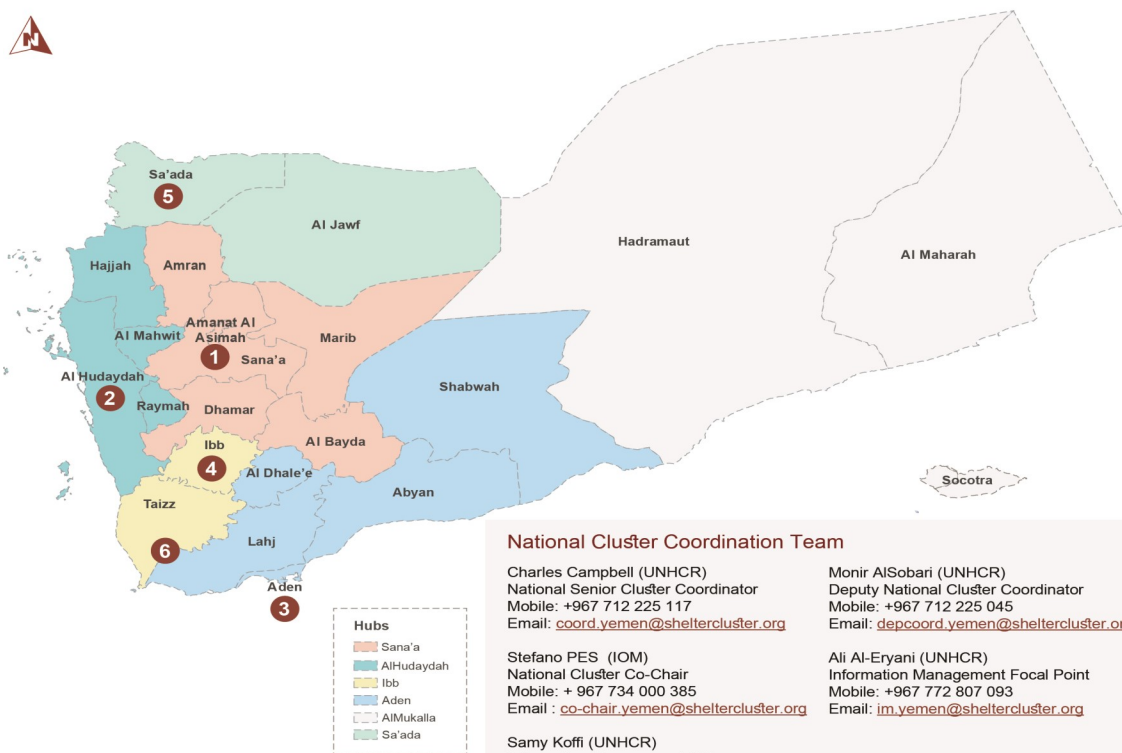


Distribution of Emergency Response (NFI and Shelter kits)

NFI/ shelter kits assistance distribution provided by the IOM for people affected by floods in the villages of Abs and Hairan districts - Hajjah governorate. The assistance was distributed by Abs Development Organization, the implementing partner of the IOM. This assistance was provided to 700 families in Dec 2017.



Yemen: Shelter / NFI / CCCM Cluster Sub-National Structure (as of December 2017)



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*The focal point for Shelter/NFI/CCCM activities in Sa'ada Hub until a Sub-National Cluster lead organization is identified based on the Call for Expression of Interest (CEI) circulated.