

# Final Report on Distribution of Water-Survival Box Aid

Yemen, Al Dhali Governorate, Al Hussein District

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Date: January 19, 2022



## INTRODUCTION

### BACKGROUND TO THE DISASTER

After almost seven years of conflict, Yemen continues to face one of the worst humanitarian crises in the world. The escalation of conflict and violence has led to economic collapse and the destruction of basic services, pushing more families into poverty and towards famine. With no end in sight, the situation of Yemeni children and families will continue to deteriorate, with an anticipated 24.1 million people in need of humanitarian assistance and protection.<sup>1</sup> Of those, 18 million people are in urgent need of water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance. Access to clean and safe drinking water remains crucial for the good health and survival of children and their caregivers.

WASH needs remain high with the increasing number of displaced people due to the escalation of conflict along the coastal areas of Al Hudaydah and other frontlines, natural disasters, food insecurity and epidemic outbreaks. According to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, an estimated 4.1 million people displaced internally. Displacement is not a new phenomenon in Yemen, but the number of people fleeing violence had increased sharply since 2015, when several actors intervened in the country's civil war. Currently, Yemen has the fourth largest population of internally displaced persons (IDPs) worldwide. Raging clashes across more than 50 active frontlines continue to deteriorate the protection space for civilians and force thousands of families to seek refuge elsewhere.

Economic deterioration occurs nationally, and the Yemeni Riyal continues to devalue, negatively impacting purchasing power. It is estimated that 80 percent of the total population lives below the poverty line, and food security data has further revealed that five million Yemenis are on the brink of famine in early 2021.<sup>2</sup>

International Medical Corps is among the leading organizations currently scaling up the response by providing multi-sector interventions related to WASH, health, nutrition, food security and livelihoods (FSL), and protection in Al Dhali governorate.



*An IDP camp in Al Hussein District, Al Dhali Governorate.*

<sup>1</sup> [https://data2.unhcr.org/en/country/yem#\\_ga=2.46540194.408017244.1642614997-693587778.1642614997](https://data2.unhcr.org/en/country/yem#_ga=2.46540194.408017244.1642614997-693587778.1642614997)

<sup>2</sup> [https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/Humanitarian%20Update\\_2021%20%2308\\_v3.1.pdf](https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/Humanitarian%20Update_2021%20%2308_v3.1.pdf)

Al Dhali governorate, located in the country's center, is currently one of the most conflict-affected governorates in Yemen. Approximately 44,864 individuals are displaced in Al Dhali. In addition to the tragic situation of the IDPs, heavy rain has affected many IDPs in Al Hussein District, Al Dhali Governorate. The heavy rains caused widespread destruction of the property, killed hundreds of livestock and polluted well water with sewage leading to an increase in cholera cases. Many IDPs fled again highlighting the overlapping impacts of disasters and conflict in the country.

International Medical Corps coordinated and worked closely with stakeholders, local authorities, and the WASH cluster in the identification, transportation and distribution of supplies targeting the most vulnerable, including households with pregnant women, families with a child less than one-year-old, and elderly individuals. International Medical Corps distributed 500 hygiene kits, 500 cholera kits and 500 COVID-19 kits and provided health and nutrition services reaching a variety of locations in the impacted areas within the Al Dhali governorate. The 200 standard water-survival boxes generously donated by Rotary International and Water Survival Box Limited supported International Medical Corps' response activities in Al Hussein District, Al Dhali Governorate.

### **COMMUNICATION AND OFFER OF WATER-SURVIVAL BOX AID**

In spring 2021, Nebras Khaled, International Medical Corps' Health Program Manager, wrote an article about the situation in Yemen noting the continued water issues. Following that article, Rotary International made an offer of 200 standard water-survival boxes to support the team's ongoing efforts in Yemen.

On June 8, 2021, International Medical Corps' team in Yemen accepted the offer of 200 standard water-survival boxes. Upon acceptance, our team initiated communication with local authorities including the district manager and Executive Unit to distribute the standard water-survival boxes to vulnerable IDPs located in Al Hussein District, Al Dhali Governorate.

### **ARRIVAL OF THE WATER-SURVIVAL BOXES**

On October 20, 2021, International Medical Corps received the shipment 200 standard water-survival boxes from Rotary International for onward distribution to IDPs located in the Al Hussein District. International Medical Corps project staff coordinated with authorities to secure the required approvals to transport the water-survival boxes to project site and carry out the distribution of the kits to IDPs.

### **LOCAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT**

International Medical Corps aimed to deliver the standard water-survival boxes to communities facing acute WASH needs. Leveraging our relationship and good communication channels with the local authorities, the team requested a list identifying the most affected IDPs in Al Hussein District. After receiving the list of potential beneficiaries, the International Medical Corps WASH team, in collaboration with the Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning team and District's Executive Unit, verified the eligibility of potential beneficiaries through house-to-house visits. Eligibility was assessed based on status as an IDP, and then priority was given to households with elderly adults and single-family households headed by women.

Through the house-to-house visits, the team also verified that beneficiaries would put the standard water-survival box contents to good use. Items such as the water purification kit, hygiene supplies, kitchen set, sewing kit, and more would help vulnerable families maintain their health.



*After receipt of the water-survival boxes, the WASH and warehouse teams added information regarding our feedback mechanism.*



*International Medical Corps' WASH team during a verification visit at one of the IDP sites.*

## ORGANIZATION OF THE DISTRIBUTION

### PHASE 1: SECURE TRANSPORTATION OF THE BOXES

International Medical Corps transported the water-survival boxes from the warehouse in Aden to Al Dhali Governorate. The project team coordinated with trained Community Health Volunteers (CHVs) to mobilize, train and distribute the water-survival boxes to beneficiaries. The CHVs selected distribution points close to the IDPs to minimize the distance traveled by targeted beneficiaries and project team members.



*International Medical Corps transported the water-survival boxes from Aden to Al Dhali District.*

### PHASE 2: BRIEFING AND TRAINING

Given the COVID-19 pandemic, the International Medical Corps' WASH team adhered to COVID-19 preventive measures during the training of beneficiaries on using the water-survival boxes. International Medical Corps staff members and CHVs demonstrated the proper use of the water purification system during the training. The messages also included COVID-19 preventive measures adopted by families at the household level such as wearing face masks, regularly washing hands with soap, avoiding community gatherings and maintaining social distance.



*Our WASH team provided separate training sessions for women and men at the distribution points.*

### PHASE 3: DETAILS AND ROLLOUT OF THE DISTRIBUTION

International Medical Corps completed the distribution of 200 standard water-survival boxes donated by Rotary International in Al Hussein District on January 13, 2022. Distributions began the week of December 27, 2021. Our MEAL team as well as local authorities monitored the distribution. The team distributed the majority of the water-survival boxes at carefully selected distribution points. For elderly

beneficiaries or those living with disabilities, we conducted house-to-house distributions with support from CHVs.

Thanks to the generous donation from Rotary International, International Medical Corps reached 200 households, approximately 1,700 individuals, with water-survival boxes providing them with access to safe water. While the hygiene supplies will be consumed within a few months, many of the items found in the water-survival boxes such as the water purification system and kitchen utensils will be used for years beyond the project implementation period.



*Our team distributes water-survival boxes at one of the distribution points.*

## FEEDBACK

Through conversations with beneficiaries and local authorities, International Medical Corps collected informal feedback during the distribution and training. We received overwhelmingly positive feedback with community members remarking on the relevance and importance of the kit items. The local authorities, including the Executive Unit, urged our team to continue providing such critical humanitarian assistance to vulnerable groups in Yemen.

International Medical Corps also has a community-based feedback mechanism in place. Beneficiaries can use this mechanism to provide feedback in the future should concerns arise.

For future intervention, the local authorities and community members recommended the following actions:

1. Because the needs in Yemen are so great, our team would welcome additional water-survival boxes. We were not able to reach all of the identified potential beneficiaries with the limited quantity received.
2. Given the severe power shortages in Yemen, especially in IDP camps, the communities recommended that more emphasis should also be put on distributing items that can be operated through solar power, such as torch lights, fans and small batteries, as this is critical for protection of women and girls.
3. Beneficiaries found the kitchen sets to be the most useful kits and communities requested additional tools for fixing their shelters.

### CASE STUDY 1: SUHEEB MOHAMMED MAKI

Name	Suheeb Mohammed Maki
Age	45
Family Size	5

Original place and the response of displacement	From Al Fakher, Al Dhali Governorate, He and his family fled as they resided in area heavily affected by the conflict.
How did the Box help	"It is such as useful tool, especially, cooking kits, these are expensive to purchase in the local market."
Best Item	"All of the contents are essential to us, but cooking kits are the most liked ones."
Anything not used	No
Additional requests	"As I left my original house, we request more NFI tools."

## CASE STUDY 2: ABDULLAH ALI AHMED

Name	Abdullah Ali Ahmed
Age	45
Family Size	7
Original place and the response of displacement	From Qutaibah, Al Dhali Governorate,
How did the Box help	"It helps me to cook health and hygienic food, in the past I used to use used cans for cooking."
Best Item	cooking kits
Anything not used	No
Additional requests	"Torch and lighting equipment"

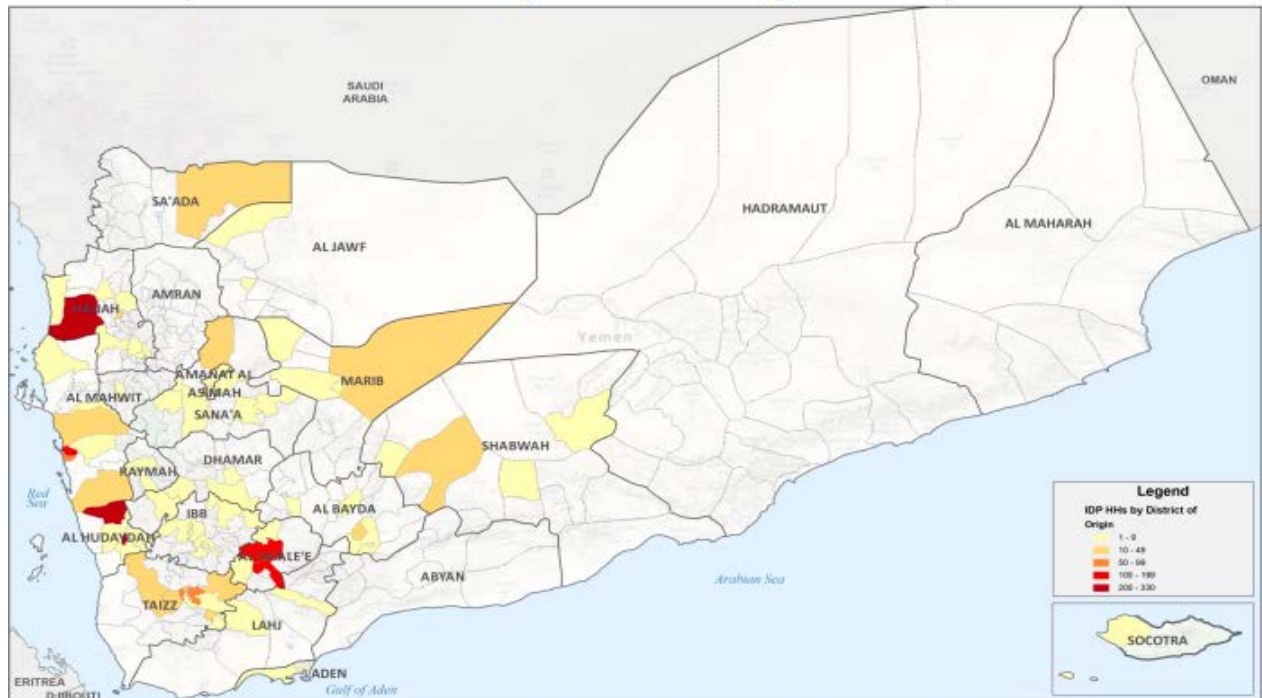
## PHOTOS AND VIDEO CLIPS

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Additional photos and video clips can be found [here](#).

## MAPS

**Map2: Number of IDPs by District of Origin and Displacement**



The map illustrates the impact of the conflict on IDPs in various Governorates – Al Dhali Governorate has been one of the most affected.

## CONCLUSIONS

Rotary International and Water Survival Box Limited have helped International Medical Corps' reach vulnerable IDPs in Al Dhali Governorate. Your support has enabled at least 1,700 men, women and children gain access to safe water and other essential supplies.

We are grateful for Rotary International and Water Survival Box Limited's support of us response and recovery efforts in Yemen and look forward to your continued support of our mission.

## INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CORPS

International Medical Corps is a global, humanitarian, nonprofit organization dedicated to saving lives and relieving suffering through emergency response and development programs. Our mission is to improve the quality of life through health interventions, healthcare training and related activities that build local capacity in underserved communities worldwide as they make the journey from relief to self-reliance. Since our founding in 1984, our teams have delivered some \$3.6 billion in relief and training services to tens of millions of people in more than 80 countries suffering from the devastating impact of humanitarian crises. With a staff of more than 7,300 worldwide—and more than 96% of overseas staff recruited locally—our teams ensure that the knowledge required to prepare for and respond effectively to a disaster remains anchored within the community. Over the last year, we reached more than 18.5 million people in 30 countries affected by conflict, natural disaster, and disease.