UNICEF Yemen Nutrition Program response to COVID 19

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unicef for every child
### Yemen - Contextual Information, Operational Environment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conflict</th>
<th>Two Government authorities</th>
<th>Humanitarian situation</th>
<th>Nutrition situation</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Conflict and political instability for past six years</td>
<td>• South - Internationally Recognized Government</td>
<td>• One of the largest humanitarian crisis in the world,</td>
<td>• High levels of chronic malnutrition 45% (above 60% in parts of country)</td>
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<td>• North - Ansar Allah Authority</td>
<td>• conflict related population displacement,</td>
<td>• global acute malnutrition 12% (above 20% in parts of the country)</td>
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<td>• household poverty,</td>
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<td>• food insecurity</td>
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## Yemen Nutrition Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNICEF program</th>
<th>3,800 health facilities &amp; 200 mobile teams across all districts in 2019</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>An integrated package of nutrition prevention and treatment services managed by government and NGOs</td>
<td>340,000 children treated for Severe Acute Malnutrition</td>
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<td>20,175 Community Health and Nutrition Volunteers across 263/333 districts</td>
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Nutrition Surveys, Nutrition Cluster Coordination Structure and Sun Secretariat

*USAID provides funding and supplies for UNICEF nutrition program across Yemen*
# Aim of UNICEF Yemen Nutrition Program in context of COVID-19

## Continuation

**Continuation of provision of basic nutrition services safely** through adaptation of delivery modalities and enhanced communication with communities

## Protocols & Technical Guidance adapted

**Outpatient treatment for acute malnutrition adaptations include**
- simplified admission criteria
- less frequent follow-up visits to HF during treatment
- application of social distancing and IPC measures

**Role of Community Health and Nutrition Volunteers adaptation includes**
- limited number of house visits per day
- visits conducted outside household

**Infant and Young Child Feeding Guidance**

Protocols / guidance adapted through Nutrition Cluster in consultation with government authorities and NGOs – this process enhanced buy in for development and roll out of adaptations
Key challenges – responses and priorities moving forward

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TRAINING AND SUPERVISION OF HWS AND CHNVS</th>
<th>SUPPLY PIPELINE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• small group trainings with social distancing</td>
<td>• Personal Protective Equipment quantities not available in country &amp; increased bottle necks regarding regular nutrition supply pipeline (quarantine processes and transport restrictions) ...... addressed through</td>
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<tr>
<td>• on job training</td>
<td>• emergency international procurement of PPE, local procurement of sanitizer</td>
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<td>• dissemination of information through What’s app groups</td>
<td>• advocacy with authorities re supply transportation within Yemen</td>
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<td>• increased remote supervision</td>
<td>• sustaining efficient pipeline for PPE and regular nutrition supplies remains key priority</td>
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• strengthened supervision remains key priority
Key challenges – responses and priorities moving forward

ANALYSIS OF IMPACT OF COVID ON SERVICE UTILIZATION
challenging – due to combination of factors

• **beneficiary fear of COVID 19** addressed by enhanced messaging re importance of continuation of treatment and assuring communities that services are safe - HF and community level and radio & TV slots

• **suspension of mobile teams in some areas** addressed by advocacy with authorities, development of guidance for MT outlining precautionary measures required

• **Ramadan and Eid** also impacted reduced utilization rates and needs to be factored into analysis of impact of COVID 19

• monitoring and analysis of service utilization and addressing reduction in utilization remains priority .......... includes exploring alternative modalities for screening & treatment provision
  
  a) care giver monitoring of nutrition status
  b) treatment of acute malnutrition by community health workers in community

SUSPENSION OF NUTRITION SURVEYS

• nutrition surveys suspended as precautionary measure and suspension is ongoing in line with global guidance

• currently using an acute malnutrition analysis from beginning of year along global guidance to project nutrition treatment caseloads for remainder of year

• use of alternative mechanisms to collect nutrition related data is priority moving forward: to better determine program strategy and focus, and to assist with targeting includes........

• use of existing information, proxy indicators and food security projections to determine acute malnutrition caseload
Thank you