



WASH is a key preventative measure in reducing the spread of COVID-19 and is one of the principal public health recommendations.

The severity of the current response to COVID-19 poses grave detrimental impacts on WASH service provision and sustainability if not adequately mitigated. Equitable access to WASH commodities and services must be protected and extended for all, without any form of discrimination by nationality, income or ethnicity.

## Key Messages:

- Continuity of essential WASH Services
- Target high-risk populations
- Saving lives starts in communities
- Timely funding to avoid interruption of services
- Implementation of adapted programming in COVID-19
- Support the Health strategy

## Adaptive Response



**“We are happy with it, it is economical and keeps us healthy, thank you ZOA”**

Our story from Al Jabal a remote subdistrict in Ash Shaghaderah, Hajjah. Ash Shaghaderah district with a population of 74,045 people is classified as a cholera priority area putting people under high risk due to the shortages of safe water as well as safe hygiene practices. ZOA hygiene promotion teams have conducted several awareness sessions educating households of the importance of handwashing and its effectiveness in protecting against water-borne disease as well as COVID-19. In addition to teaching people the critical times of handwashing as well as the correct way of doing it, promoters introduced many creative ideas on economic handwashing facilities mainly made of very cheap and recycled materials. Currently, most of the households in the village have handwashing facility and showing better hygiene practices. [Read More...](#)

## Infection Prevention and Control

In an effort to support the Health system preparedness, to reduce the risk of hospital-associated infections and enhance infection, prevention and control (IPC), the WASH cluster activated WASH in HF TWIG, developing several technical guidance and SOPs which can be accessible [HERE...](#)

## Risk Communication and Community Engagement

In April 2020, UNICEF conducted a **KAP** assessment to understand knowledge, attitudes and practices related to COVID-19 in Yemen, with focus on:

- Knowledge of COVID-19 symptoms, transmission and prevention.
- Knowledge of COVID-19 spread and prevention methods.
- Information Sources and Channels.
- Risk Perception.

[More Information...](#)

## Main findings of the assessment:

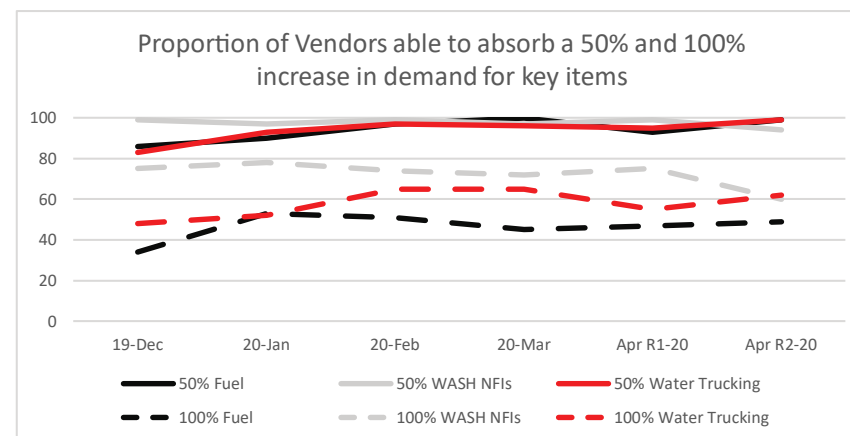
- Most respondents had knowledge and received relevant information.
- Top 3 main sources of information were TV, WhatsApp, Social Media
- Most trusted sources were TV, Health Workers, Social Media, volunteers.
- High awareness of danger of COVID-19, but low risk perception.
- Several misconceptions due to focus of early messaging on COVID-19
- Knowledge on actions to prevent and care are high.
- A high perception of certain groups being stigmatized due to COVID-19

## Joint Market Monitoring Initiative

### YEMEN COVID-19 JMMI, 25 -30 APRIL, 2020 KEY FINDINGS:

- The price of treaded water continues to increase while the overall WASH SMEB decreased.
- Restocking times in Marib and Amran were reportedly the highest of assessed governorates.
- Many vendors are experiencing issues with price inflation.
- Vendors reported supply issues as the top COVID-19 related constraints.

[More Information...](#)



## WASH COVID - Away !

*Creating Innovation, identifying best practice and Successes in provision of hand-washing facilities and behavioral change*

Send your ideas, examples and best practices to Ahmed Seror [aseror@unicef.org](mailto:aseror@unicef.org) and Emma Tuck [etuck@unicef.org](mailto:etuck@unicef.org) The best ideas will win prizes, and have their ideas posted online.

## Gaps and Challenges:

- Gaps in emergency capacities in North, drain to South
- Access issues, especially around migrants
- Lack of predictable, funding; Interruption in services & critical supplies
- Humanitarian situation likely to deteriorate further due to Covid-19
- Reduced Health seeking behaviors; Impacts evidence base for WASH

### More Resources:

- Yemen WASH Cluster
- IEC Materials
- Yemen Joint Market Monitoring Initiative

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