Provision of Information Management Support to Yemen Crisis Response Clusters

Services
Information Management, GIS, and Capacity Building

Objective
The project aims to provide information management support to clusters responding to the Yemen crisis.

The project provides information management (IM) support and coordination services to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), including cluster/sector lead agencies, and approximately 130 active organizations encompassing other United Nations agencies and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs). iMMAP’s direct support to core coordination mechanisms has contributed to enhancing cross-hub operations as well as better information-sharing amongst clusters by providing information management tools that enable situational awareness and common analysis to guide decision making and inform sectoral and inter-sectoral response planning.

Background
The situation in the country has deteriorated after three years of brutal conflict.

Thousands have been killed, more than three million were forced to flee their homes and more than half of the country has been deprived of basic services. More than 20 million people need humanitarian and protection assistance (66% of the population). More than 16 million people are food insecure, with an estimated 7.6 million in need of nutrition assistance.

With the increasing conflict, Yemen is now the worst humanitarian crisis in the world. The ongoing conflict and economic collapse have impacted vulnerable households, resulting in mounting psychosocial support needs and negative coping mechanisms. Over 2 million children are out of school, many of whom are at risk of child labor and getting recruited by armed groups. Girls are becoming increasingly exposed to domestic violence and early marriage.

In addition, Yemen has faced a fast-spreading cholera outbreak, which has affected more than 1.3 million people with nearly 2,800 deaths since late 2016. The upsurge of cholera cases was attributed to the disruption of public health and Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH) services, amidst increasingly collapsing

Better Data, Better Decisions, Better Outcomes
basic services. Only 51% of health facilities are fully functional in Yemen and more than 15 million people lack adequate access to safe water and sanitation. The dynamic and multi-faceted nature of the Yemen crisis has created significant challenges for the humanitarian community, including the humanitarian information management community at large.

**Humanitarian Program Cycle (HPC) and Cluster Support**

iMMAP implements advanced mechanisms for regularly identifying the needs of populations and critical information management tools. The team continues to develop the HPC platform to centralize the visualization of needs, humanitarian cluster planning, response monitoring and thematic dashboards of outbreaks, and accessibility, among others. In addition, support is provided to each cluster by developing mechanisms that create static maps of organizational presence as well as online and interactive dashboards. Since June 2019, iMMAP has delivered a total of 1,680 maps in support of the clusters.

iMMAP's pivotal role in sectoral/inter-sectoral and cross-hub coordination will help direct the overall work of the Cluster Support team, ensuring that workstreams are driven by operational priorities and consistent with the strategic direction set by the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT).

**Integrated Famine Risk Reduction (IFRR):** iMMAP monitors the IFRR approach response through analyzing cluster data to identify response gaps and systematize reporting, along with standardizing assessment tools and building capacity of IFRR partners to adequately address the high humanitarian needs of people in 45 districts in collaboration with the Nutrition, Health, Food Security and Agriculture (FSA) and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Clusters.


**COVID-19 Response Activities**

iMMAP has been involved in several COVID-19 response activities in Yemen:

- iMMAP Information Management Officers (IMOs) seconded to the Health Cluster collected data of partner activities, locations and capacities relevant to the COVID-19 response within the Al Hodeidah, Ibb and Aden sub-clusters, to develop a matrix containing all that critical information to complement the Health Cluster’s COVID-19 preparedness and response plan.

- In the Al Hodeidah governorate, an iMMAP IMO assisted the Health sub-cluster in different IM objectives to support WHO’s Operations Center (OpsCen). The iMMAP IMO also played a role in developing a centralized database to support the epidemiological team.

**Achievements:**

- **9,362** Information management products developed
- **56** Number of trainings provided
- **395** Dashboards developed
- **3,803** Maps created
- **958** Humanitarian actors trained
- **126** Organizations assisted in IM capacity development
- **134** Organizations utilized iMMAP-supported information management services
• An iMMAP IMO has developed a preparedness map for COVID-19 on behalf of OCHA to reflect the number of different modalities, including blankets, canned food, tents, quarantine centers, water tanks and hygiene kits, available in different regions across Yemen. This process is continuing and will be systematically updated.

• iMMAP IMOs have developed a bulletin that details the WASH Cluster's activities as part of their COVID-19 response in Yemen.

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**Information Management Training**

iMMAP provides specialized information management training courses to build the national capacity of organizations who lack the dedicated and skilled IM resources. Since 2019, iMMAP in Yemen has supported 126 humanitarian organizations and has trained a total of 170 individuals.

Deconfliction Information System: Launched in January 2019, the deconfliction information system was launched to reinforce the deconfliction mechanism designed to alert Saudi-Led Coalition (SLC) of the locations of humanitarian static locations and humanitarian movements in Yemen, aiming to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian premises, personnel, equipment and activities afflicted with active military operations. iMMAP has developed the information security technical areas of the system such as encryption, strong password practices and system access control. iMMAP is also responsible for following up on the critical enhancements and maintaining the system to ensure its sustainability.