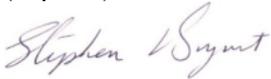


**PERFORMANCE PROGRESS REPORT**

**SF-PPR**

**(Required for all grant awards over \$100,000 USD as per the U.S. Department of State)**

**Terms and Conditions**

1. Federal Agency and Organization Element to Which Report is Submitted: U.S. Department of State, PM/WRA		2. Federal Grant or Other Identifying Number Assigned by Federal Agency  S-PMWRA-16-CA-1079		3a. DUNS Number  645521498
				3b. EIN 1133417984A4
4. Recipient Organization (Name and complete address including zip code):  United Nations Development Programme One United Nations Plaza New York, NY 10017 USA			5. Recipient Identifying Number or Account Number  UNDPNATDEV Address Line 00108 Account with Citibank info: ABA 021000089, SWIFT CITIUS33 and Account number 36349562.	
6. Project/Grant Period – extended to four years		7. Budget Period - four years		8. Final Report ? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Start Date: <i>(Month, Day, Year)</i> October 1, 2016	End Date: <i>(Month, Day, Year)</i> September 30, 2017  Revised: November 30, 2020	Start Date: <i>(Month, Day, Year)</i> October 1, 2016  Revised: August 1, 2017	End Date: <i>(Month, Day, Year)</i> September 30, 2017  Revised: November 30, 2020	9. Report Frequency  <input type="checkbox"/> <i>annual</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>semi-annual</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>quarterly</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>other</i>  <i>(If other, describe: _____)</i> _____
10. Performance Narrative:  Please see the attached narrative submission.				
11. Other Attachments:				
<b>12. Certification: I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that this report and attachments is correct and complete for performance of activities for the purposes set forth in the award documents.</b>				
12a. Typed or Printed Name and Title of Authorized Certifying Official Stephen Bryant, CTA Mine Action Yemen			12c. Telephone <i>(area code, number and extension)</i> + 967 712 221 630	
			12d. Email Address <a href="mailto:stephen.bryant@undp.org">stephen.bryant@undp.org</a>	
12b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official (required)  			12e. Date Report Submitted <i>(Month, Day, Year)</i>  28 July 2020	

## GRANT PROGRESS REPORT

Period Covered in this Report: January 1 –March 31, 2020

<b>Organisation:</b>	UNDP	<b>Date:</b>	28 July 2020
<b>Mailing Address:</b>	United Nations Development Programme 304 E 45 <sup>th</sup> street New York, NY, 10017-3425 United States Phone: +1 212 906 6593	<b>Contact:</b>	Mr. Stephen Bryant
		<b>Tel:</b>	+ 967 712 221 630
		<b>E-Mail:</b>	<a href="mailto:stephen.bryant@undp.org">stephen.bryant@undp.org</a>
<b>Program Title:</b>	UNDP Yemen: Emergency Mine Action Project		
<b>Country/Region:</b>	Yemen		
<b>Total Dollar Amount of Grant:</b>	\$ \$13,836,640		
<b>Total Period of Performance of Grant:</b>	38 months, 1 Oct 2016 – 30 November 2021		

The Phase IV Project was first funded by USDoS PMWRA from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2013 under separate grants each year. The grant 13-GR-1085 and subsequent NCE, was closed 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 and the final report compiled and submitted in April 2016 covering activities on the project through 31 March 2016. 15-CA-1082 grant was received by the UNDP country office in March 2016 covering the activities of the project through 30 September 2016 and the same was utilised and reported on.

The first tranche of \$1 Million, from this grant (S-PMWRA-16-CA-1079) was received on November 7, 2016, the second one of \$750,000 on January 31, 2017, the third one of \$1,563,640 on September 20, 2017; the fourth of \$1,500,000 on February 2, 2018, the fifth of \$3,181,360.00 on August 23, 2018 and the last of \$3,000,000 on April 18, 2019 and the last tranche of \$2,841,640 for this grant was received early 2020. During the reporting period (Q14 of 2020), UNDP, working through YEMAC, continued to support the main functions of the mine action programme in country and to re-mobilise dormant survey clearance teams in the field.

The grants to date played a pivotal role in continuation of the project during conflict and implementation of project plans in priority areas and wherever the security situation permitted.

**GOAL(S):** UNDP will continue to implement capacity building for the Yemen Executive Mine Action Centre (YEMAC), as well as emergency explosive ordnance disposal operations contingent on security and accessibility to new areas to protect civilians and contribute to broader humanitarian initiatives as part of the ongoing peace negotiations.

### Objectives:

1. Mine and UXO contamination is mapped and impact assessed nationwide using primary and secondary sources.
2. ERW are cleared in identified priority areas.
3. Abandoned explosive ordnance (AXO) and weapons are destroyed.
4. A technical advisor provides YEMAC-South with expert advice in the field and builds institutional capacity.
5. The awareness of threats posed by mines and UXO is increased in affected communities.
6. Survivors of ERW incidents are effectively supported and rehabilitated.

### **Background and Scope of the Problem:**

The humanitarian crisis in Yemen remains the worst in the world. Nearly four years of conflict and severe economic decline are driving the country to the brink of famine and exacerbating needs in all sectors. This conflict has exacerbated Yemen's chronic vulnerabilities leaving at the turn of 2019, an estimated 80 per cent of the population – 24.1 million people – require some form of humanitarian or protection assistance, including 14.3 million who are in acute need. Severity of needs is deepening, with the number of people in acute need a staggering 27 per cent higher than last year. Two-thirds of all districts in the country are already pre-famine, and one-third face a convergence of multiple acute vulnerabilities. Currently, Yemen is the world's largest food security crisis with 24.1 million people food insecure while a staggering 10 million people do not know where their next meal is coming from and are at risk of famine.<sup>1</sup>

Public services have broken down, less than half of the health centres are functional and medicine and equipment are limited. Access to safe water has become a major challenge and the lack of proper sanitation has increased the risk of communicable diseases. Three years ago, Yemen experienced the worst cholera outbreak in modern times and for the past 18 months, the country has been on the brink of famine. Yemen has the fourth largest number of displaced persons in the world. During the first half of 2020, once-in a generation flooding has devastated southern communities and fuelled the spread of killer diseases including cholera, dengue, malaria and diphtheria. Of the threats facing Yemen, perhaps none is as cataclysmic as COVID-19, which has been present since March and is spreading unmitigated and unchecked across the country. Public health officials warn that the combination of extreme vulnerability and low general immunity puts Yemen at exceptional risk. Unless steps to suppress and address COVID-19 are immediately scaled-up, the virus is likely to spread faster, more widely and with deadlier consequences than almost anywhere else<sup>2</sup>.

The death toll could be much higher if humanitarian organizations had not stretched themselves to the maximum extent possible to compensate for the absence of government funding to health services. In today's Yemen, a child under the age of 5 dies every 10 minutes of preventable causes.

The different dimensions and dynamics of the war (the struggle against terrorism, the civil war and the regional struggle encompassing Saudi Arabia, the UAE, and Iran) are shattering Yemen's economy, which was already on the brink of collapse prior to the current crisis.

The conflict has completely destroyed the economic infrastructure of the country, causing its real GDP to contract by a cumulative 47% since 2015. Other than the physical destruction caused by the conflict, contributing conflict-related factors include: the closure of some air and land ports in a country that depends mostly on imports to cover the majority of its food and non-food needs, and where hydrocarbon production and exports accounted for roughly 25% of GDP and 65% of government revenue before the conflict; the institutional fragmentation, especially of the monetary authority; the severe liquidity crisis in the public budget and banking system and its impact on civil servant salaries, basic public service delivery, and private sector financial and operational needs.

As a result, about 40% of households have lost their primary source of income. Since October 2016, public sector employees (one third of the work force, including doctors, teachers, etc.) have not received, or only done so intermittently, monthly salaries. This has led to over half of civil servants abandoning their post and turning to the private or informal sectors to provide basic services. The other half is being paid by local communities (in kind with food baskets), local militia or through fees that were previously not charged on basic services. Consequently, critical basic services are on the verge of collapse. In the private sector, 83% of companies have suffered direct or indirect damage caused by the conflict, which together with the difficulties of accessing liquidity or credit is forcing massive lay-offs

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<sup>1</sup> See <https://www.unocha.org/yemen> (accessed on 2020/07/05)

<sup>2</sup> Humanitarian Response plan 2020

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and closures. An estimated 60% of private sector employees have been laid off or seen working hours and salaries halved. Furthermore, modest social security payments have been halted from March 2017 (affecting over 41% of retirees), and since early 2015, the Social Welfare Fund monthly cash transfers have stopped, impacting over 1.5 million economically vulnerable households, and 8 million dependents (over 27% of the population).

Economic prospects in 2020 and beyond are uncertain and hinge critically on the political and security situations. Affordability of food is rapidly emerging threat to household welfare, as pre-existing global food price increases and Yemeni Rial depreciation is now interacting with COVID-19 related trade restrictions by food exporters. Yemen's import dependence is exacerbated by the impact of desert locusts on the cropping season<sup>3</sup>.

Yemen is a signatory state to the APMBC (Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention) since entering into force in March 1999 enacting national legislation in April 2005. Yemen is neither party to the 2008 Convention on Cluster Munitions nor the 1980 Convention on Conventional Weapons. APMBC extended obligations currently expire in 2020. Based on the increased contamination as a result of fighting from 2015 to date from the known or assumed mine use (and use of improvised landmines), Yemen will not meet these obligations and will require an additional extension to the current convention agreement. The Fourth Review Conference of the States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention took place in Oslo on 25-29 November 2019 and Yemen was represented by a delegation from Aden, supported by the IRG. Yemen was granted the request for an extension until 1 March 2023. During this period Yemen projects that clarity regarding the remaining contamination will be obtained through national surveys, the country will produce a detailed plan of action and submit an additional extension request.

Yemen has two state institutions for mine action implementation; NMAC and YEMAC. The former is concerned with advocacy, policy, strategy, convention obligations, political facilitation and priority setting and the latter as the executive institution: conducting and/or co-ordinating risk-education; victim assistance; survey and clearance operations. In addition, YEMAC is responsible for information management and quality control/assurance of all operations. As a national institution, YEMAC is operating through two sub-offices: in Sana'a (for Sana'a-centric governorates) and Aden (for Aden-centric governorates). Due to the autonomous or semi-autonomous governance of many governorates, YEMAC requires regional offices to co-ordinate activities and provide local day-to-day solutions to local problems. Mine action in this instance includes the threats from mines, UXO (Unexploded Ordnance), AXO (abandoned ordnance), IEDs (Improvised Explosive Devices) and cluster-munitions. YEMAC currently has the preserve for clearance and survey operations throughout the country and a consortium of national and international NGOs conduct risk education and victim assistance co-ordinated by YEMAC.

NMAC/YEMAC are state institutions fragmented by the war in 2015 to implement and coordinate the five pillars of mine action and related contamination. In addition, multiple insurgencies have developed in the voids in authority limiting access in some areas. Stockpile destruction of mines, redundant weapons and ammunition is not an active component of YEMAC operations during the period of conflict. Legacy contamination from earlier conflicts was largely in the south of the country and Sa'ada in the north. YEMAC was not widely active in the north and as a result, the majority of assets and trained YEMAC personnel are now in the south while the needs have changed, particularly from cluster munition contamination in the north and there is a mismatch of available assets to deal with them. As the front lines move, particularly on Western coastal areas, liberated land is found to be heavily contaminated and more resources will be required specific to these areas.

UNDP has supported humanitarian mine action efforts in Yemen since the mid-1990s. The emphasis has been; institution building, capacity development, technical assistance, operational support and

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<sup>3</sup> <http://pubdocs.worldbank.org/en/604811554825494039/mpo-yem.pdf> (Accessed on 2020/07/05)

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resource mobilisation. By 2012, Yemen was close to declaring itself mine-free but recent conflicts have put that out of reach even with the APMBC extension through to 2020. UNDP's mine action intervention is therefore considered long-term. Recent conflicts have changed the extent and complexity of contamination dramatically and in many cases, YEMAC is neither trained nor equipped to deal. Despite extension requests of Yemen's obligations under the APMBC, there are not enough resources in country to meet the deadline even if the current belligerents were to maintain a ceasefire. Mines have been reportedly laid recently that were never a part of the original Yemeni stockpiles. In addition, cluster munitions and other UXO/AXO contamination is widespread from both the air campaign and ground fighting. The national mine action strategy is out of date and does not reflect the current situation. If or when there is a robust and lasting cessation to the current hostilities, UNDP will assist NMAC in the strategy revision process.

The Phase IV (Project Document) expired in June 2017. UNDP has finalised with NMAC/YEMAC the new Phase V plan for 2017-2020 (coinciding with the current extension of the APMBC obligations) and begun implementing the same as of August 1, 2017. The Project addresses the changed situation in country: new and evolving threats; the structure of YEMAC to effect operations according to the needs; and, the personnel and assets required to meet both the immediate needs while concurrently addressing the longer-term obligations. The aim being a flexible approach adapting to the evolving crises in country, allowing for the changing tide of conflict, new priorities, and a potential end of hostilities and any resulting peace arrangements. A revision of the Project Document was meant to happen in June 2020 but due to the COVID-19 outbreak and the impossibility to operate a meaningful revision, the current phase has been extended until 30 June 2021.

Clearance teams may only work in accessible areas and for the time being may not be able to reach the most impacted zones. UNDP is committed to working through YEMAC nationwide based on the humanitarian needs, irrespective of the predominant political leadership (or future changes). Work conducted by YEMAC in the field is expressly denied in areas where the conflict is ongoing. Purposefully, this negates the potential risks field staff would be exposed to and where fighting continues, the contamination picture of UXO particularly is constantly being affected. Clearance is only worth the effort where there is a strong likelihood an area will not be re-contaminated and as such, YEMAC is working primarily on high-risk, high-threat 'spot-tasks' rather than the systematic clearance of hazardous area polygons on the map. Similar to personnel safety, equipment has been tightly controlled and kept out of confrontation areas to reduce the opportunity it may be abandoned, stolen or destroyed. YEMAC has proven to be innovative when protecting assets even during the height of the ground conflict and the equipment is centralised and secured at the end of each day.

Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) present a significant problem for Yemen. They contribute directly to civilian casualties and their lethality (per event) is twice that of conventional mines and three times that of air strikes. Yemen's statistics only provide a degree of accuracy but in 3 years they have contributed to 17% of the global total. At the Oslo Review Conference in November 2019, Yemen's Executive Mine Action Centre (YEMAC) declared over 4000 IED events throughout the year. The IED creates personal safety issues, instils fear, impacts on sustainable development goals and thrives under poor governance. Sadly, Yemen is afflicted by each condition and one of few countries to experience the IED's wrath on land, in the air, and at sea.

UNDP's current technical support is one chief technical advisor (Sana'a based), one technical advisor (Aden based) and one planning and reporting specialist, to support the administration of multiple donors and the associated individual project-cycles in support of YEMAC. The posts are based in Sana'a and Aden with ad-hoc travels in country depending on security clearance. In addition, currently there are three national staff (one in Aden and two in Sana'a) supporting the project operations. Two international consultants have been contracted in February 2019: an information management specialist (based in Aden) and a coordination specialist (to be based in – pending visa). Additional technical specialists may be engaged as and when YEMAC requires with a particular focus on the new threats (cluster munitions, aircraft bombs, IED etc.) and more advanced methodologies in survey and clearance.

## Situation Update

### Political:

The first quarter of the year 2020 was marked by the following key events:

- **Set back of the political process:** On March 25 the UN Secretary General called for a nation-wide cease-fire. Following to that call, the Special Envoy of the Secretary General of Yemen, Martin Griffiths, shared with the parties (AA and IRG) a comprehensive initiative to end the war, which includes three points<sup>4</sup>:
  - 1- A proposal of a nation-wide and accountable cease-fire agreement
  - 2- A set of economic and humanitarian measures to alleviate the suffering of Yemeni people and build confidence between the parties
  - 3- A commitment to the resumption of the political process.

This initiative was endorsed by the Security Council on April 10. KSA also announced a two-week ceasefire. However, clashes escalated in the south between IRG and STC, in Marib between AA and IRG. Without official announcement, there is an indication that the opportunity of a joint declaration has collapsed.

- **Increase of tension and conflict in Northern Yemen (Marib):** Last May, clashes escalated in Al-Jawf and moved towards Marib, a heavily populated district, with around 350 IDP families. The AA forces were able to capture areas towards Marib and strengthen their presence in the north of Al-Jawf (frontline between AA and IRG forces). AA forces found a heavily contaminated area with AP mines, AT mines and cluster bombs on both sides of the frontline. Preliminary reports describe a belt of contamination of hundreds of kilometres long. It is not yet confirmed as YEMAC have not been able to mark or clear the area as its current capacity. However, YEMAC managed to establish a safe passage for returnees to come back. Since the beginning of the year, an average of 7 landmine incidents per week have been recorded, with a peak of 50 incidents over one week. Most of incidents affect drivers of small fuel trucks who are trying to transport fuel on account of the current fuel shortage crisis.
- **Intermittent violent clashes continued in Northern Al Dhale'e between Ansar Allah (AA) and Southern Transitional Council (STC):** In Taiz, clashes between AA and the IRG continued, namely in the western areas of the Governorate. While the west coast is still facing clashes between Al-Amaliqah forces and AA. Intermittent armed clashes continue in Mukairas district between and Abyan and Al Baidha governorates.<sup>5</sup>
- **Fragile ceasefire between IRG and STC:** The implementation of Riyadh Agreement between IRG and STC that was signed on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2019 is still facing many challenges. Both sides accuse each other of delays in implementing the commitments of the Agreement and there is significant mistrust between the two sides. The political part of the agreement is under discussions to be implemented first as planned before the military one. Discussions between both sides under the umbrella of Saudi-Led Coalition (SLC) are still ongoing in Riyadh. June witnessed the heaviest armed clashes between the IRG and STC in Abyan with no major advances to any of the parties. However, Saudi Arabia call for a ceasefire seems to have stopped the fighting. SLC announced that military observers will be deployed to observe the fragile cease-fire in place<sup>6</sup>.

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<sup>4</sup> <https://osesgy.unmissions.org/update-un-special-envoys-initiative-end-war-yemen>

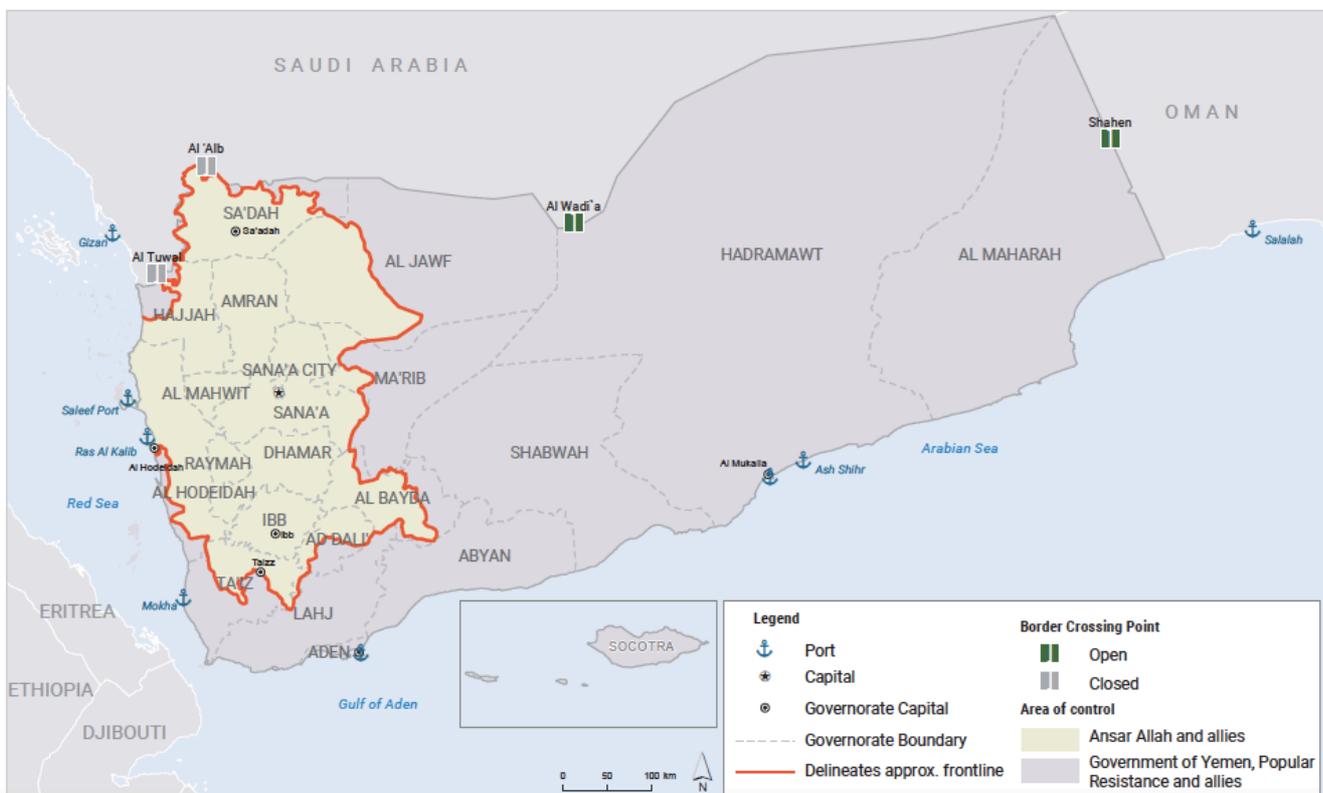
<sup>5</sup> UNDP Aden Sub Office Monthly report, June 2020, pp2.

<sup>6</sup> UNDP Aden Sub Office Monthly report, June 2020, pp3.

- **State of play of frontlines:** see below the related map



(as of 2 July 2020)



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Creation date: 02/07/2020 Sources: GoY/MoLA/CSO Feedback: oohayemen@un.org www.unocha.org/yemen www.reliefweb.int

**Economic:**

Following the declaration of self-rule in the southern governorates in April, STC stepped up efforts to improve autonomous control over public functions in the south. Reportedly, most revenue-collecting government institutions in Aden have deposited public revenue into the designated “self-rule” accounts with the Al Ahli Bank, in response to the STC’s request.

Meanwhile in Sana’a, the *de facto* authorities implemented a series of legislative economic reforms to improve the business environment in the controlled territory. In mid-May, the parallel market exchange rate of the Yemeni rial crossed the YR700/US\$ mark for the first time since November 2018 in areas controlled by the IRG.

While the volume of food imports through the Hodeidah and Saleef ports recovered in May, there remain serious concerns over food security in Yemen,

Figure 1. Parallel Market Exchange Rates  
 (Daily Average, YR/US\$)

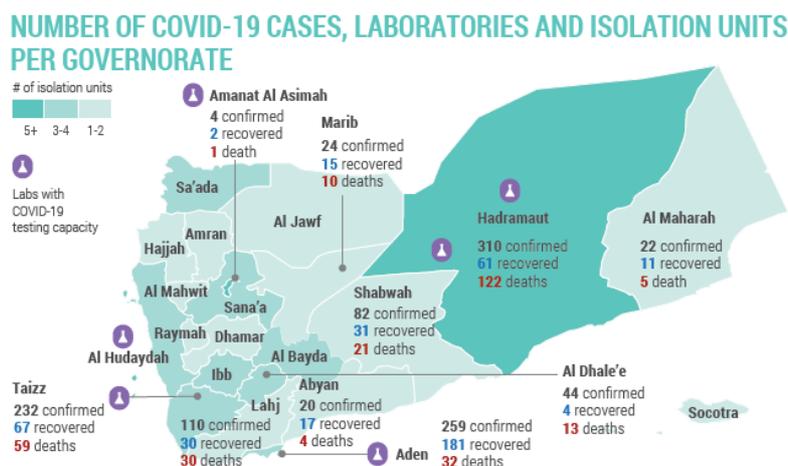
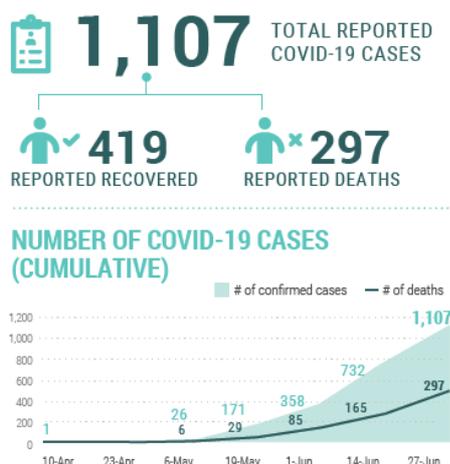


Source: Data collected from Informal exchange rate markets and staff estimates.

especially in the north. Food prices rose markedly in April, posing a threat to the already dire humanitarian conditions<sup>7</sup>.

**Humanitarian:**

- COVID-19 update:** As of the end of June, the number of reported confirmed COVID-19 cases in Yemen had reached 1,107 with 297 associated deaths and 419 recoveries. The highest number of cases were reported in Hadramaut (310 cases), followed by Aden (259 cases). Men constitute 75 per cent of all reported cases, and the highest number of deaths are among people aged between 45 and 59 (40 per cent of all deaths). All indicators point to the continued rapid transmission of COVID-19 across the country and that too often, people who are symptomatic are delaying seeking treatment until their condition is serious because treatment centres are inaccessible, fear of stigma, and the perceived risks of seeking care. The recent fuel crisis is already threatening access to food, hospital operations and water supplies which are fuel-dependent and crucial to preventing virus transmission and response and presents a further obstacle to people seeking treatment. The cost of the minimum food basket has risen by as much as 35 per cent in some areas since the outbreak of COVID-19 while the Yemeni rial devalues. Aid agencies continue to work to reduce transmission of the virus through community engagement; to procure and distribute thousands of metric tons of medical supplies and equipment; to save lives by supporting COVID-19 clinical readiness; and to safeguard the public health care system. However, the Yemen humanitarian response, including for COVID-19, remains hugely underfunded, risking an increase in the spread of COVID-19 and jeopardizing the ability of humanitarian partners to respond<sup>8</sup>.



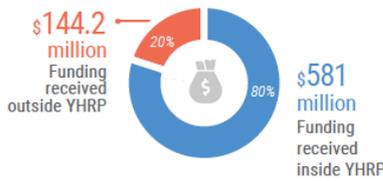
<sup>7</sup> World bank Monthly Economic Update on Yemen, May 2020 (data not yet available for June).

<sup>8</sup> Yemen COVID-19 Preparedness and Response snapshot, 27 June 2020 (UNOCHA).

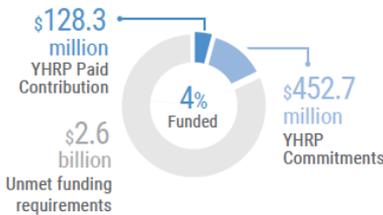
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- Funding update:** On 2 June 2020, the virtual High-Level Pledging Event for the Humanitarian Crisis in Yemen brought together representatives of more than 125 Member States, and International Organizations, UN Agencies, NGOs and Civil Society to raise funding to meet the humanitarian needs of people affected by the conflict. Thirty countries announced pledges for humanitarian action in Yemen, including 14 announcements to support the Yemen Humanitarian Fund. Altogether, donors only pledged US\$1.35 billion, of the 2.41 billion needed to cover essential humanitarian activities between June and December, leaving a gap of more than \$1 billion. With only \$558 million provided so far, the aid operation is on the brink of collapse unless donors fulfil their pledges immediately, and without additional funding. The situation compares unfavourably with this stage in 2019, when \$2.6 billion had been received for the aid operation. Without funding, the aid operation is expected to shrink further in August when 19 million people will lose access to healthcare, including pregnant and nursing women, and children. Five million children will miss out on vaccinations against killer diseases and public health services will collapse further<sup>9</sup>.

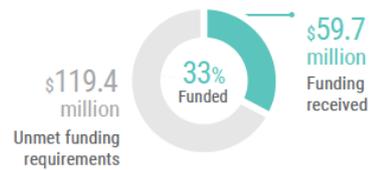
**\$725.5 million**  
Total funding received



**\$3.23 billion**  
Funding requirements for YHRP



**\$179.1 million**  
Funding requirements for COVID-19



<sup>9</sup> Yemen Situation Report (OCHA), July 2020.

### **The Project Geographical Area:**

The project aims to cover all landmine/ERW affected areas in Yemen. The field operations in the contaminated areas throughout Yemen during the reporting period were conducted in the Governorates of: Abyan, Aden, Al Bayda, Al Dhale'e, Al Hodeidah, Al Jawf, Al Mahwit, Amran, Dhmar, Hadramaut, Lahj, Mareeb, Sa'ada, Sana'a, Shabwa, Taiz (covering 88 districts). The project aims to continue working in these areas throughout 2020 and expand to new ones depending on the conditions within the country.

### **Main achievements of the Yemen Mine Action Programme Funded by the US-DOS Grant and other donors' contributions during the reporting period 1 April – 30 June 2020:**

UNDP and UNICEF remain the two UN agencies accepted to assist with Yemen's mine action issues north and south of the country. UNICEF is supporting YEMAC with risk education activities only. In the long relationship UNDP has had with NMAC/YEMAC, the goal has always been to develop the institutions and assist in their capacity development to ensure efficiency and effectiveness in addressing the impact of contamination. While the current political situation in country has altered the approach by UNDP, the goal still remains. The current emergency phase is focused on relieving the highly impacted communities. However, there are three overarching strands to UNDP's intervention: a) prevent the situation worsening; b) relief from the impact of current contamination and c) addressing the longer-term issues of convention obligations. All three strands are implemented concurrently and are not mutually exclusive.

These thematic focus areas are addressing the physical and socio-economic impact of explosive remnants of war and mines on people and communities. And, specific to this project:

- Mine and UXO contamination is mapped and impact assessed nationwide using primary and secondary resources;
- Mines and UXO are cleared in identified priority areas;
- The awareness of threats posed by mines and UXO is increased in affected communities;
- Survivors of ERW are more effectively supported and rehabilitated socio-economically.

In addition, UNDP continues working with NMAC/YEMAC to introduce and facilitate international mine action orientated NGOs each to assist Yemen and bringing their own relative advantages: Danish Demining Group (DDG); Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) and the HALO Trust. Due to the ongoing situation with COVID-19 in the south, the activities on this front may be put behind the schedule with the potential to slip further as the training plans for April have already been cancelled. The INGOs are reorienting themselves to operations that do not require CASEVAC such as RA, NTS survey training, NTS, general training. The INGO's have also agreed to support the training of MACC staff in coordination with UNDP by providing someone to provide face to face (at a socially appropriate distance) answers to questions etc. NGO staffing may change in the future in Aden, but all INGO's will maintain a presence until it is no longer possible.

- UNDP has entered into agreement with DDG for supporting YEMAC Aden with capacity building. As explained above the plans are now been reconsidered due to the situation on the ground.
- UNDP has signed an agreement with NPA to provide capacity building to YEMAC's mine detection dog Unit with training and actual mine detecting dogs. Due to the current situation the plans are pushed into June 2020. NPA are working with the MA Team and counterparts in the south: preparing the kennels, updating counterparts on procedures and preparing for the upcoming training sessions for dog handlers (to happen in Bosnia) once the situation normalises. **NOTE:** Following the cancelation of the visa of the UNDP CTA, the arrival of the NPA experts has been postponed until the return of the CTA. The schedule may be pushed even further due to the current situation in the country.

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- UNDP is working with the HALO Trust on the training of YEMAC staff. HALO is planning to orient their EOD teams to NTS. They are reticent to stand down teams due to the progress made, although this may come in time . They are continuing with activities as best as they can.
- UNDP is also following up on its future cooperation with the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD). The agreed upon outputs for 2020 with projected impacts are: write NMAS - Interim NMAS are in the process of being completed, planned for circulation in May and remote discussions. Once we have the ability to run workshops etc. We will then go into a cycle of writing a full inclusive set. This is roughly a 12-month process alongside GICHD. The planned training / workshop in Amman, Jordan has now been postponed until further notice. An option for an online training is also being considered.

UNDP's approach ensures the continuity of NMAC/YEMAC as a national institution effecting mine action and further develops the concept of national ownership in addressing the needs. Further INGOs will be requested to support clearance operations if and when the conditions become conducive and relative strengths of mine action orientated INGOs are identified and are according to identified needs.

### **Field operations**

The clearance teams continued collecting UXO in the 21 Governorates across the country, in 49 various districts. The teams cleared a total of 11,985 different objects (AT Mine 733; AP Mine 174; IED 146; MIX UXO 10,259; Cluster Munitions 26; Rockets 31; Missiles 0; Fuses 616).

During the reporting period, a slow-down of field operations have been reported in reference with the month of Ramadan with Emergency teams on stand-by. Activities have resumed normally since the beginning of June. YEMAC teams currently live in isolation in order to avoid contamination to and from the population. As a consequence, only few field visits were conducted by UNDP teams during the reporting period.

Last April, in Mukkallah governorate: UNDP staff conducted field visit to YEMAC teams in Ar-Ryan area with the purpose of monitoring team presence, performance, and ensure that safety and security measure are respected.



MDD operations: The MDD teams were dispatched to the field in support of survey and clearance operations during the quarter. In Aden, the Project is finalizing the work on the new kennels. The works should be finished by the end of September 2020. The training of the handlers is expected to take place be organized in Bosnia next September at the NPA training centre. However, these activities might be postponed depending how the situation evolves i.e. depending on travel restrictions imposed by individual countries.

More details on the cumulative results of the clearing operations during the period are given in the Attachment 1 to this report.

**The third-party monitoring** (TPM) contractor (Prodigy) completed in June 2020<sup>10</sup>, field visits to the Governorate of Aden district of Al Buraiqah (sub-district of Beer Ahmed) and district of Dar Saad. The field visit report highlighted that 23,450 sqm of lands were surveyed and 27,900 sqm cleared.

The objectives of the monitoring are:

- To verify implementation of mine action activity in contaminated locations as requested
- To verify status of land clearance
- To verify whether the communities of these locations have benefited from mine action activities.

**C-IED activities:**

- Drafting of the National C-IED Strategy, which addresses the upstream (IED prevention) and downstream (IED defeat) capacity issues Yemen faces
- An IED National Mine Action Standard (English/Arabic) has been issued
- Issuance of an IED Standard Operating Procedures (English/Arabic)
- We have completed the GICHD IEDD Good practice Guide, which goes live across the UN community end August 2020, and which is based on our training
- Assistance provided to HI and UNICEF in IED related risk awareness products

**Impact:**

- There remain a large number of IEDs in Yemen but their effectiveness is diminishing (down from 3.14 casualties per event in 2018/2019 to under 2 casualties per event)
- There have been no injuries or fatalities to YEMAC staff in Hadramout & Shabwah in over 150 IED events attended. The statistic prior to that was 1 in 13 last year.
  - Attrition has all but disappeared, which will have a multiplier effect over time, further restoring confidence within communities.
  - EOD team availability has risen from 50% to in excess of 90% for all explosive hazard related incidents in those two governorates;

**Next Steps:**

- Focus on Upstream Capacity Building initiatives in Yemen (preventing the IED being there in the first place):
  - Continue with the advocacy;
  - Continued assessment of capabilities and threats;
  - Security and control of explosives;
  - IED risk education;
  - Counter-IED capability development;
  - Regional and international cooperation and information sharing;
- Broadening of Downstream Capacity building (protecting the people doing the work and reducing casualties):
  - Predicted roll-out of IEDD good practice across 4 further governorates (Hudaydah, Taizz, Abyan and Aden) throughout 2021/2022 with assistance from NGO;
  - 100% YEMAC staff trained in IED awareness and incident response;

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<sup>10</sup> Note that reporting from Prodigy only covers June 2020, the contract with UNDP encountered some delayed in its renewal, activities resumed in June.

### **Administrative operations**

Early June, essential equipment for YEMAC reached Aden port and were delivered to the teams. The delivery includes 300 Metal Detectors along with 374 packages (Jacket, Shirts, Trousers and CAPs Pyjamas).



### **IMSMA**

Currently the Information Management (IM) system is in design phase, this includes the following:

- Data collection forms compatible with windows, mac, ios and android (completed but needs testing);
- Designing groups and accounts with different access levels (ongoing);
- Designing user cases (field scenarios) for clarity and training (ongoing);
- Creating process maps (ongoing).

The IMSMA Core server has already been installed for Yemen, and YMACC have access to it. UNDP is working with GICHD to make sure it is organised, and has started working with YEMAC on forms, which are 90% ready and have been sent to YMACC for approval, which will be shared with partners shortly. An NTS (National Technical Survey) technical working group (TWG) will be established with a heavy IM influence. All INGOs are invited to participate. UNDP plan for YMACC to take the lead in establishing and running it.

### **Training activities:**

Despite the impact of COVID-19 in Yemen, UNDP staff have starting to build the local capacity of the Yemen Mine Action Coordination Centre (YMACC) in Aden. In partnership and under the guidance of the director of the Yemeni Executive Mine Action Centre (YEMAC), 10 staff (two of whom are women) have undertaken training in Aden on June 14.



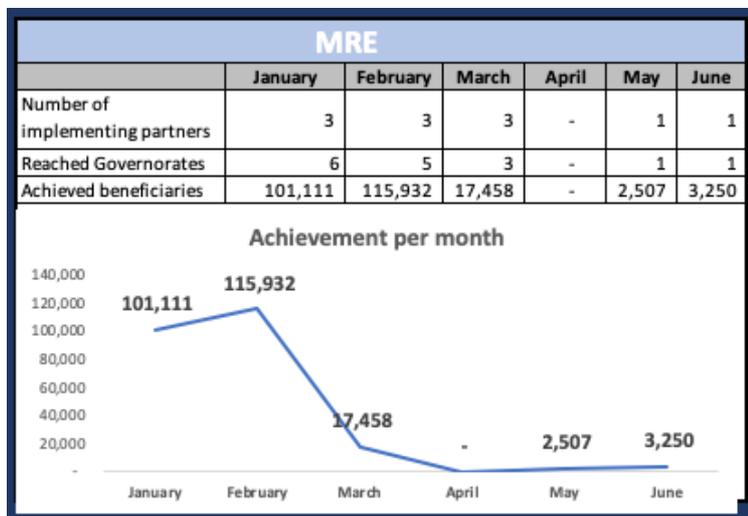
The training is expected to help develop the skills of the YMACC staff to co-ordinate a variety of mine action actors. Topics include information management, issuing tasking orders, developing strategies and plans and implementing quality management protocols to ensure a high standard of work. And due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the original plan has been adapted with social distancing, personal protective equipment (PPE) being worn, and greater use of on-line resources being utilised to deliver high quality training.

**International Conferences and Training:**

Due to COVID-19 outbreak and restrictions of travel movements, no International Conferences or training took place this quarter.

**Mine Risk Education activities**

A total of 5920 people including 3093 children (1466 girls and 1627 boys) and 2827 adult (1207 women and 1620 men) have received lifesaving mine risk education messages for the period (April to June) 2020 in Al Jawf governates through local nongovernmental organization called YRAD who implemented MRE sessions in schools, used as temporary child friendly spaces.



Slow progress is noted for the reporting period due to the restriction of movement that affected the planned MRE sessions, training and meetings which are supposed to take place in schools and community centres. UNICEF and its partners are currently working to adopt new modality to ensure the continuity of MRE via TV and online to reach the communities. This new approach should be implemented in August<sup>11</sup>.

**Victims Assistance**

The YEMAC victims’ assistance department registered 193 since the beginning of the April.

**Coordination Functions**

YEMAC continues to be the central agency for conducting and coordinating risk-education, victim assistance, survey and clearance operations, information management and quality control / assurance of all operations. In addition, the project is reaching out to the actors in the field in Yemen and the donor community.

The conflict of interest within the organisational structure needs addressing and UNDP will strive to separate the functions of coordination, survey, clearance and quality management. UNDP will support YEMAC with the development of longer terms plans for survey and clearance operations (annual work plans), longer term staffing and procurement plans, and national support plans with details on the actual support to be provided. The same are to be discussed and agreed upon by UNDP and YEMAC and constitute the basis for the future activities. The introduction of YMACC should have a positive effect on the planning capabilities of the organisation.

The Project is moving ahead with the plan to establish a Yemen Mine Action Coordination Centre (YMACC) in Aden. The building has been upgraded and the immediate IT equipment procured. The Project team is working with counterparts on the staffing of this new body. The staff is now on board, teams have been trained (cf. training activities section) and technical working groups are now being set up (National Technical Survey and Mine Risk Education at the moment).

<sup>11</sup> Report communicated by the MRE Working group, which includes not only YEMAC but also other partners.

The establishment of a similar body in Sana'a has seen no forward movement forward. The absence of the UNDP international staff from the north of the country does hinder this activity and the same may be postponed until after the current situation is resolved.

Mine Action AoRs (Area of Responsibilities): Online monthly meetings took place during the reporting period (one national and area based for IRG areas), with also a joint meeting North and South took place in May, bringing together UN and INGOs partners from the whole country.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION / DISCUSSION**

### **Key challenges Identified:**

- Access: the cancellation of the visa of the UNDP Chief Technical Advisor in December 2019 already impacts the work of the project in the north of the country. The project is working on these with the support of UNDP country office and YEMAC and the latest information receive from our counterparts is that the visa is now approved but given the overall situation in the country the same will be issued once the work of the UN normalizes.
- Fluid security situation and access to contaminated sites particularly in the North of the country.
- Electricity shortage, mobile communication and internet interruptions continue to affect staff work.
- Lack of access to do a country wide assessment due to ongoing military activities
- Lack of access to do professional verification
- Lack of access to do monitoring (in the north) and difficulties to obtain access to clearance sites

### **Lessons learned**

- YEMAC needs to finalize the review of its organisational structure to meet the new challenges in country, both technical and geographic. Secondly, YEMAC needs to further organise the field operations to meet both the emergency requirements and address the longer-term impact of the most recent contamination threats. And thirdly, YEMAC has both responsibilities of implementation and co-ordination combined with quality management of field operations.

*Action planned: UNDP is working with YEMAC on improving its internal structure through its international experts and is ready to supplement those once the conditions in the country become conducive to travel. Improved productivity will be met by the employment of more efficient methodologies for the disposal of mines/UXO and more efficient land release surveys for which the project is working with its INGO partners. The conflict of interest within the organisational structure will be addressed by separating the functions of coordination, survey, clearance and quality management. This is done through the establishment of the Yemen Mine Action Coordination Centre (YMACC) in Aden. YMACC is now functional since the end of Ramadan. The Centre is at present being staffed and colleagues have been trained.*

- With the advances of the troops lead by the Coalition, new threats were revealed in the coastal areas in the South.

*Action planned: The equitable response across the country based on need means a greater effort is now required in the middle and south (along the west coast in particular) of the country by UNDP to support the under-resourced YEMAC capacity in the affected governorates. The Project will procure the services of international experts (through contracting of a private company) to upgrade the skills of YEMAC colleagues in dealing with the new threats.*

### **Future Plans:**

UNDP aims to have equitable response to mine action covering the most impacted governorates, north, centre and south of the country. Changing situation means changing priorities: the southern

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governorates, administered and coordinated from YEMAC Aden branch will be supported through technical assistance and capacity support for clearance, risk education, information management and victim assistance. To this end, UNDP continues to engage INGO who bring their comparative advantages to the assistance of YEMAC.

- **COVID-19 Outbreak:** In the event of a lockdown in the country, YEMAC teams may not be able operate on the ground

*Action planned:* Consider lowering the amounts paid to staff to 50% initially for a period of one month. Thus keep the workforce and lower costs. If the period is longer, then consider extending the measure for additional three-month period. It is vital to maintain some income to YEMAC staff as this is integral to the organisation surviving past this period. YEMAC's survival has always been a stated aim of the programme.

*Maintain an emergency capability, in both DFA and IRG areas, (have teams on call) to address any immediate ERW incidents. This is a usual practice during Ramadan and would be continued throughout any national level closedown. YEMAC could support the response to COVID-19 with activities such as survey and clearance of quarantine identified locations, medical support to treatment centres, transporting essential goods, etc.*

### **Financial Summary**

The initial funding from this grant (\$1,750,000.00) was fully utilised by June 30, 2017. In September 2017 UNDP has received additional \$1,563,940 from the amendment to this grant and in February 2018 an additional \$1,500,000. The next tranche of \$3,181,360.00 was received on August 23, 2018 and the last one of \$3,000,000 on April 18, 2019 with the last tranche of \$2,841,640 received early 2020.

### **Current and Future Funding Overview:**

1. **USDoS:** a) \$1.75M from Q3 2016; b) \$6.245M from Q3/4 2017 (agreed) of which \$1,563,940 received in September 2017, \$1,500,000 received in February 2018 and \$3,181,360 received in August 2018. In addition, US DOS has pledged 2,250,000 to support UNDP-led clearance operations in Hodeidah
2. **UK DFID** – total of GBP2 million, over two years (starting 2018 and ending 2020), of which, GBP 800,000 have been received
3. **The Netherlands:** \$2,942,985 for two years
4. **Germany:** EUR 2,000,000 for two years
5. **Canada:** \$CAD 5,000,000 for eighteen months
6. **EU:** EUR 2,000,000 over 18 months

### **Hard pipeline:**

7. **DFID** – GBP 1,000,000 for twelve months starting April 2020
8. **US DoS** – USD 2,534,273 for twelve months starting December 2020

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<b>Financial Statement of Revenue and Funds Utilization as at 30 June 2020</b>									
On the USA Grant 16-CA-1079									
<b>CONTRIBUTION REVENUE</b>		<b>(USD)</b>							
<b>Total Grants</b>		<b>\$13,836,640</b>							
Received 7 November 2016		\$ 1,000,000							
Received 31 January 2017		\$ 750,000							
Received 20 September 2017		\$ 1,563,640							
Received 2 March 2018		\$ 1,500,000							
Received 23 August 2018		\$ 3,181,360							
Received 18 April 2019		\$ 3,000,000							
Received 2020		\$ 2,841,640							
<b>Total Revenue</b>		<b>\$13,836,640</b>							
Expenses Q4, 2106		\$ 987,142							
Expenses Q1, 2017		\$ 647,030							
Expenses Q2, 2017		\$ 115,828							
Expenses Q3, 2017		\$ 506,879							
Expenses Q4, 2017		\$ 1,055,056							
Expenses Q1, 2018		\$ 440,416							
Expenses Q2, 2018		\$ 747,517							
Expenses Q3, 2018		\$ 465,130							
Expenses Q4, 2018		\$ 453,432							
Expenses Q1, 2019		\$ 866,709							
Expenses Q2, 2019		\$ 1,933,686							
Expenses Q3, 2019		\$ 1,173,723							
Expenses Q4, 2019		\$ 1,414,787							
Expenses Q1, 2020		\$ 419,765							
Expenses Q2, 2020		\$ 1,292,715							
<b>Total Expenses to date</b>		<b>\$12,519,816</b>							
	<b>Balance</b>	<b>\$ 1,316,824</b>							
<b>OMB Standard Budget Format</b>									
	<b>Budget Amount</b>	<b>Exp Q4, 2016</b>	<b>Exp 2017</b>	<b>Exp 2018</b>	<b>Exp 2019</b>	<b>Exp Q1, 2020</b>	<b>Exp Q2, 2020</b>	<b>Cumulative</b>	<b>Balance</b>
1. Personnel	1,883,810	164,110	408,726	756,952	1,036,726	378,942	243,176	2,988,632	(1,104,822)
2. Fringe Benefits	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3. Travel	103,086	-	26,141	58,364	196,556	7,880	8,906	297,847	(194,761)
4. Equipment	843,210	1,783	297,570	495,549	557,978	-	54,318	1,407,198	(563,988)
5. Supplies	104,500	1,818	15,062	32,304	29,994	20	-	79,198	25,302
6. Contractual	172,500	-	-	77,887	206,022	-	222,865	506,774	(334,274)
7. Construction	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8. Other Direct Costs	9,513,133	736,294	1,404,248	396,728	2,947,803	11,786	669,627	6,166,485	3,346,648
9. Total Direct Costs (lines 1-8)	12,620,239	904,004	2,151,746	1,817,784	4,975,079	398,628	1,198,893	11,446,134	1,174,105
10. Indirect Costs (reflect provisional, predetermined rate and allocation base)	1,225,581	83,138	173,047	288,711	413,827	21,137	93,823	1,073,681	151,900
11. Total Costs (lines 9-10)	13,845,820	987,142	2,324,793	2,106,495	5,388,905	419,765	1,292,715	12,519,816	1,326,004
12. Cost-Sharing	N/A	N/A						N/A	N/A

**Notes:**

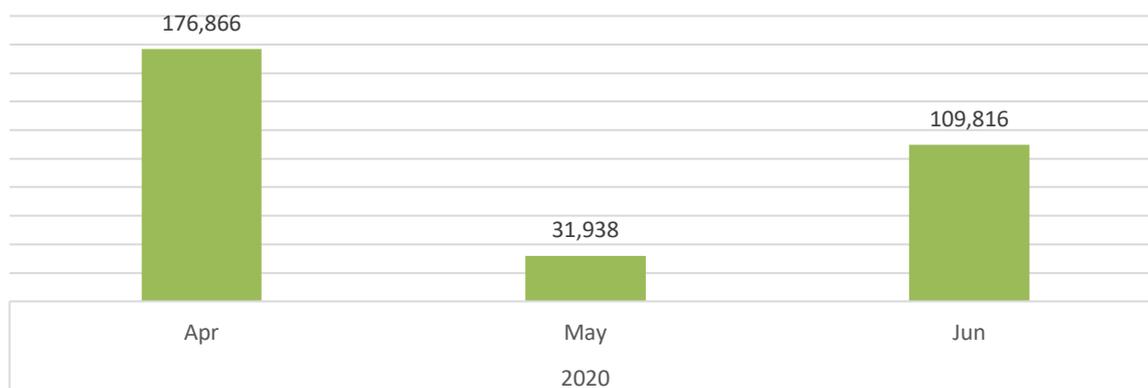
- a. This is an un-certified statement. HQ provides the donors with a certified statement every fiscal year by 30 June of the following year.
- b. Includes un-liquidated obligations of \$ 0
- c. Above figures presented in OMB Standard Budget Format

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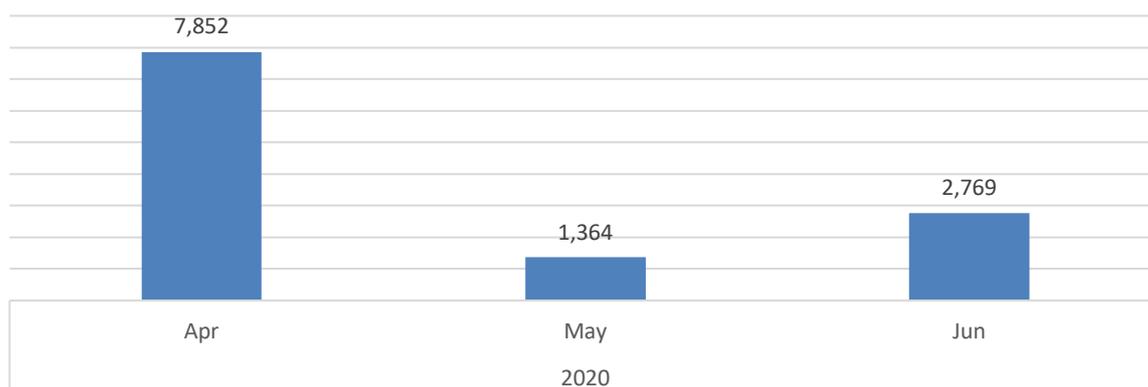
Attachment 1: YEMAC Productivity

YEMAC Productivity		Period Covered		April		to June		2020	
Cleared ERW		Operational Governorates	Districts	Cumulative Cleared Area (m2)	Direct Beneficiaries	MRE Beneficiaries		Screened Victims	
11,985		21	49	368,427	62,200	3,617		68	
AT Mine	733					Male	904	Male	17
AP Mine	174					Female	940	Female	18
IED	146					Children	1,772	Children	33
MIX UXO	10,259								
Cluster Munitions	26	Deminers Active in Field Clearance Operations				June	2020		850
Rockets	31	Funds utilized to date (in \$ Million)				end of June	2020		\$ 6.0
Missiles	0								
Fuses	616								

Sqm Cleared Per Month

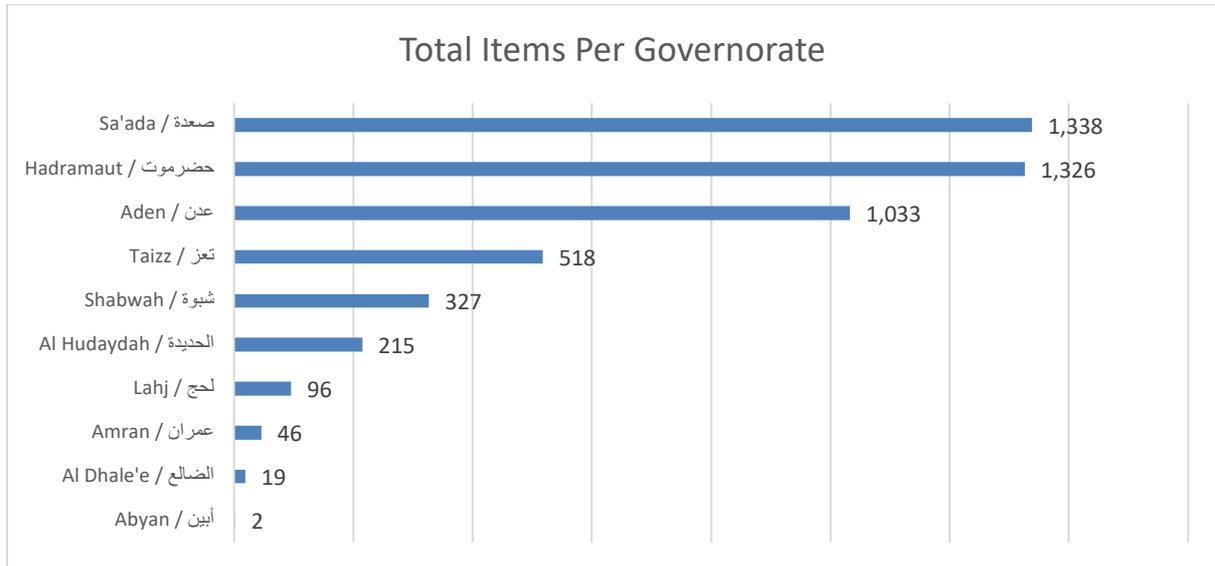


Total Items Per Month

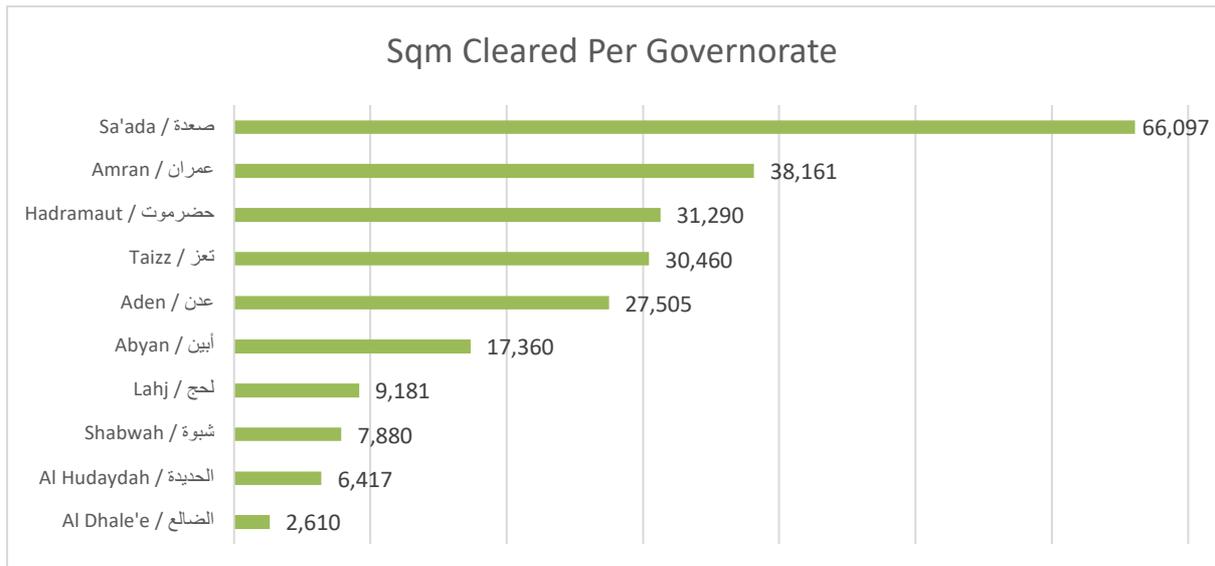


**Attachment 2: YEMAC Clearance Statistics:**

**Graph 1: Total Items per Governorate**



**Graph 2: Square Meters Cleared per Governorate**



Attachment 3: YEMAC Area of Operations

