YEMEN Impacts of 2024 heavy rains



OVERVIEW

Yemen typically experiences two main rainy seasons, with the country's rainfall patterns varying significantly across different regions. In the highlands, the rainy seasons are the Saif (April–May) and Kharif (July–September) seasons. Along the coast, rain mainly falls in the winter months (December-March) (WB 22/04/2010). Yemen is currently in the midst of the Kharif season, the second of its twice-yearly rainy periods.

The impact of this rainy season, which began in July, has killed at least 45 people and affected over 37,700 others, with the western governorates of Al Hodeidah, Hajjah, and Ta'iz bearing the brunt of in terms of the number of affected districts and individuals (IR 09/08/2024; FAO 12/08/2024; KII 14/08/2024). The regions most at risk of flooding and its consequences during the current Kharif season include the highlands and traditionally flood-prone areas, such as Al Hodeidah, Amran, Dhamar, Hajjah, Sa'dah, Sana'a, and Ta'iz. The current season has seen an exceptional deviation from normal weather patterns and is affecting the coastal areas, which do not typically experience significant flooding during this time of the year (WB 22/04/2010). This has resulted in the extensive displacement of thousands of individuals, including over 6,000 people in Al Hodeidah alone. The floods have also destroyed critical infrastructure, such as by breaking electrical poles and having a severe impact on shelters. The floods that began in late June have killed 57 people (IOM 12/08/2024). Hard-hit governorates include Al Hodeidah, Hajjah, and Ta'iz, where the floods have damaged homes. Flooding has affected 180,000 people across 20 districts in Al Hodeidah alone, with the most severe damage in Al Marawi'ah, Az Zaydiah, Bayt Al Faqih, and other nearby areas. Areas in Hajjah governorate that have received intense impacts include Hajjah City and Mustaba, while widespread flooding in Al Mahwit governorate, particularly in Bani Sa'd, has aggravated the crisis (Asharg Al-Awsat 17/08/2024, 11/08/2024, and 09/08/2024).

Overall, since April 2024, both rainy seasons have had significant negative effects across multiple sectors. The impacts have hit the agricultural sector hard, with extensive crop damage and soil erosion in low-lying areas along the Red Sea Coast threatening food security for thousands of Yemenis (FA0 06/08/2024). The shelter sector has seen the widespread destruction of homes, particularly in IDP camps, leaving thousands without adequate shelter (Asharq Al-Awsat 17/08/2024). In 21 displacement sites in Ma'rib, the rains and flooding have destroyed 600 shelters and damaged 2,800 others, affecting over 20,000 people (IOM 12/08/2024). Health services are under severe strain, with floods accelerating the spread of waterborne diseases, such as cholera, malaria, and dengue fever (WH0 08/08/2024).

Map 1. Areas which have been affected by recent floods 11-20 August 2024



Source: FAO (12/08/2024)

Despite continuing humanitarian efforts, road blockages and adverse weather are severely hampering the response, making it difficult to reach the most affected communities (OCHA 11/08/2024; Crisis24 07/08/2024). Yemen's malnutrition levels, as well as risks associated with landmine migration, further heighten the negative impacts of the rainy season (Masam 25/04/2024; EC 10/2022).

ABOUT THIS REPORT

Aim

This report aims to inform humanitarian responders and decision makers about the humanitarian impacts of the current heavy rainfall and flooding in Yemen. It offers an overview of the effects of the 2024 rainy seasons, highlighting the most affected regions across the country.

Scope

The report offers a country-level perspective on rainfall and flooding in Yemen, starting from the first rainy season in April 2024 and continuing through the latest developments in August.

Methodology: this analysis is based on a secondary data review of meteorological and humanitarian literature supplemented by interviews with experts.

Limitations

- Detailed data on the number of people affected or displaced by specific climate events is
 often unavailable or not disaggregated by governorate or district, making it challenging
 to target assistance effectively.
- As the rainy season is still continuing, some of its impacts have yet to materialise and may continue to emerge in the following months.
- Years of conflict and instability mean that there is limited information on key areas of interest, including the state of critical infrastructure and the national capacity to respond to flood events.

ANTICIPATED SCOPE AND SCALE

- Yemen ranks 159th out of 185 countries in terms of climate readiness, making it one of the nations most vulnerable to climate change worldwide (ND-GAIN accessed 11/08/2024).
- Meteorological projections indicate an increase in the frequency and intensity of heavy rainfall events in Yemen, with cumulative rainfall of 300mm across the Central Highlands and Southern Uplands, leading to more severe flooding and further straining the country's already limited resources (FA0 06/08/2024).
- The 2024 Saif rainy season saw a significant increase in precipitation, ranging between 100–150mm across the country in the initial ten days of May 2024 (FA0 06/05/2024). The increased precipitation triggered sporadic flooding, particularly in flood-prone areas located at the base of steep slopes and along major valleys, such as Rimah, Zabid, Maur, and Bana (FSC 06/05/2024).
- The 2024 Kharif season is experiencing unusually intense rainfall, posing a significant risk of widespread damage, particularly in low-lying agricultural areas. These conditions are likely to heighten the challenges for communities in these regions, leading to potential losses in crops and livelihoods (FA0 06/08/2024).
- In the last week of August, Yemen is expected to experience unprecedented rainfall, with over 300 mm in the Central Highlands, Red Sea coastal areas, and parts of the Southern Uplands. The Eastern Plateau, including Marib, Hadramaut, and Al Maharah, will see 100 to 150 mm of rain. (FA0 23/08/2024).

KEY MESSAGES

- Yemen experiences two main rainy seasons: the highlands receive rain during the Saif (April–May) and Kharif (July–September) seasons, while coastal areas typically see rainfall in the winter months (December-March). In 2024, the Kharif season has deviated from normal patterns, bringing significant flooding to both highland and coastal regions.
- The governorates facing the most severe impacts of the current floods and heavy rains include Aden, Al Hodeidah, Al Jawf, Hajjah, and Ma'rib. These areas have experienced repeated flooding owing to their geographical location, worsened by inadequate drainage systems and deteriorated infrastructure.
- The most pressing needs in flood-affected areas include emergency shelter for displaced populations, WASH facilities to prevent waterborne diseases, and food assistance.
- Severe road damage in the affected areas impedes access. The repair of infrastructure, including roads and bridges, is crucial to ensure access to affected communities. Severe damage to roads and bridges, such as in Al Hodeidah, creates roadblocks that hinder humanitarian aid efforts.

 Displaced populations, particularly those living in makeshift shelters and camps, are among the most vulnerable to floods. Floods intensify existing vulnerabilities, with limited access to health services and increased exposure to communicable diseases being major concerns.

CRISIS BACKGROUND

In the last decade, Yemen has witnessed an increase in both the frequency and duration of droughts, as well as episodes of heavy rains leading to destructive floods (Berghof Foundation 21/12/2021). These extreme weather events are reflective of the growing impacts of climate change (Climate Links 22/11/2016). Floods are the most frequent and severe causes of disasters in Yemen, presenting the greatest threat to both communities and agriculture (MFA 05/02/2019). In recent years, floods have not only disrupted agricultural production but also further destabilised the country, which in August 2024 already ranked as the sixth most fragile state among 179 countries surveyed globally (FFP accessed 12/08/2024). The country's physical land features and rainfall patterns heighten its susceptibility to flooding, making coastal and central areas of Abyan, Aden, Al Hodeidah, Hajjah, Lahj, and Ta'iz, as well as wadi areas in AI Jawf, Ma'rib, and Shabwah the most susceptible to flooding (ACAPS 23/04/2020). Heavy rainfall often results in destructive flash floods, especially in the highland and coastal regions, because of a combination of geographical factors, such as steep slopes and lowlying areas leading to intense runoff during heavy rains (TNA 19/08/2024; CARPO 07/12/2021; UNFPA 03/09/2023 and 04/08/2024). Yemen's deteriorating WASH infrastructure and inadeguate water management systems further amplify the challenges of flooding (USAID 06/2024).

Over the past few years, nearly all governorates in Yemen have experienced moderate to heavy rainfall and torrential floods (IFRC 25/07/2024). Highland areas, particularly in the mountainous regions, receive the highest rainfall, averaging between 600–1,000mm annually. In contrast, the lowland and coastal areas receive between 200–400mm of rain yearly. The desert interior receives the least, with annual rainfall ranging from 50–100mm. The northern plains typically see 150–250mm, while the southern plains receive 100–200mm (CSO Yemen 21/08/2024). The resulting floods have extensively damaged homes, roads, and agricultural lands. In 2020, for example, heavy rains caused widespread flooding that affected over 300,000 people, destroyed homes, displaced many families, and damaged civilian infrastructure, including roads, bridges, electricity services, and water networks. These rains particularly hit the southern coast of Yemen hard, with the highest impacts observed in the governorates of Abyan, Ad Dali', Aden, Hadramawt, Lahj, and Ta'iz (ICRC 28/04/2020; UNHCR 21/08/2020).

Figure 1 illustrates the WFP Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping platform rainfall data for Yemen, comparing the actual rainfall amounts (in millimetres) during the 2023 and 2024 rainy seasons with the annual average rainfall from March 2023 to August 2024. The data

clearly displays that both the 2023 and 2024 rainy seasons have experienced rainfall levels above the historical average, underscoring the increasing intensity of precipitation.

Figure 1. Rainfall data for Yemen during the 2023 and 2024 rainy seasons

📒 Rainfall 📕 Average Rainfall



Source: WFP (accessed 14/08/2024)

From April–September 2022 alone, torrential rains and flooding affected 74,000 households (over 500,000 people) across 19 governorates. The worst-affected areas, including Al Bayda, Al Hodeidah, Al Jawf, Amanat Al Asimah, Amran, Hajjah, Ma'rib, and Sana'a, experienced severe damage to shelters, livelihoods, and water sources, particularly in displaced sites and settlements (IOM 27/04/2022; CCCM Cluster 05/07/2022; IFRC 03/08/2022; ECH0 08/08/2022; OCHA 21/08/2022).

In the 2023 Saif season, landslides and heavy rainfall affected 21 of the 22 governorates in Yemen, affecting more than 44,000 households and significantly damaging 59 IDP sites, particularly in Abs district of Hajjah governorate. The floods, combined with rockslides, injured 183 people and killed 248 (ECH0 24/03/2023 and 11/04/2023; IFRC 29/05/2023). The highland areas, including the governorates of Amran and Ibb, as well as parts of Al Hodeidah, experience frequent rockslides and mudslides, especially during the rainy season, because of their steep slopes and the presence of weathered and unstable rock formations (ICRC 28/04/2016).

In 2024, the first rainy season brought significant rains and flooding, affecting more than 37,000 people (Shelter Cluster 03/2024). Heavy rainfall in March damaged infrastructure in Abyan, Lahj, and Shabwah, affected over 6,500 IDPs in Ma'rib, and killed five people in Ibb (Al Mashhad News 25/03/2024; Alayyam 13/03/2024). In April, floods in Hadramawt killed 12 people, affected over 3,000 IDPs, and extensively damaged shelters and supplies in several districts (Al-Quds Al-Arabi 21/04/2024).

CRISIS IMPACTS (CURRENT AND ANTICIPATED)

Livelihood and food security

In May 2024, more than 58% of Yemen's population struggled to meet their daily food needs, with 60% of districts classified to face Serious (IPC AMN Phase 3) or worse malnutrition levels between November 2023 and June 2024 (WFP 01/07/2024; IPC 19/08/2024). The fact that half of Yemenis depend on agriculture and livestock for their livelihoods aggravated this situation (Lackner 2022).

In 2022, extreme weather events particularly affected cereals, such as sorghum, wheat, and barley, which are vital for subsistence farming (Lackner 2022). This disruption in cultivation led to delays in agricultural planning, resulting in financial losses for farmers. These challenges collectively threatened livelihoods and food security in the regions of the country most vulnerable to food insecurity and economic instability given their heavy reliance on agriculture and limited access to alternative resources (CEOBS 10/2020; SCSS 21/03/2024).

In August 2024, FAO predicted an increase in rainfall throughout the month in the Central Highlands and Southern Uplands, as well as in western Hadramawt. This excessive rainfall is expected to harm crops, lead to soil erosion, and disrupt agricultural livelihoods, particularly in low-lying areas along the Red Sea Coast (FAO 06/08/2024). The impact of flooding extends beyond immediate crop damage, as it also leads to significant soil erosion and the destruction of critical infrastructure, such as roads and irrigation systems. This damage severely hampers recovery efforts and worsens food insecurity, further weakening Yemen's social and economic stability (SCSS 21/03/2024).

Displacement

Population displacement has emerged as a critical humanitarian and social crisis in Yemen. Over the past nine years, conflict has displaced over four million people, with the war being the primary cause of displacement. The growing effects of climate change have aggravated the situation in recent years. Intensifying global warming and extreme weather events – in particular, devastating floods – have forced more and more people to flee their homes (Arab Digest 15/07/2024).

In Yemen, floods not only destroy crops and erode agricultural land, which many families rely on for their livelihoods, but also force people to leave their homes and relocate in search of safety or alternative employment opportunities (FEWS NET 13/04/2023; SCSS 21/03/2024). The latest flooding that occurred in early August 2024, which hit the governorates of Al Hodeidah, Amran, Dhamar, Hajjah, Sa'dah, Sana'a, and Ta'iz, displaced hundreds of people and affected 93,440 others (Asharq Al-Awsat 11/08/2024 and 09/08/2024). Al Hodeidah governorate, one of the hardest-hit areas, saw over 6,000 people displaced (IOM 12/08/2024). Many of those displaced from Al Hodeidah and other affected governorates have relocated to Ma'rib City in Harib district, Ma'rib governorate, and Al Misrakh district in Ta'iz (IOM 11/08/2024).

Floods have destroyed homes, significantly affected livelihoods, and left many displaced individuals unable to return to destroyed property and insufficient reconstruction support (Al-Arab 17/07/2024). Those already displaced by the armed conflict have moved to fragile shelters within flood-prone areas. For instance, during the April 2024 floods in Hadramawt, 800 displaced families in camps across Al Abr, Al Mukalla, and Sayun experienced the destruction of or damage to their shelters, food supplies, and other essential items (Yemen Executive Unit for IDP Camps Management 20/04/2024; KlI 14/08/2024).

Shelter

Since March 2024, floods and rains have affected 22,255 families across Yemen. The situation worsened in July 2024, particularly between 21–27 July, when Sa'dah governorate experienced severe rainfall and floods that damaged IDP sites, affecting around 2,000 families and killing three people. In Sa'dah alone, the heavy rains damaged over 1,000 shelters in IDP sites, made worse by inadequate drainage systems (0CHA 28/07/2024). On 28 July, heavy rains in Ibb governorate caused significant structural damage, including cracks in the ground that led to a house partially collapsing on its residents, injuring three individuals (YF 29/07/2024).

The rainfall has continued through August, with heavy rains causing the widespread destruction of shelters, food supplies, and essential daily items. The most affected governorates include AI Hodeidah, Hajjah, Ma'rib, Sa'dah, and Ta'iz (Asharq AI-Awsat 17/08/2024).

In early August, heavy rainfall in Hajjah governorate in northern Yemen caused significant damage to IDP camps. The downpour, accompanied by strong winds, uprooted tents and spoiled food supplies, leaving IDPs without adequate shelter (Yemen Executive Unit for IDP Camps Management 03/08/2024; KII 14/08/2024). In mid-August, both Lahj and Al Hodeidah governorates experienced severe rainfall and flooding, resulting in significant damage to infrastructure and displacement. In Lahj, heavy floods on 10 August caused extensive shelter destruction that displaced over 158 families in Ateera Camp (Yemen Executive Unit for IDP Camps Management 11/08/2024). In Al Hodeidah, flooding has damaged school facilities, roads, water schemes, and two local markets. This damage adds to the loss of 440 legal documents critical for aid provision, identity verification, property ownership, and obtaining access to basic services (UNHCR 12/08/2024).

IDPs' heightened risk of shelter loss

In many displacement sites, people construct traditional makeshift shelters using materials that are weak and susceptible to environmental hazards. These shelters provide insufficient protection and contribute to environmental issues owing to their short lifespan, frequent need for replacement, and the generation of plastic waste (IOM 19/06/2024).

The recent floods have significantly worsened the vulnerability to shelter loss of several key groups, particularly IDPs and refugees given their often precarious living conditions in temporary or poorly constructed shelters. Yemen currently hosts more than 4.5 million IDPs, with 1.5 million (33%) spread across more than 2,300 IDP hosting sites. Most of these IDPs reside in poor-quality homes, such as makeshift tents, shelters, and spontaneously occupied informal settlements (UNHCR accessed 14/08/2024). Already burdened by displacement, these populations are facing compounded risks from climate change and environmental degradation, aggravated by poor living conditions and inadequate housing. Their homes are frequently located in flood-prone areas, putting them at increased risk during natural hazards (ACAPS 23/04/2020).

In 2023 alone, floods internally displaced over 174,000 people, underscoring the severe impact on already displaced populations (IDMC accessed 13/08/2024). Recent floods have caused widespread damage to IDP sites, affecting 34,260 families across Yemen (UNHCR 12/08/2024). In Ma'rib governorate, flooding has affected more than 7,000 families in 41 camps and IDP sites (Asharq Al-Awsat 17/08/2024). Similarly, in Lahj governorate, heavy rains and floods have caused severe damage to shelters, NFIs, and food supplies for more than 158 displaced families in Ateera Camp (Yemen Executive Unit for IDP Camps Management 11/08/2024).

Health and WASH

Yemen is already enduring one of the world's worst water crises, worsened by years of conflict, mismanagement, and climate change. The crisis has left millions of people without reliable access to clean and safe water, further aggravating the already dire humanitarian situation. The war has severely damaged water infrastructure, leaving many communities reliant on unsafe and inadequate water sources. The depletion of groundwater resources from excessive drilling and poor management practices has also made the situation even more precarious (HRW 11/12/2023; SCSS 13/03/2024; UN Yemen 16/10/2023).

Heavy rainfall and floods in August 2024, particularly in Al Hodeidah, have heightened existing health concerns, such as the spread of communicable diseases. WHO has cautioned that these floods, which leave behind contaminated water, significantly heighten the risk of waterborne diseases. Stagnant water also creates ideal breeding conditions for mosquitoes, raising serious concerns about potential outbreaks of vector-borne diseases, such as malaria and dengue fever (WHO 08/08/2024).

The floods have intensified health concerns overall, as the combination of stagnant water and poor sanitation provides a breeding ground for mosquitoes, potentially leading to malaria and dengue fever outbreaks (MCD 09/08/2024). Contaminated water sources further increase the risk of waterborne diseases, compounding the current cholera outbreak (UN 12/08/2024). This is particularly alarming given that the lack of essential WASH services has led to the spread of communicable diseases across more than 70% of the country. At the same time, at least 50% of Yemenis report severe water quality issues (USAID 06/2024).

Impact on critical infrastructure

In August 2024, severe floods in AI Hodeidah governorate have caused widespread infrastructure damage, displacing residents and closing major roads (MCD 09/08/2024). The flooding has devastated entire villages, completely sweeping away one. The floods have inundated streets and homes, leading to widespread relocations and power outages; buried wells; washed away farmlands; and caused the widespread destruction of homes and essential public services (IOM 12/08/2024). Bajil Hospital, along with health centres in AI Marawi'ah, Az Zaydiah, and Az Zuhrah districts in AI Hodeidah, and the Tuberculosis Centre in the governorate have suffered extensive damage and the destruction of critical equipment and medication. Despite some damage, AI Thawrah Hospital in Hodeidah remains operational, with emergency health services working to ensure continued care (WHO 08/08/2024). In the districts of AI Khukhah, Hays, and Mokha, the floods have destroyed crops and critical infrastructure, including roads and water supply systems, severely affecting the local economy and access to essential services. Roads have closed, and access to affected areas remains challenging, further complicating relief efforts (IOM 12/08/2024).

The floods have also caused significant losses to agricultural terraces and infrastructure across 41 camps and sites in Ma'rib governorate and caused extensive damage, including broken electrical poles, widespread power outages, and a severe impact on shelters. In Al Mahwit governorate, the floods have either damaged or destroyed many homes and severely affected key infrastructure, such as roads and bridges, cutting off access to numerous communities (Asharq Al-Awsat 17/08/2024).

COMPOUNDING/AGGRAVATING FACTORS

Climate change

Climate change is significantly aggravating Yemen's already dire humanitarian situation by driving more frequent and severe droughts, floods, and extreme weather events. These changes are rapidly depleting the country's limited water resources, worsening food insecurity and accelerating the desertification of arable land. As a result, agricultural livelihoods are increasingly under threat, intensifying conflicts over scarce resources and deepening the current humanitarian crisis (TCF 14/12/2020; IR 25/03/2022).

One of the critical consequences of climate change in Yemen is its role in forcing internal displacement. Rising temperatures and worsening water scarcity are compelling many to migrate in search of more viable living conditions (Joseph et al. 01/06/2014). Climate change is also contributing to a decline in household incomes and food security, particularly among non-agricultural rural households, by raising global food prices and causing unpredictable agricultural yields. This economic strain further drives displacement as families seek better opportunities elsewhere (Wiebelt et al. 01/12/2013).

The issue of water stress is becoming increasingly acute as climate change continues to take its toll. Yemen's already scarce water resources are becoming even more strained, leading to more frequent and prolonged droughts. This growing scarcity puts immense pressure on Yemen's agricultural sector, vital for the livelihoods of a large portion of the population (ICRC 05/06/2022; UN Yemen 23/03/2023).

Climate change is also intensifying saltwater intrusion in the coastal areas, causing saltwater to encroach further into freshwater aquifers. This contamination of drinking water supplies reduces the availability of potable water, prompting the displacement of communities that rely on these sources for survival (SciAm 13/10/2023; Development Champions 13/03/2024).

Malnutrition

Malnutrition rates in Yemen are among the worst in the world. Yemen ranked 123rd among the 125 countries with sufficient data to appear on the Global Hunger Index in 2023 (Concern Worldwide/Welthungerhilfe 19/10/2023). Over 370,000 children in Yemen suffer from severe life-threatening malnutrition, and 9.8 million children require some nutritional assistance (Terry 01/05/2023).

The current conflict is worsening the already dire malnutrition situation in Yemen (NRC 03/05/2024). As the armed conflict marks its ninth year, the number of malnourished children in the country has surged. Approximately 2.7 million women and five million children under five are expected to require treatment for acute malnutrition in 2024. Nearly half of Yemen's children suffer from moderate to severe chronic malnutrition given inadequate nutrition (IR 26/03/2024).

During the rainy seasons, floods often destroy agricultural lands, washing away vital nutrients, seeds, and topsoil, which significantly reduces crop yields. This not only disrupts the food supply chain but also forces farming communities, who rely heavily on agriculture for their livelihoods, into poverty. As a result, the availability of nutritious and affordable food diminishes, particularly in regions already grappling with food insecurity. This aggravates malnutrition, as those most affected by food insecurity face increased difficulty in accessing essential nutrients (FA0 05/06/2024).

Landmines

The conflict has left the land littered with explosive remnants of war, severely affecting farmers' access to agricultural and pastoral lands (SCSS 21/03/2024). The rainy season poses significant dangers through landmine migration, as torrential rains dislodge landmines and unexploded ordnance and move them unpredictably across the landscape (Sabq.org 01/08/2022; Masam 25/04/2024).

In regions such as Bayhan in Shabwah, Harib in Ma'rib, and Nu'man in Al Bayda, heavy rains can carry mines from known contaminated areas into populated and agricultural zones (Masam 25/04/2024). This migration complicates clearance efforts and introduces new risks in areas previously considered safe (UN 12/08/2024). In March 2024, heavy rainfall in Bayhan district swept several landmines into private agricultural lands, intensifying the risk of exposure to landmine explosions for communities (Al-Ayyam 27/04/2024).

Response capacity

On 8 August 2024, UNFPA's Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) provided emergency relief to 1,560 families (10,920 individuals) across the governorates of AI Hodeidah, AI Mahwit, Hajjah, and Raymah. This included the distribution of NFIs and hygiene kits. In Ta'iz, RRM teams have assisted 154 families (1,078 individuals) affected by heavy rains and flash floods. UNFPA has also supported 17 health facilities in the region, offering essential reproductive health services and protection for women and girls (UNFPA 08/08/2024).

In Ma'rib, UNHCR and local implementers have conducted assessments revealing urgent needs among displaced families. As a response, they have distributed NFIs and plastic sheets and provided cash assistance to 459 families, benefiting 3,333 individuals across 24 IDP sites. Similar efforts in Al Hodeidah included the distribution of 2,047 NFIs and the carrying out of needs assessments for over 10,000 families (UNHCR 12/08/2024).

By 12 August 2024, IOM had provided RRM assistance to 313 families in Hays and Al Khukhah districts and distributed shelter materials to 83 households, along with 3,000 hygiene kits as part of the flood response on Yemen's West Coast (IOM 12/08/2024).

On 13 August 2024, UNOPS announced its readiness to collaborate with the UN, the Yemeni Government, and other stakeholders to address urgent needs and support recovery efforts in response to the crisis (UNOPS 12/08/2024).

Humanitarian constraints

- The heavy rains and flooding in August 2024 have severely damaged infrastructure across several Yemeni governorates (KII 14/08/2024). Al Hodeidah and Hajjah governorates have witnessed torrential rains and flooding, causing roadblocks and disrupted access to affected areas. The destruction of key roads has made it challenging for humanitarian aid to reach the population most vulnerable to flooding (0CHA 11/08/2024; Crisis24 07/08/2024).
- Authorities are likely to issue evacuation orders for flood-prone communities in western Yemen, such as Dnah in Dhamar, Harad in Hajjah, Mour in Amran, Rimah in Raymah, Siham in Al Hodeidah, Sordod in Al Mahwit, and Zabid in Ibb. Evacuation orders may also be issued for southern Yemen communities, including Banna in Abyan, Rasian in Ta'iz, and Tuban in Lahj (FA0 12/08/2024). Disruptions to electricity, telecommunications, and transportation networks are anticipated. Floodwater could render bridges, roads, and railways impassable, leading to hazardous driving conditions and travel delays. Severe weather may also cause flight delays and cancellations, as well as business disruptions in low-lying areas resulting from flood damage, evacuations, and employee absences (Crisis24 07/08/2024).