

WOMEN'S HEALTH

REPRODUCTIVE SERVICES



- Estimated 2 million women/girls of childbearing age at risk because of loss of reproductive services
 - Around 48,000 women could die due to complications of pregnancy and childbirth
- What determines women's life or death is their ability to access basic reproductive health and protection services on time

IMPACT OF COVID-19

- "In mid-May, just as the COVID-19 pandemic arrived in Yemen, funding for UNFPA's life-saving reproductive health services dried up. The agency has been forced to suspend the provision of reproductive healthcare in 140 out of the 180 health facilities, it supports, meaning only 40 now remain"
- Reproductive health services are diminishing as Yemen begins to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic

WHAT IS HAPPENING

- All maternal care (iron and folic acid supplements, management of obstetric emergencies, etc) has stopped
- UNFPA is the sole provider of life-saving reproductive health medicines and supplies in Yemen
- Around 4.3 million people displaced in Yemen
 - Around half are women, with 27% below age of 18
 - Women and children make up almost 76% of displaced persons in Yemen
- Protection mechanisms for women are nearly wiped out, increasing their risk of abuse and violence

WHAT IS BEING DONE

- UNFPA mobile protection and reproductive health teams deployed to provide critical maternal health services, psychological first aid and transit kits
 - Refer women and girls to relevant services
- Mobile medical teams and clinics provide reproductive health services and safe deliveries in remote conflict-affected areas
- Supporting trainings for doctors and midwives through Minimum Initial Service Package



PART OF THE CHANGE

- Women have been playing a critical role in peace building within their communities
- IRC taking a feminist approach to humanitarian aid, putting the specific needs of women and girls at the center of our work
 - Creating a safe space for women and girls to heal from the effects of trauma, network with other women, and learn skills to start and grow businesses
- Getting more girls and women access to education



SOURCES

- <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/05/1065122>
- <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/03/1058591>
- <https://www.unfpa.org/resources/yemen-reproductive-health-factsheet><https://www.rescue.org/article/4-ways-war-yemen-has-impacted-women-and-girls>

WEBINAR DATE: OCT 17

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