

Joint Protection, Shelter, WASH, and FSAC Pilot Initiative
Updated on 3rd of July 2024

Background:

The protracted crisis in Yemen necessitates a multi-sectoral approach to address the needs of the most vulnerable families in protracted situations and precarious conditions until longer-term solutions are found as well as their vulnerable host. This includes those living in spontaneous sites including with recurrent flood situations due to land terrain, those in rental accommodation at risk of eviction due to unaffordable rent linked to the lack of income, and returnees. The needs of these families range from shelters, basic household items including clean energy for cooking and lighting, HLP, Food security, Livelihood, Education, Health, WASH, other protection issues, and adequate CCCM activities for mainly those in sites. Addressing these holistic needs requires collaborative efforts through a multisector area-based or settlement approach.

Building on the Shelter Cluster (SC) and the Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster (FSAC) joint initiative, the Protection, CCCM, Shelter, FSAC, and WASH Clusters agreed on collaborative efforts through an integrated approach to support sustainable life-saving activities aimed at mitigating the creation of spontaneous sites, addressing precarious living conditions of site residents, and preventing further protection risks. This approach is expected to be piloted in Marib City targeting 250 most vulnerable households at high risk of eviction from rental accommodation in the Mojama'a Al Khair community. According to the recent Yemen Protection Cluster Situation Analysis, Marib tops the eviction rates across the Country. Of the 129,239 protracted IDPs in the Marib district of Marib governorate, the majority live in rental arrangements. In recent years, there has been a noticeable increase in eviction threats, exacerbated by the growing number of families unable to afford rent. This distressing trend is further compounded by Housing, Land, and Property (HLP) rights challenges and persistent funding shortfalls that hinder providing adequate housing solutions and other basic services. The convergence of these factors has intensified the housing crisis, placing additional strain on vulnerable populations. IDPs are further exposed to protection, environmental, and food insecurity risks, loss of livelihoods, and negative coping mechanisms exacerbating their vulnerabilities. In engagements with some IDPs in rental accommodation, relocating to IDP sites is the last resort while the majority do not see this as an option due to several reasons including privacy of women and girls, negative community perception, and discrimination. Additionally, during previous engagements with the Marib authorities, the Shelter Cluster including humanitarian agencies was advised to prioritize support for IDPs in hosting arrangements to mitigate relocation to spontaneous sites thereby avoiding HLP-related issues, and precarious living conditions amongst others.

2. Objective:

The Pilot aims to mitigate further protection risks by supporting sustainable life-saving needs of the most vulnerable affected population at risk of eviction from rental accommodation until longer-term solutions are achieved.

3. Programme Approach:

a. Guiding principles

- Involve community members in the assessment process to ensure their specific needs are met, fostering program ownership and relevance.
- Promote the centrality of protection including the complaint and feedback mechanisms.
- Design the program adaptable to changing circumstances and individual needs, which may include modifying rental assistance, customizing, Protection, WASH, and livelihood interventions.
- Seamlessly integrating rental assistance with livelihood components, considering how livelihood opportunities can help beneficiaries afford rent sustainably while providing a temporary safety net.
- Ensure the program addresses the specific needs of women and girls, as well as other persons with specific needs who may face unique challenges in accessing shelter, WASH, Protection, and livelihood opportunities.

b. Implementation approaches:

- Joint Needs Assessment and analysis of the findings: To obtain a detailed understanding of the protection risks including HLP, the WASH, Shelter, and livelihood needs and community capacities

- Coordination with stakeholders: Ensure that all stakeholders including the communities, UN agencies, NGOs, and the authorities are involved in all cycles of the project through regular engagement, planning, etc
- Updating of the Strategy: Each Sector adopts its specific activities based on the findings and feedback from the stakeholders
- Delivery of assistance: Implement activities in line with each sector-specific strategy aligned with the needs identified and capacities of the community. Below are services that are available to the population and implemented according to the needs identified:
 - **Shelter Cluster**: Support for rental subsidy for a minimum one year
 - **WASH Cluster**: Provision of safe water and household sanitation, access to basic hygiene items including support to community extend water networks, cash for water utility and water storage tanks
 - **Protection Cluster**: Systematic monitoring, referrals, provision of legal assistance and documentation
 - **FSA Cluster**: Provision of livelihood support through in-kind or voucher modalities for emergency livelihood assistance (ELA) and cash modalities for micro-business (MB) and income generation (IG) activities. This will include training that equips beneficiaries with skills relevant to the local market, matching their interests and abilities, and connecting beneficiaries with market opportunities to utilize their new skills, potentially through partnerships with local businesses, job placement services, or microfinance institutions.

c. Targeting approach:

- This pilot project will target 250 most vulnerable protracted displaced households with more than 1 year in displacement comprising 80% IDPs and 20% host communities to promote peaceful coexistence and a whole-community approach using complementary targeting criteria of the sectors involved.

d. Monitoring and reporting

- Regular monitoring mechanisms will be established to track the progress and assistance provided to affected individuals, ensuring that their needs are adequately addressed.
- Post-distribution monitoring (PDM) to evaluate the effectiveness of assistance provided, gathering beneficiary feedback, and adjusting interventions accordingly.

e. Implementation Timeframe:

This project is expected to be implemented over one year with various assistance depending on the activity of each sector and the availability of funds.

f. Funding requirements:

The total funding requirement targeting 250 Households for this project is estimated at **\$ 953,050**

Cluster	Activity	Unit Cost (\$ USD)	Total Funding Requirements (\$ USD)
FSAC	Livelihood support	1,000	250,000
Shelter	Rental support	720	180,000
Protection	Monitoring, legal assistance, documentation Referral: Refer identified individuals to appropriate	51,600	51,600 USD
WASH	Provision of safe water and household sanitation, access to basic hygiene items	850	371,450
Joint Operational Costs	Assessments, regular monitoring, community engagements, PDMs, and others	100,000	100,000
Total			\$ 953,050