



YEMEN SHELTER CLUSTER

Coordinating Humanitarian Shelter and Settlements

Yemen Shelter Cluster Winterization Recommendations Program Duration: October 2024 – February 2025



Shelter situation of internally displaced persons in Hay District, Al Hudaydah Governorate. © Fikr Foundation

Response Plan¹:



33 K
Families Targeted



11
Governorates Targeted

30
Districts Targeted



63%
are children



18%
are women



USD 8 Million
Total Funding Required



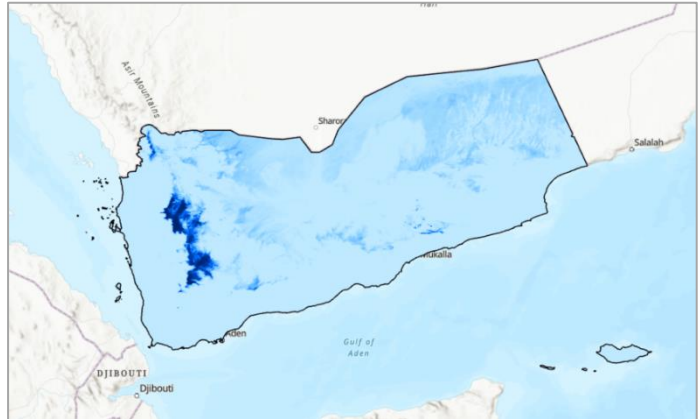
■ Funded
■ Gaps

¹ The response plan targets were estimated in the Humanitarian Response Plan 2024 based on a dedicated analysis of the cold nights during the winter season, analysis of funding received in previous years, partner's capacity, and availability of access to the affected population. A list of locations targeted is available here: <https://sheltercluster.org/yemen/documents/winterization-response-plan-hrp-2024>.

Overview

Yemen is grappling with the world's sixth-largest internal displacement crisis, with approximately 4.5 million people displaced since 2015. The majority of these individuals have been displaced for over a year, and many have been displaced multiple times. Currently, an estimated 1.5 million people reside in 2,382 hosting sites across the country².

The Shelter Cluster estimates that in 2024, approximately 6.7 million individuals will require Shelter and Non-Food Item (NFI) assistance. Of these individuals, 40 percent are internally displaced persons (IDP), while the remaining 60 percent are IDP returnees and host communities.



days with temperature below 10C

Climate Challenges

Following this year's rains and flooding, the upcoming winter season is expected to bring harsh and cold conditions to much of Yemen. Due to its elevation, Yemen's highlands, which are colder than most of the Arab world, face temperatures that can dip below freezing (0 °C) during the winter months from October to February. According to the INFORM Climate Change Risk Index for 2024³, Yemen ranks among the countries most vulnerable to climate change and least prepared for climate shocks. Over the past three decades, temperatures in Yemen particularly during winter have been rising faster than the global average.

Winterization Needs

Displaced, IDP returnees and host communities face financial constraints that limit their purchasing capacity, particularly for winterization items. Based on our cluster analysis⁴, an estimated 655,000 people residing in 30 districts require winterization assistance. Of these, 232,000 people are exposed to freezing temperatures. However, our capacity to respond is minimal.

Our Strategy

As the winter season approaches, the Shelter Cluster is mobilizing its partners to provide life-saving winterization support, preferably before the onset of winter. This will ensure that vulnerable families living in high-cold areas⁵ have the means to stay safe and warm. The type of assistance that will be provided varies according to the needs of each family which include:

- 1. Immediate shelter assistance before winter season as part of the regular response:** a) replacement of damaged shelters where necessary, b) provision of materials, tools, and support to repair or upgrade existing shelters in dire condition to assure minimum insulation standards c) provision of emergency shelter kits to those living in the open.

² Yemen Humanitarian Needs Overview 2024

³ European Commission, INFORM Climate Change, <https://drmkc.jrc.ec.europa.eu/inform-index/INFORM-Risk/Risk-Facts-Figures>.

⁴ Yemen Shelter Cluster Winter Temperature Severity Analysis Methodology Note is available here, <https://sheltercluster.org/yemen/documents/yemen-shelter-cluster-winter-temperature-severity-analysis-methodology-note-2024>.

⁵ Locations with severity scores 4 and 5 in addition to districts with a score of 3 living in dire shelter situations as per the winterization analysis.

2. **Winterization assistance package (Equiv. of \$190⁶ in Yemeni Riyal):** The modality of implementation should be informed by an assessment of local markets (in-kind vs. cash)⁷.
- A high thermal blanket per individual in the family. If the assistance is in cash, the transfer value is \$110 for an average of 7 blankets.
 - Assorted winter clothing per family. If the assistance is in cash, the transfer value is a lump sum of \$80 for an average family of 7 members. The items reflected in this value are pajamas, infant blankets, socks, warm head caps/beanies, sweaters, shawls, scarves, gloves, and jackets to adequately address the needs of women, men, children, and infants.

Timelines

Activity	Responsibility of	Timeframe agreed
<i>Perform a comprehensive needs assessment to identify shelters that require repair or support, and those families who are in dire need of winterization assistance.</i>	<i>Partners</i>	<i>Sep 2024 – February 2025</i>
<i>Deliver winterization assistance and technical support.</i>	<i>Partners</i>	<i>Sep 2024 – February 2025</i>
<i>Publish a progress report on the winterization response.</i>	<i>Partners / Cluster Coord Team</i>	<i>December 2024 March 2025</i>
<i>Carry out comprehensive post-distribution monitoring.</i>	<i>Partners</i>	<i>March – April 2025</i>
<i>Produce a consolidated PDM report.</i>	<i>Cluster Coord Team</i>	<i>May 2025</i>

General Considerations:

- The targeting approach will take into consideration **protection criteria and protection risk mitigation**, particularly for women, children, disabled persons, the elderly, etc.
- Given the significant number of families unable to adequately prepare for the upcoming winter season and the concurrent shortage of funding, it is strongly recommended that humanitarian agencies provide assistance based on a thorough assessment of winter needs. This assistance should be guided by a [vulnerability scoring system](#) that aligns with the prioritization criteria proposed by the Shelter Cluster. Priority should be given to families living in precarious conditions, including those in open spaces, informal settlements, and makeshift shelters that are damaged or of poor quality. Additionally, families at risk of forced eviction or relocation, as well as those facing other protection vulnerabilities, should be prioritized. Special attention must be paid to women-headed households and households with children, who are in urgent need of winterization assistance to mitigate the harsh impacts of the winter months.
- **Community participation and awareness** about the winterization response are essential, including needs assessments, entitlement, and complaints and feedback mechanisms.
- **Embedding environmental considerations** is crucial in enhancing anticipated impacts, improving overall natural resources management, and reducing environmental impact.
- **Post Distribution Monitoring** is mandatory to evaluate the impact of the winterization support on the beneficiaries.
- **Reporting** will continue to be through the Shelter Cluster ActivityInfo.

⁶ The recommended cost is intended as general guidelines and is subject to fluctuations influenced by inflation and market dynamics.

⁷ It is crucial to minimize the risk that differences in type and amount of assistance received by communities living in similar contexts are provided by different agencies which may lead to tensions with beneficiaries, authorities, etc.