

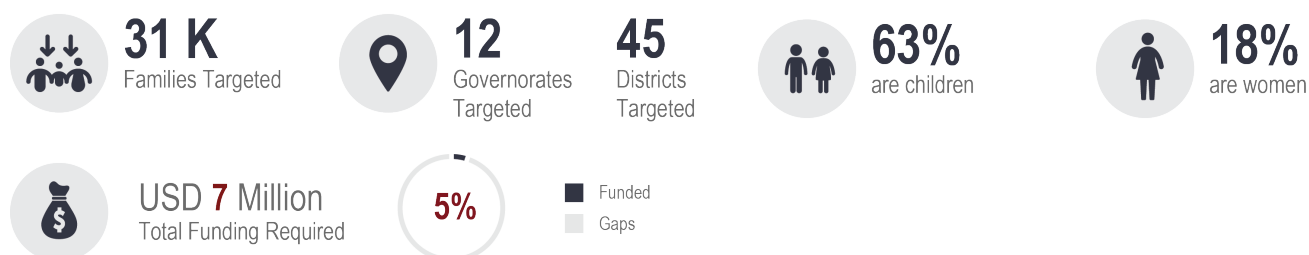
Yemen Shelter Cluster 2025–2026 Winterization Response Plan and Funding Appeal

Program Duration: October 2025 – February 2026



Snow falling in Haraz area in Manakhah district, Sana'a Governorate. © Unknown.

Response Plan¹:

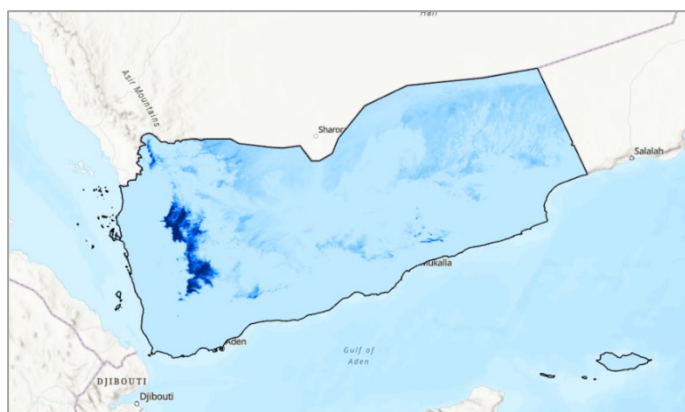


¹ The response plan targets were estimated in the Humanitarian Response Plan 2025 based on a dedicated analysis of the cold nights during the winter season, analysis of funding received in previous years, partner's capacity, and availability of access to the affected population. A list of locations targeted is available here: <https://sheltercluster.org/yemen/documents/winterization-response-plan-hnnp-2025>.

Overview

Yemen ranks as the world's third most vulnerable country to climate change, and is facing the world's sixth-largest internal displacement crisis, with approximately 4.8 million people displaced since 2015. Due to its elevation, Yemen's highlands, which are colder than most of the Arab world, face temperatures below freezing (0 °C) during the winter months from October to February. Forecasts indicate that 2026 will bring similar winter conditions to 2025, with an estimated 217,000 individuals of the most vulnerable people experiencing prolonged exposure to below 10 °C weather.

While 18 °C is the recommended minimum indoor temperature for health, Yemen Shelter Cluster uses a 10 °C threshold for prioritizing most severe locations. This balances health guidance with operational realities and helps ensure that limited resources reach those most at risk.



days with temperature below 10C

Winterization Needs

Displaced, IDP returnees and host communities face financial constraints that limit their purchasing capacity, particularly for winterization items. Based on Cluster analysis², an estimated 642,000 people residing in 45 districts require winterization assistance. Of these, 563,000 people are exposed to freezing temperatures. However, our capacity to respond is minimal.

Our Strategy

The Shelter Cluster is mobilizing its partners to provide timely life-saving winterization support. This would ensure that vulnerable families living in high-cold areas³ 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:

- Immediate shelter assistance before winter season** : 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.
- At this stage, the focus is on mobilizing **winterization assistance package (Equiv. of \$241⁴ in Yemeni Riyal)**: The modality of implementation should be informed by an assessment of local markets (in-kind vs. cash)⁵.
 - A high thermal blanket per individual in the family. If the assistance is in cash, the transfer value is \$139 for an average of 7 blankets. Please refer to Non-Food Item Guideline for more information regarding the high thermal blanket specifications⁶.
 - Assorted winter clothing per family. If the assistance is in cash, the transfer value is a lump sum of \$102 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.

Assistance	Target	Plans	Cost	Total Requirements	Gaps
High Thermal Blankets	31K HHs	1.5K HHs	\$139	USD 4.3 M	USD 4.1 M (95%)
Winter Clothing	31K HHs	1.5K HHs	\$102	USD 3.2 M	USD 3 M (95%)

² 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>.

³ 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.

⁴ The recommended cost is intended as general guidelines and is subject to fluctuations influenced by inflation and market dynamics.

⁵ 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.

⁶ Non Food Items Guidelines 2024: <https://sheltercluster.org/yemen/documents/non-food-items-guidelines-2024>

Timelines

Activity	Responsibility of	Timeframe agreed
<i>Perform a comprehensive needs assessment to prioritize shelters that require repair or support, and families in need of winterization assistance.</i>	<i>Partners</i>	<i>Sep 2025 – February 2026</i>
<i>Deliver winterization assistance and technical support.</i>	<i>Partners</i>	<i>Oct2025 – February 2026</i>
<i>Publish a progress report on the winterization response.</i>	<i>Partners / Cluster Coord Team</i>	<i>Feb2026 March 2026</i>
<i>Carry out comprehensive post-distribution monitoring.</i>	<i>Partners</i>	<i>March – April 2026</i>
<i>Produce a consolidated PDM report.</i>	<i>Cluster Coord Team</i>	<i>May 2026</i>