**CARE’s work in Yemen- June 2018**

CARE International in Yemen has been working **in Yemen since 1992**. The work of CARE is currently primarily focused on responding to the most urgent needs of the Yemeni people. Soaring levels of food insecurity and the deterioration of the health system in the wake of more than three years of violent conflict have greatly exacerbated the need for humanitarian assistance across the country.

**Focus of the response:**

**Since the beginning of 2016, CARE has reached more than 1.65 million women, girls, boys and men in Yemen with humanitarian assistance.** The organization works across 11 governorates in North and South Yemen. CARE has focused its humanitarian work mainly on three sectors:

* Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH): rehabilitation or construction of water systems, water trucking, hygiene promotion and the construction of family latrines, distribution of hygiene kits and dignity kits to affected populations.
* Food Security: distribution of food where markets are disrupted, and the monthly distribution of unconditional cash/ and food vouchers to populations at the verge of famine conditions.
* Sexual and reproductive health rights: In order to reduce maternal and child mortality rates brought on by a collapsed health system especially gravely in rural areas, CARE provides access to and capacity building of skilled birth attendants in partnership with Yemeni civil society organisations.

**CARE’s presence in Hodeidah :**

In Hodeidah governorate, CARE is currently implementing a DFID funded humanitarian program in Al Mighlaf district (bordering Al Mahwit governorate) focused on access to safe water and increased food security by providing cash to the most vulnerable households. Rounds of distributions have just taken place in early June. In order to ensure its continuity, CARE has made adjustments in its management arrangements of the program.

CARE was also about to start a German MoFA funded cash program in Al Marawi’ah district adjacent to Hodeidah City after long negotiations with the local authorities, but was in the midst of beneficiary selection when the current escalation commenced, therefore the implementation has not yet gone ahead. Equally, plans had been in the pipeline for the start-up of school rehabilitation and youth income generating programs funded by “Reaching out to Asia”. But programs are currently on hold due to the uncertain situation.

CARE expects access in Hodeidah to remain challenging. Even before the military offensive on Hodeidah started, it was difficult for CARE to get sub agreements signed for our work in Al Marawi’ah because of extra scrutiny by the local authorities in northern Yemen. Experience does show it will be easier to add activities and budget onto existing agreements.

CARE does however expect to be invited by the local authorities to respond to the needs of newly displaced families in the wake of the conflict escalation in Hodeidah.

**Emergency Response**

CARE is making preparations to respond in the districts where we currently have access negotiated with the authorities and that are or could be impacted by the fighting such as Al Marawi’ah and Hodeidah City. CARE is seeking additional funding to expand its Rapid Response mechanism through establishing additional Emergency Response teams for northern as well as Southern Yemen who will conduct rapid needs assessments, beneficiary targeting and registration and implementing the response such as distribution of Shelters/NFIs, water trucking, voucher and cash distribution.