

YEMEN SITUATION

UNHCR REGIONAL UPDATE #10

19 June 2015

KEY FIGURES

1,312,062

People of concern to UNHCR (in Yemen and surrounding countries), including refugees and persons internally displaced prior to and as a result of the current conflict.

1,019,762

Persons internally displaced prior to and as a result of the current conflict.

42,300

Arrivals to Djibouti, Ethiopia, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, and Sudan mainly by sea or overland.

250,000

Refugees in Yemen to be assisted with protection assistance and life sustaining items.

38,073

Individuals reached in Yemen with emergency relief items since the onset of the crisis.

134,056,042

USD requested by UNHCR for the emergency response to the Yemen situation, April to September 2015, (Supplementary Appeal launched on 12 June).

HIGHLIGHTS

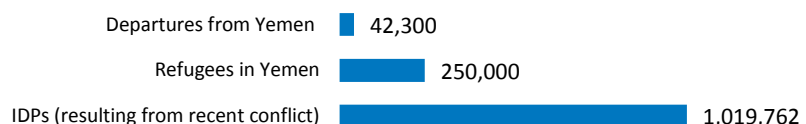
- In Yemen, UNHCR's partner the Charitable Society for Social Welfare (CSSW) succeeded in delivering medicine and therapeutic food (Plumpy Nut) by boat to Kharaz refugee camp from Basateen, Aden. UNHCR's partner Society for Humanitarian Solidarity (SHS) transported 14,000 litres of fuel to Kharaz camp.
- Food rations in Kharaz camp have run out; the monthly distribution scheduled on 15 June did not take place as the rations are still blocked in Hodeida port. Efforts to transport the food to the camp have been unsuccessful, though UNHCR is seeking solutions.
- Some 52 trucks were loaded with emergency items that arrived by vessel from Dubai to Hodeida; the items were sent to UNHCR warehouses in Sana'a for distribution to vulnerable displaced families.
- Three projectiles destroyed the generator and fuel tank at the Basateen health clinic in Aden; until further notice the clinic is not operational.
- In Djibouti, 17,929 persons of mixed nationalities arrived to Djibouti as of 9 June (since 27 March). Of those, 8,921 persons are Yemeni nationals.
- In Somalia, the total number of arrivals to date is 17,356 individuals for which 90 per cent are Somali nationals. Out of them, 9,884 individuals were registered at the reception centres in Bossaso and Berbera and in Mogadishu.



Offloading at Hodeida Port: emergency aid destined for displaced families in Yemen ©UNHCR/A. Zabarah

Population of concern

A total of **1,312,062** people of concern*



UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational Context

The Geneva Consultations on Yemen began on 15 June where the UN Secretary-General called for another humanitarian pause during Ramadan. The UN spokesman Ahmad Fawzi appealed for all parties to "observe a humanitarian pause to create a climate conducive to moving forward." Despite this appeal, the conflict continues with air strikes being reported since the talks began. Heavy confrontations continue in Sa'ada, Sana'a, Taiz, Marib, Aden, Abyan, Lahj and Shabwah governorates with armed clashes, shelling, and aerial strikes.

The new Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) for Yemen was released on 12 June revealing significant increases in humanitarian needs since the escalation of the conflict. An estimated 21.1 million people in Yemen, 80 per cent of the country's population, require humanitarian assistance. This represents a 33 per cent increase since late 2014 (15.9 million people). Governorates with the most urgent needs include Abyan, Aden, ad-Dhali, and Sa'ada, followed by Hajjah, Amran, Sana'a, Shabwa, Lahj and Taiz.

The Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan (YHRP) revision was officially presented in Geneva on 19 June. The Humanitarian Coordinator for Yemen, Johannes van der Klaauw warned that the country will become paralyzed and with large scale violence and starvation if action is not taken immediately. He described the compelling humanitarian needs in Yemen and presented the financial requirements needed for immediate humanitarian interventions to the Member States.

The United Nations Assistant High Commissioner for Operations, George Okoth-Obbo, noted that partners are sparing no efforts in providing support to refugees and asylum seekers throughout the country and commented on the regional dimension of the conflict. The revised YHRP requests USD 1.5 billion, including USD 758 for critical needs, to assist 11.7 million of the most vulnerable people across Yemen, including refugees, asylum seekers and migrants. During the presentation of the YHRP, the Representative of Saudi Arabia announced that the King Salman Relief Centre will fund UN agencies submissions under the UN Flash Appeal directly. UNHCR will receive USD 31,079,202 in support of its refugee and IDP programmes in Yemen.

Some 70 international UN staff members are authorized to return in Yemen. As of 17 June, nine international UNHCR staff members are operating in Sana'a.

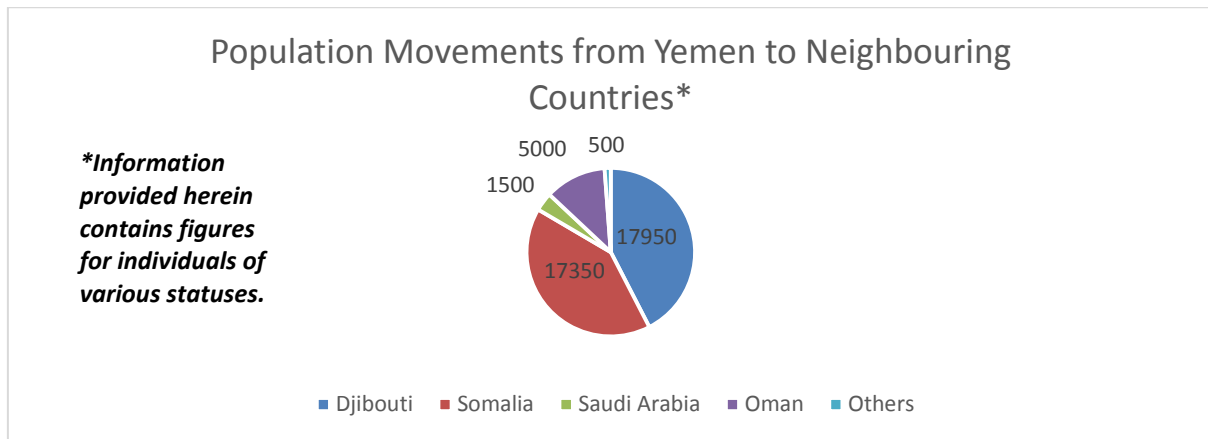
Departures from Yemen

Djibouti: In Djibouti, 17,929 persons of mixed nationalities have arrived to Djibouti as of 9 June (since 27 March). Of those, 8,921 persons are Yemeni nationals, and 7,275 are transiting third country nationals. UNHCR and ONARS (the government refugee entity) registered 2,092 refugees, of which 2,002 are Yemeni nationals (since 27 March). According to the provisional statistics, 1,557 refugees are registered in Obock and are sheltered in Markazi camp.

Somalia: Three boats arrived in Bossaso, Puntland on 13 June carrying 2,103 individuals. Two boats arrived in Berbera, Somaliland on 14 and 15 June 2015, carrying 286 and 205 new arrivals respectively. In Somalia, the total number of arrivals to date is 17,356 individuals, for which 90 per cent are Somali nationals. Of them, 9,884 individuals were registered at the reception centres in Bossaso and Berbera and at Mogadishu Airport.



UNHCR's partner Yemen Red Crescent providing displaced parents and children sessions on child protection in Sana'a ©YRC



Achievements



Protection

Achievements and Impact

Yemen:

- Since registration and renewal of refugee documents resumed on 7 June, UNHCR has received 675 people at the centre in Sana'a. All individuals were screened and scheduled with an appointment if immediate assistance was not available. In light of the requests, protection counseling and legal aid were added to services available at the centre.
- UNHCR's staff in Hadramaut governorate coordinated with local associations, InterSos, and IOM to conduct protection needs assessments in refugee and IDP shelters. Food and NFIs are urgently required. A total of 277 families (1,062 individuals) accommodated in schools in Mukalla city have been identified.
- UNHCR's partner Society for Humanitarian Solidarity (SHS) encountered 105 new arrivals (102 Ethiopians, 3 Somalis) 14 of them are Ethiopian females. The Danish Refugee Council (DRC) screened all arrivals at the Mayfa'a reception centre in Shabwa Governorate, three men and four women were seeking asylum and one girl was identified as an unaccompanied minor.
- UNHCR's partner the Yemen Red Crescent (YRC) received 86 Ethiopian migrants at the Bab-Al-Mandab centre.

Djibouti:

- Following UNHCR's advocacy, local authorities returned passports to all refugees in Markazi camp. Passports were retained by immigration authorities for administrative reasons. UNHCR continues to advocate for the return of passports to refugees staying in Djibouti city.
- Registration in Markazi camp is ongoing where newly arrived refugees are provided with NFIs. During the last week, 30 family attestations and 37 ID cards were distributed.
- On 12 and 13 June, two boats arrived from Yemen at the port of Obock with 172 people aboard, (80 Yemeni nationals and 92 US passport holders). According to authorities, US citizens are authorized to continue onward to Djibouti city. Of the 80 Yemeni nationals, only 12 individuals sought asylum in Djibouti.

Saudi Arabia:

- The General Passports department announced that the six month visa validity period for Yemenis begins on 8 July. According to the GDP website, 132,898 Yemenis have so far benefited from the Royal Decree and legalized their status.

Somalia:

- UNHCR, in collaboration with IOM and the Puntland Ministry of Interior, registered 976 individuals at the reception centre in Bossaso, Puntland. CARE International provided 120 USD assistance allowance to 27 households. NRC is informing the community about available services, rights, and entitlements.
- In Bossaso, Puntland, UNHCR registered 95 Yemeni refugees while 170 relief item kits were distributed. Subsistence allowances (80-120 USD) were distributed to 41 families, for a total of 3,210 USD and health services were provided by Save the Children.
- In Hargeisa, Somaliland, around 150 Yemeni refugees were registered by the Ministry of Resettlement, Rehabilitation and Reintegration (MRRR) since the beginning of the crisis.
- In South Central Somalia regions, according to the National Commission for Refugees and IDPs (NCRI), there are 48 Yemeni new arrivals in Mogadishu. UNHCR is currently conducting an assessment to identify the number, needs and risks of Yemenis in Mogadishu.



Save the Children providing new arrivals with medical care at Bossaso reception centre on 13 June 2015 ©UNHCR

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

Yemen:

- The International Relief and Development (IRD) informed UNHCR that they still have not reopened their office in Sana'a. Large numbers of refugees remain in front of their office requesting financial assistance, however IRD has been unable to receive transferred funds into their bank to provide cash assistance to refugees.

Somalia:

- Yemeni refugees have been relying on the Yemeni Community in Somaliland. However, the community's absorption capacity is saturated; there are reports of some internal tensions within the Yemeni Community. The MRRR and UNHCR are going to provide training in Arabic language on peaceful resolution of disputes to the Yemeni Committee.
- An inter-agency assessment to identify arrivals from Yemen (Yemenis and Somali returnees) with the view to map their current location, identify needs and risks is ongoing in Mogadishu and other South Central Somalia regions. Preliminary findings of this assessment will be available on 23 June.

Education

Achievements and Impact

Yemen:

- Despite the closure of most school, at the end of May, the Aghaith Refugee Association completed their accelerated classes programme in Kharaz refugee camp, working with 111 students who had dropped out of school.

Djibouti:

- Teachers will be recruited within the Yemeni refugee community by UNICEF and UNHCR for the coming school year. So far, 38 teachers (including 24 female teachers) have been identified.



Students completing the accelerated classes in Kharaz refugee camp ©Aghaith Refugee Association

Health

Achievements and Impact

Yemen:

- UNHCR's partner the Charitable Society for Social Welfare (CSSW) succeeded in delivering a three-month supply of medicine consisting of oral/injectable medicine, infusion fluids and therapeutic foods (Plumpy Nut) via boat to Kharaz refugee camp from Basateen, Aden, on 14 June.
- On 14 June, UNHCR's CSSW conducted a health assessment in four locations in Basateen, Aden and identified around 220 families mainly residing in schools; CSSW is arranging for mobile medical teams to reach the families.



The Charitable Society for Social Welfare conducted health assessments at a school in Basateen, Aden. ©CSSW

Djibouti:

- As of 14 June, 772 health consultations were made in Markazi camp; 25 patients were hospitalized in the regional hospital of Obock and 17 patients were referred to Djibouti since the onset of the crisis. 274 children were vaccinated and 11 patients whose treatment is not available in Djibouti have been identified.

Somalia:

- In Berbera, Somaliland, 30 children received healthcare assistance at the IOM clinic. Since the beginning of the Yemen crisis, 1,072 arrivals have been assisted with health services in Berbera, including 20 referrals to hospitals.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**Yemen:**

- On 14 June, the Basateen Clinic Ambulance was reported stolen; an investigation is ongoing.
- On 15 June, three projectiles hit the Basateen health clinic in Aden, which destroyed the generator and fuel tank while the clinic laboratory was damaged; until further notice the clinic is not be operational. No injuries or deaths were reported; all UNHCR and CSSW staff have been accounted for.
- At Hodeida port, dengue fever and malaria reports have doubled from the normal number of cases due to electricity shortages. Some 19,406 cases of dengue fever and 19,666 cases of malaria have been reported.¹ The Health Office of Aden Governorate reported that there were 4,081 cases of clinically diagnosed dengue fever between 1 April and 4 June, including 113 deaths.



Heavy sandstorms have started in Obock impacting on the daily life as well as on the health of refugees hosted in the camp. ©UNHCR

Djibouti:

- Heavy sandstorms are affecting the health of refugees and increasing the number of acute respiratory problems.
- Healthcare is not yet available 24/7 in Markazi camp. Health partners are discussing an increased number of healthcare staff assigned to the camp to ensure continuous care.

**Food Security and Nutrition****Achievements and Impact**

¹ <http://www.thenational.ae/world/middle-east/dengue-fever-and-malaria-bring-new-woes-to-yemen>

Yemen:

- The food situation in Kharaz refugee camp is dire. Food rations have run out and the monthly distribution scheduled to start on 15 June did not take place as food on a WFP vessel was diverted to Hodeida. The food has been offloaded from the vessel; UNHCR and WFP are working on modalities to move the food quickly.

Djibouti:

- WFP placed an additional food order to support 1,600 refugees for distribution in early July.
- The nutrition census conducted by the Nutrition Sub-Working Group has been finalized. Results are being compiled and will provide a more comprehensive idea of the number and profile of those in need of nutritional support.
- According to the latest malnutrition screening (4 June) there are currently 10 cases of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and 23 cases of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM). All of them are receiving adequate treatment and care at Obock Regional Medical Centre.
- Markazi's "Nutrition Space" is open; ACF provided the tent and Johanniter International the necessary equipment. The space concentrates all nutrition activities including screening, distribution of ready-to-use therapeutic foods.

Saudi Arabia:

- The King Salman Centre for Relief and Humanitarian Works provided 50,000 meals, 400,000 loaves of bread, and more than 100,000 bottles of water to Yemenis at the Al-Wadiah crossing point (near Sharurah city, Saudi Arabia).

Somalia:

- In Bossaso, Puntland, IOM and DRC continued to provide water and biscuits/dates to new arrivals at the Sea Port. WFP, through its partner Puntland Youth and Social Development Association (PSA) provided three meals per day to all Yemeni refugees, Somali returnees, and third country nationals. WFP provided Plumpy Nut to all under-5 children (145 individuals). DRC provided water and biscuits to 977 people at the reception centre.
- In Berbera, Somaliland, three meals and water four times per day are provided to new arrivals by DRC.
- In Mogadishu, three meals per day are provided at the IOM reception centre. Additionally, three months Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) cash grants are provided by IOM to those who wish to return to their place of origin.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**Djibouti:**

- According to the information gathered by the Nutrition Sub-Working Group, Yemeni refugee families with children aged 7-24 months no longer have milk rations. UNICEF will be taking measures to address this issue and ensure milk is available for children in this age range.
- Due to the damage of the food distribution centre through the recent heavy sandstorms, food preparation for families has been disrupted.

**Water and Sanitation****Achievements and Impact****Yemen:**

- Kharaz camp was extremely low on fuel, leading to further rationing of electricity for the water pump; however, as fuel arrived to the camp, water pumping will be increased by two hours each day for a total of 18 hours per day.

Djibouti:

- Three water bladders with a total capacity of 45m³ in Markazi are providing safe water for all refugees.

Somalia:

- At the reception centre in Bossaso, Puntland, the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) began a one month garbage collection campaign on 1 June. NRC provided 500 targeted households with comprehensive hygiene kits and conducted a hygiene awareness campaign. DRC distributed 314 sanitary pads for 157 vulnerable women and girls.

- New arrivals have access to separate male/female water tanks and toilets in both reception centres in Berbera.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

Djibouti:

- The management of water resources continues to be a challenge in the refugee camp, with misuse of this invaluable and scarce resource. The establishment of a Water Management Committee and the implementation of awareness raising activities are planned.
- Water treatment and quality control is required to ensure that the provided water is up to standard.
- The management of solid waste is a challenge due to lack of refugees' ownership of the operations coordinated by Red Crescent; sensitisation is ongoing.

Somalia:

- In Berbera, Somaliland, during large influxes (more than 200 new arrivals) latrine hygiene is decreasing dramatically; more cleaning resources should be allocated on a full time basis.
- At Berbera port arrivals are kept waiting under the sun without toilets during screening by the authorities. UNHCR proposed the installation of temporary emergency toilets but no agreement was reached yet with the authorities.



Shelter and NFIs

Achievements and Impact

Yemen:

- Since the beginning of the conflict, 6,056 IDP families (38,073 individuals) have received emergency relief items.
- Over the past week, UNHCR's partner the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) distributed emergency relief items to 213 families (1,284 individuals) in five distributions in Sana'a governorate. Most families were from Sada'a and are living in open air or in schools.

Djibouti:

- As of 16 June, 325 tents, four hangars (one under revision after damages caused by sandstorms) and 59 latrines are in place in Markazi camp. The construction of 18 additional latrines is ongoing.

Somalia:

- At the Bossaso reception centre, Puntland, NRC provided 358 NFI kits to the new arrivals on 14 June. UNHCR provided 10 tarpaulins for the centre.
- In Berbera, Somaliland, NFIs have been distributed to the vulnerable families.
- At the Berbera Second reception centre, electricity installation around the toilets is ongoing and two rub halls by UNHCR are being established to sustain large arrivals. The total capacity of the centres is 500 persons.
- The IOM run reception centre in Mogadishu is operational and has the capacity to accommodate 200 persons.


Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

Djibouti:

- Strong winds and sandstorms in Obock have caused damage to the infrastructure in Markazi camp. The covers on two water bladders, the food distribution centre and one of four reception hangars were damaged. Repair work has started. Twelve tents were torn but have already been repaired.

Somalia:

- The second reception centre in Bossaso is yet to be fully functional. With large numbers of persons arriving at the same time, the current capacity of the reception centre is inadequate.
- In Berbera, discussions are ongoing between UNHCR and the local authorities to identify a third reception centre.



Access to Energy

Achievements and Impact

- In Kharaz refugee camp, UNHCR's partner Society for Humanitarian Solidarity (SHS) transported 14,000 litres of fuel to the camp. In the upcoming days, 6,000 more litres are expected to arrive. The 20,000 litres of fuel will run the water pump and provide electricity to the camp and host community for two months.
- The host community near Kharaz camp requested assistance for electricity and UNHCR will provide five hours of electricity per day to the nearby village. Prior to the conflict, UNHCR assisted the host community with electricity but stopped due to the fuel crisis and cut the use of electricity to mainly running the water pumps in Kharaz camp.



Logistics

Achievements and Impact

Yemen:

- The UNHCR vessel from Dubai carrying 69,350 sleeping mats, 150,060 blankets, 19,413 kitchen sets, 50,011 buckets and 9,530 plastic sheets was loaded onto 52 trucks and sent to UNHCR warehouses in Sana'a for distribution to families in need.

Somalia:

- At the reception centre in Bossaso, UNHCR and IOM jointly provided onward transportation assistance to 523 Somali arrivals. In total, since the beginning of the Yemen crisis, UNHCR supported 1,154 individuals to travel from Bossaso to areas in South Central regions.
- In Berbera, Somaliland, between 10 and 16 June, 273 arrivals were supported with onward transportation assistance.
- A partnership agreement has been signed by UNHCR and IOM to support onward transportation of 5,000 persons (arrivals from Yemen) from ports of arrival in Somaliland and Puntland to South Central regions by road.

Working in partnership

Yemen:

- On 14 June, UNHCR met with His Royal Highness Prince el Hassan Bin Talal of Jordan in Amman to brief him on the humanitarian situation in Yemen. The meeting was attended by OCHA, WFP, UNHCR, UNICEF, WHO, CARE and Save the Children. Issues were raised on the deteriorating situation and challenges for humanitarians in the country, namely access, transport, fuel and the protection of civilians. The Prince expressed his willingness to advocate on behalf of the humanitarian community in Yemen.
- The revised Yemen Humanitarian Response was launched today in Geneva. UNHCR and partners have updated the requirements for the affected population.

Djibouti:

- On 6 June, the UNHCR Field Unit met with the Representative of the King Salman Association (Saudi Arabia) in Obock. The Representative agreed to support the government to improve the standards in Markazi camp. Moreover, the King Salman Association distributed food to 400 families.

Somalia:

- The second Joint meeting of the Government Emergency Task Force on Yemen and the Inter-agency country level Task Force on the Yemen Situation was held in Mogadishu, on 17 June. The meeting endorsed the ToRs for the Technical Task Force developed by the National Commission for Refugees and IDPs (NCRI) and UNHCR. The first formal Technical Task Force meeting is scheduled in Mogadishu on Sunday 21 June.

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