

# Field Office (FO) Hudaydah

June 2020

The UNHCR field office in Hudaydah covers west coast areas of Yemen, namely Hajjah, Raymah, Al Mahwit and various districts in Hudaydah.

According to the Civilian Impact Monitoring Report, the region is characterized by the highest number of civilian casualties due to the conflict and one of the highest numbers of families forced to flee.

The west coast areas have a hot and humid climate all-year around, and most of the areas are classified as **hard-to-reach due to insecurity**.

## KEY INDICATORS

**1,082,430**

Number of internally displaced persons in areas under FO Hudaydah DTM March 2019

**752,670**

Number of returnees in areas under FO Hudaydah DTM March 2019

**295,000**

Number of IDPs under FO Hudaydah who received services, cash, or in-kind support UNHCR June 2020



UNHCR staff holds a meeting with the IDP and community leaders in an IDP hosting site in Az Zuhrah district, north of Hudaydah governorate. Tehama shelters- adjusted emergency shelters for the local climate, can be seen at the background. © UNHCR/ Mohamed Bazel

## UNHCR PRESENCE

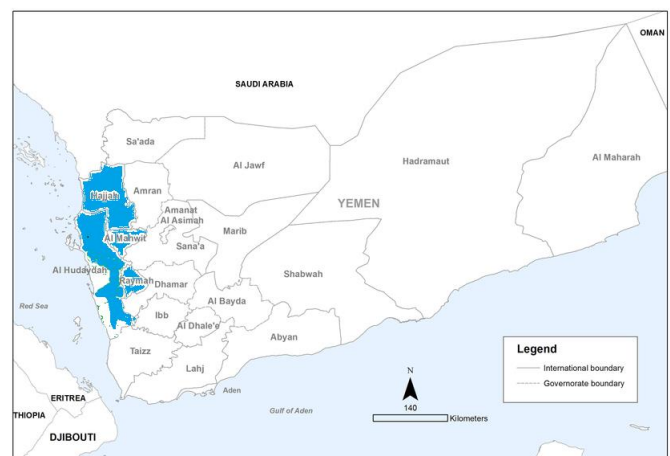
### Staff:

13 National Staff

1 International Staff

6 National Partners

- Jeel Al-Bena
- SDHGF (Sustainable Development Hudaydah Girls Foundation)
- YRC (Yemen Red Crescent)
- RADF (Rawabi Al-Nahtha Development Foundation)
- NRC (Norwegian Refugee Council)
- SDF (Sustainable Development Foundation)



The area of responsibility covered by FO Hudaydah.

### The Hudaydah Hub and the tri-cluster approach

UNHCR with other Clusters' partners under the inter-agency framework is responsible for coordinating three clusters: protection, CCCM and shelter, ensuring that humanitarian assistance reaches the neediest families in a coordinated and effective manner.

## Main activities



### Protection

#### REFUGEES

- There is a small refugee community under the FO Hudaydah's area of responsibility, integrated in the larger IDP response below.

#### INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS

- UNHCR FO Hudaydah through its partners and its community-based protection network, carries out monitoring to identify vulnerable families, including members of the impoverished local host community. The families identified in need of support are referred to three community centres located in Abs district in Hajjah, and Al Qanawis and Hudaydah city. UNHCR through its protection partners, provide various services such as legal assistance, psychosocial counselling and special support for children and services for families who are struggling with the impact of their displacement. Emergency cash assistance is provided to extremely vulnerable families who need immediate intervention.
- So far this year, more than 40,000 individuals were assessed, of within 2,055 individuals benefitted from legal support services and 1,237 individuals from psychosocial counselling, including 94 children and other vulnerable groups. A total of 85 families were given emergency cash support.



### Emergency distribution

- The area of responsibility under FO Hudaydah is affected by seasonal rains and floods almost every year. In the first six months of 2020, around 8,000 families were affected by the floods and torrential rains. Last year, 25,000 families were affected while more floods are expected until the end of rainy season in September.
- UNHCR and partners coordinated and provided much-needed emergency shelter kits (ESK) and basic household kits, comprised of beddings and kitchen sets to the affected families despite a funding shortfall and access constraints. Until June 2020, some 3,750 families were immediately provided with shelter kits and 4,900 families received basic household items to assist their daily lives. Furthermore, the FO Hudaydah is currently constructing eight community spaces and rehabilitating Jeddah IDP site in Hajjah where 35 Refugee Housing Units, designed by UNHCR, IKEA and Better Shelter, have been installed to provide an alternative safe living arrangement for the displaced families.

### The Tehama region and Tehama Emergency Shelter Kits (TESK)

The west coast of Yemen, or the 'Tehama region' is known for its hot and humid climate all year around. As a result, UNHCR's global standard emergency shelter kit had to be adjusted to suit this climate. After various consultations with displaced and host communities and pilots, UNHCR and displaced families came up with the solution of adding a layer of palm leaf mat (Khazaf) on top of the emergency shelter which led to a significant drop in the temperature inside. UNHCR capacitated more than 600 displaced and hosting families to produce Khazaf mats from locally grown palm trees, which in turn, contributed to their livelihoods. These Tehama Emergency Shelter Kits (TEKs) are popular and well accepted by displaced families as the most appropriate emergency accommodation. In 2020, UNHCR constructed 3,741 TESKs in Hajjah and Hudaydah governorates and plans to erect 2,000 more with the displaced families, until the end of this year.



### Cash Based Intervention (CBI)

- CBI is the most appreciated form of assistance by the IDPs, given its positive impact in providing instant relief to the displaced families. Cash also helps improving their protection and resilience by minimising negative coping mechanisms such as begging, child labour and dropping out of school. It also contributes to the local economy, and thus strengthens opportunities for social cohesion between displaced and host communities. Until June 2020, some 6,000 IDP families were given cash support which they primarily used for food, rent, medicine and other essential services at their own discretion.



### Camp Coordination & Camp Management (CCCM)

- In Hudaydah Hub, the majority of IDPs live in 777 IDP hosting sites including in unfinished buildings and open areas with substandard living conditions and inadequate access to basic services such as water and health. These sites host 74,000 IDP families in total, out of which UNHCR coordinates and manages 206 IDP sites with 35,000 IDP families. In Hajjah governorate, Abs district alone, with 203 IDP hosting sites, the district hosts the highest concentration of IDP hosting sites across the country. Across Hudaydah governorate, there are 276 IDP hosting sites, 33 IDP hosting sites in Al Mahwit governorate and eight IDP hosting sites in Raymah governorate.
- All humanitarian responses are coordinated with local authorities and other humanitarian partners to ensure the most effective use of resources. Humanitarian partners including UN agencies in Hudaydah Hub are NRC, DRC, YRC, ACTED, Jeel Al-Bena, RADF, ADO, ADRA, IRY, OXFAM, YWU, HGF, SDF, SC-I, CARE, NFHDR, RI, ACF, VHI, BFD, ZOA, GARWAPs, MSF, WFP, UNICEF, FAO, IOM, UNHCR, OCHA, WHO, UNDP and UNFPA.



### COVID-19 response

- Prior to COVID-19 reaching Yemen in April 2020, UNHCR actively raised awareness of IDP communities on prevention and precautionary measures as recommended by WHO and the MOPH. A total of 9,000 leaflets were distributed through door-to-door and small-group gatherings while observing COVID-19 Protocols.
- UNHCR with partners JAAHD and RADF is currently training 70 refugee and IDP tailors to produce some 30,000 reusable masks for both adults and children. Some will be purchased by UNHCR to be distributed to the vulnerable displaced families, and the remaining will be sold by the tailors themselves to complement their income.
- UNHCR in partnership with CCCM partners devised a community-based action plan in case of an outbreak of COVID-19 in the IDP hosting sites. Throughout its implementation, UNHCR's CCCM partners maintained a close coordination with WASH & Health service providers to distribute hygiene kits, conduct awareness-raising sessions, installed hand-washing stations with WASH partners and supported emergency transportation to health facilities.
- Emergency distributions of shelter and basic household items also incorporated [physical distancing measures and adapted door-to-door deliveries](#) wherever possible. Hand-washing basins were installed at major distribution points.



### Challenges and Gaps

- **Limited field presence** of Protection Cluster partners due to funding shortfall and access challenges caused by ongoing insecurities.
- **IDP hosting sites are scattered**, especially in Hajjah Abs, complicating outreach.
- **Limited stock** for emergency distribution such as emergency shelter kits and basic household items due to lack of funds, logistical challenges or insecurity
- **Lack of sustainable solutions such as livelihoods opportunities for displaced families which** continue to require investment in emergency responses.

**CONTACTS**

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