

DJIBOUTI

INTER-AGENCY UPDATE FOR THE RESPONSE TO THE YEMENI SITUATION #14

01 August 2015

KEY FIGURES

2,405

Refugees registered since the outbreak of the crisis

812

Registered children and adolescents.

PRIORITIES

- Ensure protection of refugees and provide assistance.
- Provide documents to refugees.
- Work with the government to ensure access to the territory and freedom of movement..
- Continue to develop the infrastructure at the Markazi camp.
- Continue border monitoring activities.

HIGHLIGHTS

- According to statistics from IOM and the Djiboutian government, 21,726 persons of mixed nationalities have arrived in Djibouti as of 30 July (since 26 March). Of those 9,953 persons are Yemeni nationals, 9,946 are transiting Third Country Nationals and 1,827 persons are Djiboutian returnees. Yemenis applying for asylum in Djibouti are hosted in the Markazi camp in Obock.
- As of 31 July, UNHCR and ONARS (the government refugee entity) registered 2,405 refugees, thereof 2,279 Yemeni nationals (since 31 March). According to the provisional statistics, 1,775 refugees are registered in Obock and are mainly hosted at the Markazi camp (1,726 of those are Yemenis).

Population of concern

A total of **2,405** people of concern

Nationality	0-4 years		5-11 years		12-17 years		18-59 years		60 years+		TOTAL
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Yemen	100	98	142	150	143	133	907	486	51	69	2,279
Syria	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	3
Iraq	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Palestine	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	5
Somalia	1	3	7	9	4	3	13	30	2	4	76
Eritrea	4	0	2	2	5	3	13	7	0	1	37
Pakistan	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	4
Total	105	102	152	161	152	140	939	527	53	74	2,405

All figures are provisional and still subject to change.

UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational Context

Since the escalation of the Yemen conflict in March 2015, some 1,572,873 persons have been affected. Some 1,267,590 people have been displaced inside Yemen since 27 March. As of 29 July, some 55,283 individuals have left Yemen and sought refuge in Djibouti, Somalia, Ethiopia, Sudan, Oman and Saudi Arabia.

Yemenis applying for asylum in Djibouti are hosted in the Markazi camp in Obock, four kilometers away from Obock city, the capital of the region. All boats carrying people fleeing fighting in Yemen are rerouted to the Port of Obock. Yemeni nationals are requested to stay in Obock, except for persons with a valid visa for third countries, ongoing visa petitions, air tickets or resident permits in Djibouti or other countries.

Achievements

Protection

Achievements and Impact

- According to statistics from IOM and the Djiboutian government, 21,726 persons of mixed nationalities have arrived in Djibouti as of 30 July (since 26 March). Of those 9,953 persons are Yemeni nationals, 9,946 are transiting Third Country Nationals and 1,827 persons are Djiboutian returnees. Yemenis applying for asylum in Djibouti are hosted in the Markazi camp in Obock.
- As of 31 July, UNHCR and ONARS (the government refugee entity) registered 2,405 refugees, thereof 2,279 Yemeni nationals (since 31 March). According to the provisional statistics, 1,775 refugees are registered in Obock and are mainly hosted at the Markazi camp (1,726 of those are Yemenis).
- UNHCR has set up a reception area where Yemeni nationals are received while waiting for screening procedures to be finalised by immigration officials.
- Some 14 refugee attestations and 19 individual refugee cards were issued to Yemeni refugees.
- The Embassy of Yemen in Djibouti has agreed to share with UNHCR a list of Yemeni nationals who have chosen to return to Yemen. This list will be helpful in determining the number of registered Yemeni refugees – if any – who have left the country.
- Following the end of Ramadan and improvement in the weather and living conditions, some families have returned to Markazi, UNHCR/ONARS will conduct a physical verification exercise in the next two weeks to confirm the number of refugees.
- UNHCR continues to provide assistance on a humanitarian basis to all Yemenis sheltered in Markazi camp, even if they have not registered with UNHCR.

Education

Achievements and Impact

- On 27 July, UNHCR, Caritas, LWF and Al-Rahma NGO held meetings to discuss the implementation of sustainable primary school options for Yemeni refugees in Markazi/Obock.

- LWF has completed the verification exercise to map out school-aged children in Djibouti (around 400 families) and Obock. This was an opportunity to inform families that school would start a month early for children to catch up on their education. The verification exercise also maps out persons with specific needs.
- UNICEF is leading the pursuit for a means for certification whether through the Yemeni or Djiboutian Ministries of Education so that the children may resume the upcoming school year without delay. Children fleeing the conflict had left schools in April and were unable to continue the school year in Yemen.
- On Wednesday 29 July, a meeting was held in Djibouti between UNHCR, UNICEF and UNESCO with the Yemeni Minister of Social Affairs who initially agreed to provide Yemeni certification to children who would attend an extra month of schooling in September before the scholastic year begins. This is to catch up on the missing month of education when they had to flee Yemen in April. The minister would nevertheless need to discuss the matter further with the representatives of the Yemeni government in exile.
- 27 young adults from Markazi camp have started attending English language classes provided the American Military Humanitarian Branch. The classes will take place once a week and UNHCR provides transportation.
- The successful summer programme with Caritas for children aged 5-11 continues as well as the informal playtime sessions held on Sundays in Markazi.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- There are currently no options yet for secondary education in Markazi camp.



Health

Achievements and Impact

- Djibouti Red Crescent Society (DRCS) volunteers continue to offer first aid services at the Obock. During the week of 22-28 July, they offered services to 28 people in Obock: 7 people at the Port of Obock, 21 at Markazi camp and 6 at the AHA facility.
- At the Port of Djibouti, during the week 22-28 July, DRCS volunteers offered first aid services to 32 people. The total number of people who have benefited from DRCS first aid services at the Port of Djibouti from the beginning of June 2015 to date is 207 persons.
- UNICEF has deployed an international Health Specialist to Obock to support the health response to the Yemeni refugee population, in particular under-5 children, pregnant women and lactating mothers. The Health Specialist will work closely with all partners in the field, monitoring and providing technical support to all UNICEF supported activities.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The family of a two-week old baby suffering from a severe skin condition due to extreme heat approached UNHCR. As a temporary measure UNHCR is hosting the child and his mother in a room in Obock. The need for health partners to identify more sustainable solutions to care for this type of medical cases is becoming increasingly urgent.
- The need for an ophthalmologist in Obock remains a priority given the number of patients with recurring eye conditions.



Food Security and Nutrition

Achievements and Impact

- The National Nutrition Programme in collaboration with UNICEF has addressed a local shortage in supplies of Plumpy'Nut at the Obock medical centre. Nutritional supplies are now available in sufficient quantity.

- Johanniter has launched a malnutrition screening campaign in Obock-city and Markazi refugee camp. The objective was to assess the prevalence of acute malnutrition both in the refugee and host population. Among 465 children under-5, the team found five children suffering from severe acute malnutrition, 20 affected by moderate acute malnutrition and 60 at risk of malnutrition. The team also screened 58 women (39 pregnant and 19 lactating women) finding eight pregnant women affected by moderate acute malnutrition. They have all been referred to Obock medical centre to be provided with the necessary care and treatment by the National Nutrition Programme with the support of UNICEF.
- Al-Rahma Association continues to distribute hot meals to refugee families during the month following Ramadan. UNHCR supports with in-kind donations, and the transport and distribution of meals.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The need for a dedicated storage space for temporary storage of food and non-food items is becoming urgent in Markazi camp.



Water and Sanitation

Achievements and Impact

- NRC has completed the rehabilitation of all its latrines in Markazi camp. There are currently 107 functioning latrines in Markazi.
- Given the setting up of 96 new tents in Markazi, plans to construct new latrines with NRC will be discussed.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Families have received water purification tablets and yet seem to refrain from using them. Sensitization on the safety and the necessity of using the tablets will be conducted by partners.



Shelter and NFIs

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The Government of Djibouti is in the process of finding a new location to host the refugees of Markazi camp. Partner activities will continue until a new site is located which would be in close proximity to a village so that the refugees could use the services and so that the population could also benefit from their presence.
- All 96 tents donated by Bahrain Charity to ONARS and sent to Obock following the severe winds of Friday 17 July have been put up in Markazi camp. ONARS has promised to send an extra 48 tents, but waiting for further information regarding a new location before sending any more. Also, following the violent storm of that Friday, UNHCR tents and the latrines that were damaged have been fixed. Two hangars are being reconstructed.
- On 25 July, UNHCR facilitated the distribution of a donation from the Union Nationale des Femmes Djiboutiennes (UNFD). A variety of items such as clothes for women, children and men, hygiene and sanitary products were distributed to 435 individuals.
- UNHCR is working with Al-Rahma Association to expand the child friendly area in Markazi camp.



Markazi's Women Committee assists in assembling hygiene kits with Johanniter ©UNHCR/S.Malaguti, July 2015.

Working in partnership

- On 22 July, a delegation from ECHO visited Markazi camp specifically to assess water and sanitation issues.
- On 23 July, UNHCR received a visit from DFID, along with Claire Bourgeois, Regional Refugee Coordinator for the Yemen Situation. The delegation visited Obock port and Markazi camp for an overview of the current situation of Yemeni refugees in Obock.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

- The Djibouti Response Plan for the Yemen Crisis (April - September 2015) was released on 4 June and launched in Djibouti on 21 July. It has been shared with donors, governments, partners and agencies. Eleven UN agencies and NGOs have submitted their inputs. The Djibouti Response Plan can be accessed via <http://www.unhcr.org/557066809.html>
- Agencies are very grateful for the financial support provided by donors who have contributed to their activities with non-earmarked and broadly earmarked funds as well as for those who have contributed directly to the operation.

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