

DJIBOUTI

INTER-AGENCY UPDATE FOR THE RESPONSE TO THE YEMENI SITUATION #10

04 July 2015

KEY FIGURES

2,179

Refugees registered since the outbreak of the crisis

734

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 the latest available statistics from IOM and the Djibouti government, 20,295 persons of mixed nationalities have arrived in Djibouti as of 30 June (since 26 March). Of those, 9,256 persons (45%) are Yemeni nationals, 9,262 (46%) are transiting TCNs and 1,777 persons (9%) are Djiboutian returnees.
- As of 1 July, UNHCR and ONARS (the government refugee entity) registered 2,179 refugees, thereof 2,060 Yemeni nationals (since 31 March). According to the provisional statistics, 1,617 refugees are registered in Obock and are mainly hosted at the Markazi camp.
- Strong sandstorms continue to hail in Obock. As a result many refugees have temporarily left Markazi camp for Obock town and Djibouti City where weather conditions are more favourable.

Population of concern

A total of **2,179** 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	84	88	134	135	130	117	819	440	47	66	2,060
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	11	25	2	4	69
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	89	92	144	146	139	124	849	476	49	71	2,179

All figures are provisional and still subject to change.

UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational Context

Since the escalation of the Yemen conflict in March 2015, 2,800 people have been killed and 13,000 injured, including a large number of civilians. 1,019,762 people have been displaced inside Yemen as a result of the conflict since 27 March. In addition, about 250,000 refugees from other countries such as Somalia, Eritrea are estimated to be in Yemen. Access to food and water is challenging, especially in the southern Governorates of Yemen. Moreover, the country's health system is at imminent risk of collapse due to shortages of medical supplies and fuel for generators. In this context, those Yemenis, refugees, migrants and Third Country Nationals (TCNs) with means to leave Yemen flee the country to the neighboring countries.

More than a million people have been displaced, food prices have risen by more than 40% in some locations and fuel prices have quadrupled. As the situation escalates, many Yemenis, refugees and asylum seekers living in the country have left the country. As of 1 July, 49,569 individuals have left Yemen and sought refuge in Djibouti, Somalia, Ethiopia, Sudan, Oman and Saudi Arabia. Additionally, a large number of Yemenis who were abroad when the recent conflict began are unable to return to their country due to the prevailing serious political and security situation.

According to statistics from IOM and the Djiboutian government, 20,295 persons of mixed nationalities have arrived in Djibouti as of 30 June (since 26 March). Of those, 9,256 persons are Yemeni nationals, 9,262 are transiting TCNs and 1,777 persons are Djiboutian returnees. Yemenis applying for asylum in Djibouti are hosted in the Markazi camp in Obock, where the Government of Djibouti has designated a new site for refugees, four kilometers away from Obock city, the capital of the region. Recently, the government announced that all boats carrying people fleeing fighting in Yemen are rerouted to the Port of Obock. Upon this decision, Yemeni nationals have 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.

The period from June – September is the hottest in Djibouti with average temperatures of 47°C. Strong sandstorms have recently hit Obock moving at a speed of over 60 km/hour. As a result, many refugees have temporarily left Markazi Camp for Obock City and Djibouti City where weather conditions are slightly more favourable.

Achievements



Protection

Achievements and Impact

- As of 1 July, UNHCR and ONARS (the government refugee entity) registered 2,179 refugees, thereof 2,060 Yemeni nationals (since 31 March). According to provisional statistics, 1,617 refugees are registered in Obock and are mainly hosted at the Markazi camp.
- The results of the Child Protection Rapid Assessment conducted in Obock by UNICEF, UNHCR and DRC highlighted the high level of distress among children, youth and adults caused by the displacement, loss of normalcy, difficult living conditions in the camp, climate, and loss of their protective environment. Five out of nine Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC) registered with UNHCR benefited from Best Interest Assessments. According to some respondents, some parents use negative coping mechanisms such as violence against children. Cases of domestic violence were mentioned. No cases of child marriage were reported. Interventions required included activities such as education, recreational activities, psychosocial support, sports and vocational training. Refugee communities showed a willingness to be involved in and contribute to the organisation of these activities.

- The Red Crescent provides family tracing services at Markazi Camp, the ports of Djibouti and Obock and at the IOM transit centre. From 14-29 June a total of 1,975 requests (629 women and 1346 men) by refugees for tracing family members were made.
- UNHCR continues to provide assistance on a humanitarian basis to all Yemenis sheltered in Markazi, even if they have not registered with UNHCR.
- The Ali Addeh reception centre on 30 June received seven protection cases. Among the refugees interviewed were two women at risk, one person with special protection needs, 1 person with physical disabilities and 3 medical cases. These cases are being monitored by UNHCR.
- Three cases of sexual and gender based violence (SGBV) were recorded this past week: two cases of serious physical violence and one of domestic violence perpetrated against refugee women in Ali Addeh camp. The cases are currently being monitored by UNHCR facilitating access to multi-sectoral support for survivors. In order to engage the community in the response to SGBV, a meeting was held on 29 June with SGBV Focal Point refugees from the camp. During the meeting, identified SGBV cases were discussed and a work plan of action developed and approved.
- Three children at risk were identified during a home visit that was conducted in Ali Addeh camp on 29 June jointly with ONARS. Children with severe malnutrition were referred to AHA for urgent care. UNHCR and its partners (LWF and AHA) plan to conduct a Best Interests Assessment for these children at risk.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Individuals identified with protection needs, and who are not in a position to stay in Markazi camp, are provided with special shelter in Obock city. UNHCR is seeking means to refer those cases to Djibouti.

Education

Achievements and Impact

- UNESCO is leading the development of a project on “Education for a culture of Peace” targeting young people in the Markazi refugee camp. A Training of Trainers for Yemeni teachers who will be involved in the programme is being planned for the last week of July or the first week of September.

Health

Achievements and Impact

- All new arrivals to the port of Djibouti and Obock and at Markazi camp receive first-aid services from the Red Crescent. Upon arrival, children from 6 months to 15 years receive measles and polio vaccinations and Vitamin A supplements.
- A Mental Health Specialist has been appointed by Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA) and positioned in Obock to attend to the mental health needs of refugees.
- Since the beginning of its activities in the camp, AHA has performed 662 consultations to chronic patients.
- Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA) performed emergency management training to staff at Holl Holl and Ali Addeh camps. 23 persons attended.
- UNFPA has provided the hospital of Obock with reproductive health drugs and kits included drugs for the treatment of rape cases.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- There is a need to reinforce the capacity of the hospital in Obock.

- UNHCR, with the Health Working Group, is currently advocating to ONARS and the government of Djibouti for the possible relocation of vulnerable refugees from Markazi camp.
- As a result of the severe weather conditions in Obock, 229 vulnerable persons have been identified with the possibility of relocating them. These include: 62 persons 60 years old or more; 114 under-five children; 13 pregnant women; 40 chronically ill patients.



Food Security and Nutrition

Achievements and Impact

- 10,550 refugees benefitted from a general food distribution from 22-26 June at Ali Addeh camp through UNHCR with ONARS and WFP. Dates were added to the usual ration because of the month of Ramadan.
- Distribution of hot meals to refugees in Obock resumed on 29 June. Al Rahma Association combined efforts with UNHCR by providing the meals to 500 refugees in sealed boxes during the month of Ramadan. Al Rahma hired additional staff from Obock and used the newly constructed premises of the orphanage for food preparation and kindly agreed to cover the costs.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Coordination of food donations from various organisations and their distribution is highly needed.



Water and Sanitation

Achievements and Impact

- An analytical framework tool to guide decision on mid-term and long term solutions for ensuring sustained delivery of potable water in Markazi camp has been developed by UNICEF. The tool includes a comprehensive analysis on technical options, funding model as well as the operational management modality.
- The Red Crescent conducts promotional sessions on hygiene at the transit centre at the port of Obock and at Markazi camp. The sessions include handwashing, use of latrines and environment management. During the month of May, 227 persons benefitted from sessions on handwashing, 222 persons on the use of latrines and 223 persons on environment management.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Emptying latrine pits remains a challenge in Obock with the absence of a fully functioning waste management system.



Shelter and NFIs

Achievements and Impact

- HCR met with its partner NRC to discuss vulnerability criteria to be taken into consideration when constructing an extra 92 semi-permanent shelters in Ali Addeh camp. The criteria included: protection specific cases (SGBV survivors), foster families of Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC), persons with specific needs, persons and with chronic diseases, older persons and female heads of households.

- UNHCR met with partners (ONARS, LWF, AHA) in order to plan for the transfer of 1,905 refugees from Holl Holl camp to camp Ali Addeh in August 2015. Various needs to make this transfer possible have been identified by the partners, including human, material and financial resources.

Logistics

Achievements and Impact

- 20 Portable Solar Generators (PSG) along with 20 carriages were delivered to WFP Logistics Cluster on 30 June. They are expected to be transported to Hodeida around 5-8 July subject to security clearance.
- Export process for ICT equipment and medical supplies were delivered to WFP Logistics Cluster on 2 July. It is expected that they will be transported to Hodeida with the PSGs around 5-8 July.
- Two boxes of medical supplies arrived by air from Dubai on 2 July. Awaiting clearance for onward delivery to Sana'a, Yemen.

Working in partnership

On 27 June, a donation from the King Salman Association and the Royal Charity Organization of Bahrain of various food items including flour, sugar, water and rice arrived at Markazi camp. The goods were distributed to over 800 individuals even though the actual number of the list produced by the verification exercise conducted on 20 June showed that 447 individuals were present in the camp. The fluctuating numbers indicate the highly mobile nature of Yemeni refugees who travel back and forth between Markazi camp and Obock town



Delegations from the King Salman Association and the Royal Charity Organization of Bahrain on 27 June in Obock. ©UNHCR

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

- The Djibouti Response Plan for the Yemen Crisis (April - September 2015) were released on 4 June and shared with donors, governments, partners and agencies. 11 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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