



## KEY FIGURES

**1,789,779**

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.

**1,439,118**

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

**100,661**

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.

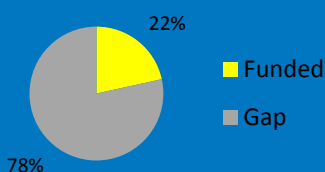
**79,786**

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

## FUNDING

**USD 134.1 Million**

Requested by UNHCR for the situation



UNHCR's Supplementary Appeal for the Yemen Situation Emergency Response, April – September 2015 (12 June 2015), is available [here](#)

## YEMEN SITUATION

### UNHCR REGIONAL UPDATE #19

12-19 August 2015

## HIGHLIGHTS

### Yemen:

- On 14 August, the Task Force on Population Movements (TFPM), a technical working group of the Protection Cluster and co-led by IOM and UNHCR, released the 4th report on population movement figures in Yemen. The new internally displaced persons (IDPs) figure now stands at 1,439,118 individuals.
- On 17 August, due to the increasing threat of clashes in the area, UNHCR's partner the Yemen Red Crescent suspended reception and monitoring activities in Bab-el-Mandeb.

### Somalia:

- On 15 August, the UNHCR Somalia Representative and the Puntland Minister of Interior inaugurated the second Reception Center in Bossaso, rehabilitated by UNHCR through DRC. With this development, the reception capacity in Bossaso was increased from 500 to 1,100 people. The Centre is now fully equipped to receive people.

## Departures from Yemen

- Djibouti:** According to the latest statistics from IOM and the Djibouti government, 23,360 persons of mixed nationalities have arrived in Djibouti as of 18 August (since 26 March): some 10,673 persons (46 per cent) Yemeni nationals, 10,847 (46 per cent) transiting Third Country Nationals and 1,840 (8 per cent) Djiboutian returnees. As of 18 August, UNHCR and ONARS (the government refugee agency) registered 2,578 refugees, thereof 2,437 Yemeni nationals (since 31 March). According to the provisional statistics, 1,812 refugees, thereof 1,763 Yemeni nationals, are registered in Obock and are mainly hosted at the Markazi camp. Three boats arrived at Obock port with 309 passengers aboard 12-18 August: of these, 266 are Yemenis and 41 are Third Country Nationals (TCN). Fifteen individuals sought asylum.
- Somalia:** On 13 August, some 94 individuals arrived in Bossaso and Berbera from Yemen: 82 were registered. In the reporting period, 48 Yemeni individuals were registered in Bossaso and 184 Yemeni in Hargeisa. The total number of Yemeni nationals registered in Bossaso is 1,428/526 households while in Hargeisa is 1,116 Yemeni refugees/574 cases, for a total of 2,544. Since the beginning of the conflict 28,703 individuals arrived in Somalia from Yemen.

## New Arrivals to Yemen

In July, a 90 per cent increase in the number of new arrivals along the Red Sea and Arabian Sea coast of Yemen was recorded with close to 4,000 new arrivals in the month. Statistics indicate that as of the end of July, 14,501 registered new arrivals reached the coast of Yemen since the start of the conflict in March; 41,319 since 1 January. The Yemen Red Crescent (YRC) informed UNHCR that Houthis brought 40 migrants to the transit centre and asked YRC not to let them walk from Bab-el-Mandeb to Al Hudaydah from where they try to enter Saudi Arabia as the route may be mined.

On 17 August, due to the increasing threat of clashes in the area, YRC has suspended reception and monitoring activities in Bab-el-Mandeb along the Red Sea. Nevertheless, on 17 and 18 May'fa Reception Centre in Shabwah governorate received 911 new arrivals that had crossed the Gulf of Aden on 9 boats from Somalia despite the ongoing insecurity in Yemen. This seems to indicate that figures may swell again as news of relative stability in the south spreads.

## UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

---

### Operational Context

In Sana'a, renewed airstrikes were reported at a level of intensity not seen for a month. The situation in Aden is still being normalised. Four ministers from the Hadi government reportedly returned to Aden (Tourism, Justice, Water, and Communications) to establish an administrative presence on the ground in Yemen.

On 14 August, the UN Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide Adama Dieng and UN Special Adviser on the Responsibility to Protect Jennifer Welsh issued a statement deploring continued violations of International Humanitarian Law and urging all parties to fulfil their responsibility to protect civilians in Yemen.

On 16 August, an explosion was reported in the May 22 Hospital in Mansoura district in Aden, setting off a fire. Doctors evacuated patients to a nearby mosque or lay them on the ground in the public square. At the request of officials UNHCR provided support and immediately released 75 mattresses and blankets to the hospital. On 17 August, Coalition forces conducted a number of air strikes on targets in the port city of Al Hudaydah. There have been reports of fires and damage to cranes and warehouses at this main import hub for critical aid supplies into the country. The Port authorities reportedly closed the facility for at least 48 hours. Reports have indicated that there have been some 20 civilian casualties and 80 wounded. Some UN international staff members on mission in Al Hudaydah have been called back to Sana'a.

On 18 August, OCHA published the Yemen Humanitarian Response March to July 2015 report, which provides a breakdown of needs and beneficiaries during the first four months of the conflict. From March to July, 6.9 million people were reached with assistance in all 22 governorates in Yemen. The report underlines the neutrality and impartiality of humanitarian deliveries: 69.5% of beneficiaries of humanitarian assistance reside in north and central Yemen where 66% of the total of the population in need is based. Another 25% of beneficiaries reached so far live in the south, which corresponds to the location of 27% of all people in need. UNHCR Representative, Johannes Van Der Klaauw, in his role as Humanitarian Coordinator, noted that vast amounts of civilian infrastructure has been damaged or destroyed, with more than 1.4 million people displaced since 26 March. "Their lives and livelihoods, and that of conflict affected communities tragically disrupted." At least 27,392 people have been injured or killed, and numbers continue to rise as the conflict rages, and humanitarian needs continue to grow.

On 19 August, the Emergency Relief Coordinator briefed the UN Security Council on the humanitarian situation in Yemen that he had witnessed following his visit last week. The Humanitarian Coordinator also issued a statement expressing his concerns about the "deepening impact that the continued conflict in Yemen has on civilian populations. To date close to 4,500 people have been killed and a further 23,000 have been wounded, many of them civilians." As the fighting is on-going across Yemen, the humanitarian crisis continues to worsen.

Due to the level of conflict in Aden from May to July, some of UNHCR's partners had reduced their staffing levels in Kharaz refugee camp and the Basateen neighbourhood in Aden and had focused assistance on priority needs and lifesaving activities. The partners are now beginning to fully resume normal activities in child protection, counseling, health and other forms of assistance. Partners whose offices were damaged at the height of the conflict in Aden at the end of May, are identifying alternative locations. The InterSos Drop-in Centre and the Centre for persons with specific needs in Basateen suffered minor damages; InterSos aims to resume regular activities by the end of the month. The Community Centre for Child Protection in Basateen, however, was heavily damaged and InterSos is identifying a new building to host child protection activities.

### Protection

---

#### Achievements and Impact

##### Yemen:

- On 15 August, the Task Force on Population Movement (TFPM) under the Protection Cluster released the 4th report on population movement figures in Yemen. The report shows an increase in the number of IDPs to 1,439,118 individuals, which represents a rise by 152,028 persons from the 3rd report issued in July 2015. Hajjah and Al Dhale'e continue to host the largest number of IDPs with each having more than 200,000 individuals. Aden, Al Dhale'e and Sa'ada governorates are producing the largest displacement. For the 4th report, data was obtained from 29 partners covering 250 districts in 21 governorates. The primary objective of the TFPM is to inform humanitarian response through the coordination of displacement tracking and monitoring, data collection exercises and to disseminate qualitative data on numbers, locations and priority needs of internally displaced persons and other conflict-affected communities in Yemen.
- On 17 August, UNHCR in collaboration with the Humanitarian Forum Yemen (HFY) published the findings from Multi Cluster/Sector Initial Rapid Assessments (MIRAs) conducted in July. This was the first assessment conducted in Ibb governorate and covered Al-Saddah, Al-Sabel, Al- Dhihar and Dhi Al-Sufal districts. Sites included locations where IDPs are living in tents and schools. Data was collected through interviews with 211 randomly selected key informants (70 per cent male and 30 per cent female) including farmers, labourers and teachers from the IDP and host communities. The top three needs that were identified

in each of the districts were food, health and utilities such as water and electricity in addition to fuel. The need for safety also featured as a priority with respondents indicating a high level of anxiety and fear for personal security as a result of the conflict.

#### **Saudi Arabia:**

- As many as 462,333 Yemeni nationals who were living in the Kingdom irregularly regularized their residency status. According to the Directorate General of Passports, the regularization process, which lasted for 100 days, was carried out in 49 centres in the Kingdom: more than 120,000 Yemenis regularized their residence status in Makkah Province, 55,000 in Asir, 21,000 in the Eastern Province and 8,500 in Tabuk.

#### **Somalia:**

- During the reporting period, 472 Somali returnees from Yemen arrived in South Central regions from Berbera and Bossaso: 324 individuals (54 households) in Mogadishu, 89 individual (20 households) in Baidoa, 41 individuals (9 households) in Luuq, and 18 individuals (3 households) in Kismayo. Out of them, 23 individuals were registered/verified and provided return and reinstallation assistance by UNHCR, local authorities and partners at UNHCR Way Station in Luuq, including Core Relief Items (CRI), reinstallation cash grant of 100 USD per person, and food ratio for three months provided by WFP.

#### **Djibouti:**

- Best Interest Assessments were completed for eight unaccompanied minors/separated children (UAM/SC). To date, there are 12 UAMs and seven separated children identified in Markazi camp.

### **Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**

#### **Yemen:**

- Some IDPs in Hadramaut governorate returned to Aden and the numbers are increasing daily although roads are not fully secure. The situation in Aden is not yet stable and the infrastructure (electricity, water, hospitals and health centres) has not been rehabilitated in all areas. IDPs from Abyan, Lahj and Shabwah are not returning yet; new IDPs are still arriving from these governorates in Hadramaut, because of the ongoing conflict. There are a few thousand individuals from these governorates in Hadramaut.

#### **Somalia:**

- In a meeting between UNHCR Somalia Representative and the Yemeni Refugee Committee in Bossaso, the refugees raised their challenges such as lack of job opportunities, basic services and security in Somalia, and mentioned harassment from local community. Host communities are already in dire situations hence not able to host Yemeni refugees and returnees for an extended period of time. Numerous requests were received from the authorities both in Somaliland and Puntland to establish a camp for Yemeni refugees where sustained multi-sector support can be provided by the international community. The out-of-camp policy was explained, where assistance has to be provided based on needs and not on identity. This approach was communicated by UNHCR to the authorities and supported by the DSRSG/HC/RC.

## Education

### **Achievements and Impact**

#### **Yemen:**

- The Ministry of Education conducts remedial classes for students in some of the safer districts throughout the country for grades 9 and 12 in preparation for final exams that will commence on 30 and 29 August respectively, and run for two weeks. Exams are postponed in areas affected by the conflict. The Deputy Minister of Education met with education officials from some governorates in preparation for the resumption of classes in safe areas. The Ministry of Education (MoE) is taking steps to ensure IDPs can take the exams: IDPs should register in a school close to them in their area of displacement and join the remedial classes. The Ministry launched a website for students to register.

#### **Djibouti:**

- Registration for catch-up classes started in Obock through UNHCR partners LWF and Al Rahma. Furthermore, eight teachers were recruited for the Education in Emergencies (EiE) programme in Obock covering nine years of primary schooling.

## Health

### **Achievements and Impact**

#### **Yemen:**

- From 8 to 11 August, UNHCR's partner Charitable Society for Social Welfare (CSSW) conducted mobile clinic activities in the Basateen neighbourhood in Aden, and provided consultations to 186 urban refugees (100 paediatric cases, 64 medical cases, and 22 gynaecological/obstetric cases). CSSW also resumed vaccination activities (tetanus for 5 pregnant women, measles for 13 persons, polio for 4 persons, as well as pentavalent and pneumococcal for 9 persons). Since the beginning of the crisis in late March, there has been an increase in reported cases of malaria and dengue fever in Aden. To address the risk of contagion,

CSSW distributed 293 Long Lasting Insecticidal Nets (LLINs) to different districts in Aden to assist 673 of the most vulnerable refugees who have been displaced from Basateen and are living in the open or in incomplete or damaged buildings.

#### **Somalia:**

- Save the Children International (SCI) assisted 19 individuals with emergency medical services in Bossaso Reception Center; five of these individuals are currently recuperating at Bossaso General Hospital and Daryeel Hospital. On 13 August, SCI also supported 19 Yemeni refugees in Gardo with emergency medical assistance (three children and 16 adults). Four of whom were referred to Gardo General Hospital to receive specialized medical services.



## Food Security and Nutrition

---

### **Achievements and Impact**

#### **Yemen:**

- On 13 August, UNHCR began food distribution in Kharaz refugee camp (oil, sugar, rice, and pulses) from the 2-month food ration that WFP had delivered to Kharaz camp. However, wheat flour, which is part of the standard ration, did not arrive.

#### **Somalia:**

- During the reporting period, WFP provided cooked meals to all 44 new arrivals registered at the Bossaso Reception Centre. The same individuals also received an e-transfer card following biometric registration in order to enable them to purchase food items from WFP's contracted retailers to complement the cooked meals.
- The Yemeni refugees residing in Gardo received WFP food assistance through the e-transfer card. A total of 338 refugees were registered in WFP system and received food assistance during the reporting period, consisting of 21 USD per family member per month.

#### **Saudi Arabia:**

- A Saudi relief plane carrying 8 tons of infant formula, supervised by King Salman Center for Relief and Humanitarian Aid, arrived on August 18 at Aden International Airport.



## Water and Sanitation

---

### **Achievements and Impact**

#### **Somalia:**

- Save the Children International (SCI) provided water trucking at the 1<sup>st</sup> Reception Centre in Bossaso (Puntland) and the Somali Red Crescent Society (SRCS) deployed five volunteers to work at the same Reception Centre to improve hygiene and sanitation.



## Shelter and NFIs

---

### **Achievements and Impact**

#### **Yemen:**

- On 10 and 11 August, UNHCR's partner Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) conducted a distribution of NFIs to 641 IDP families in Sana'a, and on 11 August UNHCR's IP Yemen Red Crescent (YRC) distributed NFIs to 208 IDP families in Amran. The partners had assessed the needs using the Shelter/CCCM/NFI simplified needs assessment form that was circulated to cluster members. The NFI package included blankets, sleeping mats, mattresses, plastic buckets, and kitchen sets.
- On 15 August, UNHCR, through its partner YRC, provided, distributed and erected 68 tents for IDP families from the Muhammasheen group in Khamir district, Amran governorate. With support and advocacy from UNHCR, those IDP families were moved from low-level lands prone to flooding to safer, upper location in the same area.

#### **Saudi Arabia:**

- The World Assembly of Muslim Youth (WAMY) provided shelters to accommodate 250 IDP families in Yemen, in addition to providing one shelter in Jizan in Saudi Arabia to accommodate Yemeni families who have fled from Yemen.

#### **Djibouti:**

- UNHCR Obock elected a team of refugees who would be responsible for managing the camp environment, making sure it is clean and free of waste.
- The office started consultation and sensitization campaigns with refugees regarding the new shelters donated by the Qatari Red Crescent (Refugee Housing Units). These activities will continue on a regular basis in Markazi camp.

### **Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**

#### **Yemen:**

- On 18 and 19 August, the Protection, Shelter/CCCM/NFI, and Education clusters met with the Ministry of Education, Executive Unit for IDPs, and the Mayor's Office for Sana'a to discuss possible solutions in Sana'a that could later be applied in other areas in the country regarding IDPs residing in schools. The Ministry of Education proposed providing rental subsidies, moving the IDPs to vacant buildings owned or rented by local NGOs or providing IDPs with prefabricated shelters. The Clusters recommended establishing an inventory of public buildings that could be used for shelters; preparing a list of unfinished buildings that could be used as shelters; and developing a mechanism to identify families in the host communities that could accommodate IDPs. Negotiations are ongoing.

#### **Somalia:**

- Berbera is regularly facing serious environment challenges from drought to floods and the Government has no capacity to address these problems. In order to support the local authority of Berbera, UNHCR is reviewing the possibility to upgrade Berbera IDP settlements, in collaboration with the Somaliland Ministry of Resettlement, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction (MRRR).



## **Logistics**

### **Achievements and Impact**

#### **Yemen:**

- On 16 August, a shipment from Djibouti of medical supplies and solar panel equipment arrived on a WFP vessel to the port in Al Hudaydah. Due to airstrikes on 18 August, however, the ship was forced to move from berth before off-loading and UNHCR is in discussion with WFP regarding a rerouting.

#### **Somalia:**

- Following a vulnerability assessment, SCI and IOM, with UNHCR's funds, supported 409 Somali returnees (151 households) from Yemen with onward transportation to return to their area of origin from Bossaso Reception Center. IOM, with UNHCR's funds, provided onward transportation assistance to 13 Somali returnees (7 households) from Berbera Reception Center. From Bossaso, the majority (87 per cent) traveled to regions in South Central Somalia, including Mogadishu. Since the beginning of the Yemen crisis, 8,811 Somali returnees were provided with onward transportation assistance.

## **Working in partnership**

#### **Yemen:**

- From 16 to 18 August, the WFP Executive Director Ertharin Cousin visited Yemen, where she met with displaced families taking refuge in school buildings, mothers and their young malnourished children at health centres and hospitals, as well as families at food distribution sites. Before leaving, she flew to Aden to meet with the authorities and inspect the conditions of the port to receive humanitarian shipments. Following her mission she warned that lack of immediate and unhindered access to people who urgently need food assistance and the shortage of funding create the possibility of famine for millions, mostly women and children already hungry in this war-torn country.

#### **Somalia:**

- A meeting between UNHCR, WFP and DRC took place to discuss the WFP SCOPE registration technicalities and wet feeding programme at Berbera Reception Center. It has been agreed that the SCOPE registration will take place in the room assigned for UNHCR/MRRR registration. A WFP e-card will be provided to every household upon registration, and vulnerable families identified will receive 3-month food support whether through e-transfer or direct food supply at the area of destination.

#### **Djibouti:**

- On 16 August, the Humanitarian Coordinator and UNHCR Representative in Yemen, Mr Johannes van der Klaauw, visited Markazi camp to get an overview of the current situation of the Yemeni refugees in Obock. He also visited the IOM Migrant Response Centre and talked to returning migrants who had just arrived from Yemen.
- Djibouti hosted a joint IOM/UNHCR Regional workshop on 18-19 August in preparation of the Regional Response Plan which will be developed by the office of the Regional Refugee Coordinator for the Yemen situation to address the protection needs and assistance in receiving countries and will cover the period from October 2015 to March 2016. The workshop brought together government counterparts, UNHCR, UNICEF, WHO, WFP and IOM representatives from Yemen, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Somalia, Sudan and Saudi Arabia. UNHCR and IOM headquarters staff participated in the workshop in addition to partners, donors and representatives of embassies in Djibouti. Outcomes will be shared soon.

# FINANCIAL INFORMATION

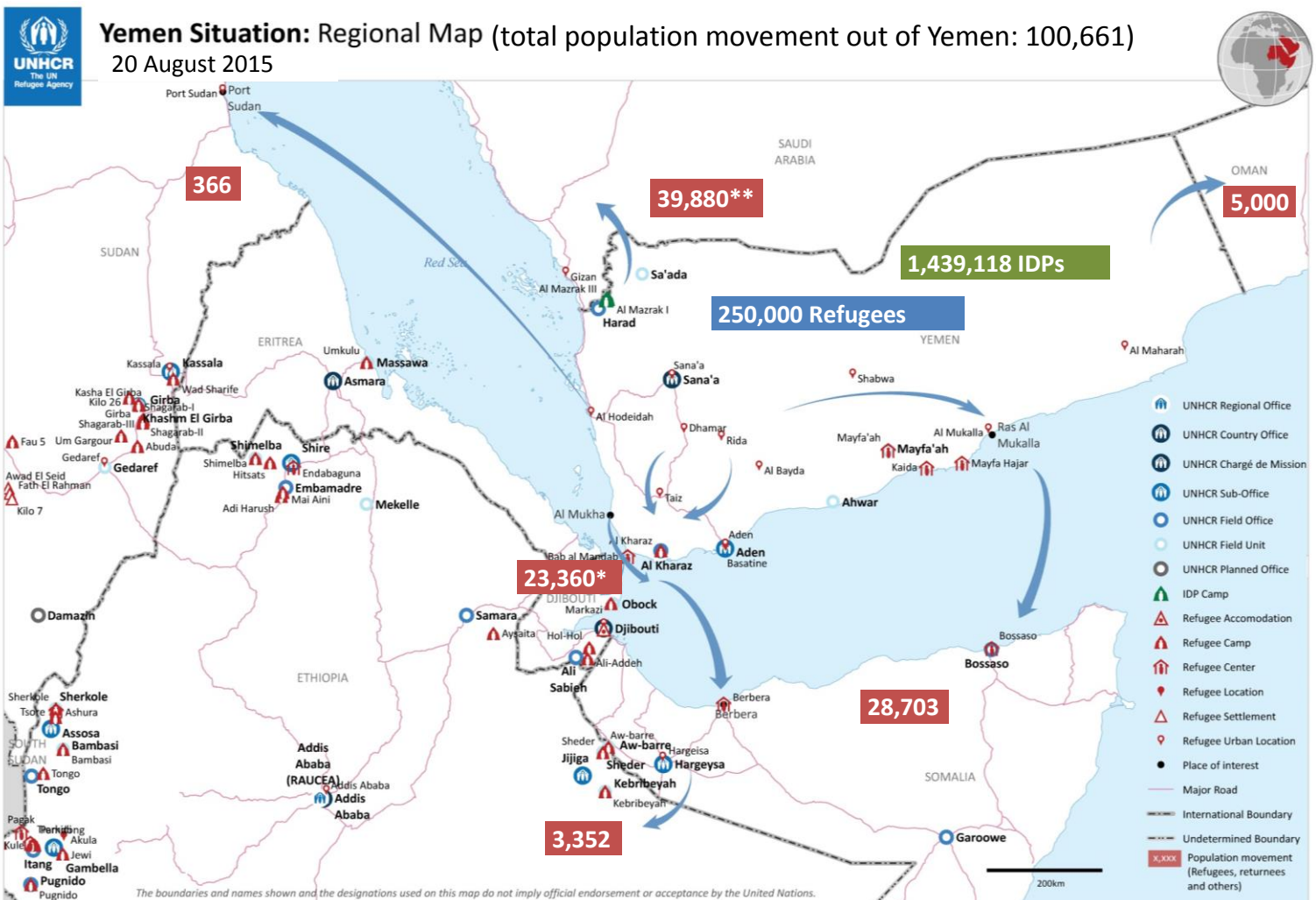
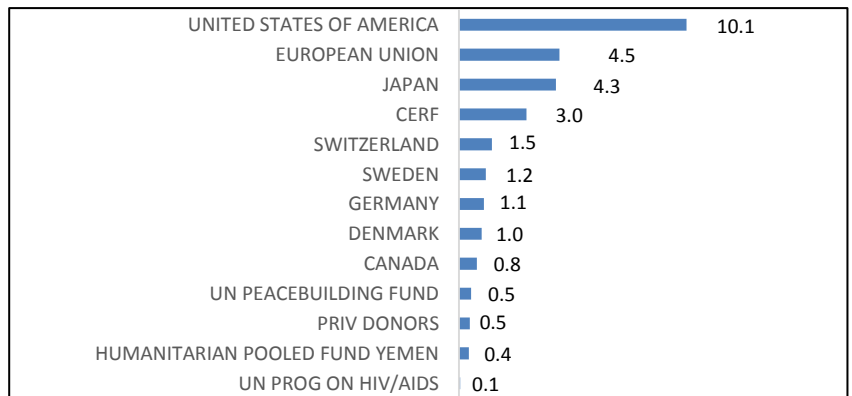
Total recorded contributions for the operation

amount to some **US\$ 28.9 million.**

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to this operation as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with un-earmarked and broadly earmarked funds.

Major donors of unrestricted and regional contributions in 2015: United States of America (133 M) | Sweden (80 M) | United Kingdom (53 M) | Netherlands (45 M) | Norway (44 M) | Denmark (28 M) | Australia (24 M) | Private Donors Spain (22 M) | Japan (18 M) | Switzerland (16 M) | France (14 M) | Canada (11 M) | Germany (11 M).

## Funding in USD Million



\* DJIBOUTI: As at 18 August UNHCR has registered 2,578 refugees of whom 2,437 are Yemeni nationals

\*\* Saudi Arabia: Figures provided by the Government, pending verification by UNHCR

### Contacts:

Astrid Callegaro, Reporting Officer, Middle East and North Africa Bureau, [callegar@unhcr.org](mailto:callegar@unhcr.org), +41 (0)22 739 8781

Géraldine Boezio, Reporting Officer, Africa Bureau, [boezio@unhcr.org](mailto:boezio@unhcr.org), +41 (0)22 739 8003