

# YEMEN



## Operational highlights

- Somali refugees and asylum-seekers were provided with individual recognition letters or identity cards.
- An agreement between UNHCR and the Ministry of Technical Education and Vocational Training led to refugees being allowed to attend educational courses in Sana'a and Aden governorates.
- Better coordination between UNHCR and the Ministry of Health resulted in the inclusion of refugees in the national health system.

- More than 400 refugees were resettled in third countries, while a similar number repatriated voluntarily.
- UNHCR's advocacy persuaded Yemen to devise a national strategy on internal displacement.
- Some 1,600 families were surveyed through a project to profile internally displaced persons (IDPs) and obtain information on their return intentions.
- UNHCR's efforts to boost the capacity of relevant Yemeni officials saw the percentage of IDPs registered rising from 26 per cent at the beginning of 2010 to 90 per cent by the end of the year.

## Persons of concern

Type of Population	Origin	Total	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Per cent female	Per cent under 18
<b>Refugees</b>	Somalia	179,800	98,900	36	26
	Iraq	4,300	4,300	45	39
	Ethiopia	4,200	4,200	44	31
	Eritrea	900	900	58	20
	Occupied Palestinian Territory	600	600	51	37
	Various	210	210	58	40
<b>Asylum-seekers</b>	Ethiopia	1,800	1,800	42	20
	Eritrea	430	430	49	27
	Occupied Palestinian Territory	260	260	53	50
	Various	100	100	54	28
<b>IDPs</b>	Yemen	221,000	174,700	50	57
<b>Returnees (IDPs)</b>	Yemen	94,700	74,900	50	57
<b>Total</b>		<b>508,300</b>	<b>361,300</b>		

- UNHCR conducted training sessions and workshops to build the capacity of the newly established General Department of Refugee Affairs.
- A UNHCR-run workshop for government officials and concerned organizations raised awareness of issues pertaining to rescue at sea.

## | Working environment |

The situation in northern Yemen remained fragile despite the signing of a ceasefire in February 2010 between the Government and *Al-Houti* rebels. At the end of the year some 300,000 people remained displaced in the region.

The Humanitarian Declaration prepared in late 2010 to allow access to the Sa'ada Governorate for humanitarian workers and relief supplies was not put into effect.

With the unsettled situation in the Horn of Africa persisting in 2010, more than 53,000 new arrivals (a similar number to 2009) landed on Yemen's shores. A third of them were Somalis who received *prima facie* refugee status.

## | Achievements and impact |

### • Main objectives and targets

#### Favourable protection environment

- UNHCR increased awareness among government officials of the benefits of adopting national refugee legislation. In this regard, more than 30 training sessions were conducted in Sana'a, Aden and Hodeida for some 300 government staff and other partners.
- The Mixed Migration Task Force (MMTF) brought together UNHCR and other partners to address issues related to migration, asylum-seekers and refugees.
- As lead of the protection cluster, UNHCR contributed to the development of the National Policy for IDPs in Yemen, which is currently awaiting Government clearance.

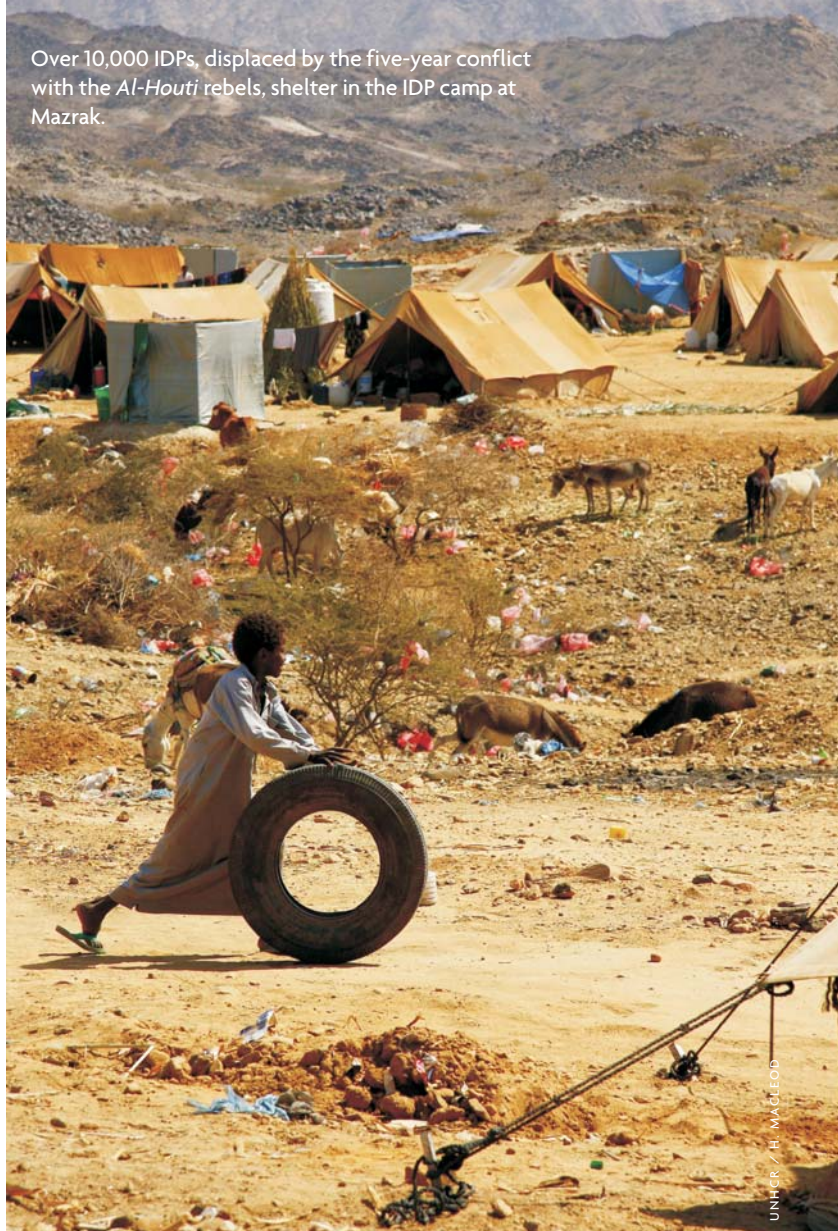
#### Fair protection processes

- Over 3,700 non-Somalis registered with UNHCR in 2010, some 50 per cent more than in 2009.
- UNHCR improved reception conditions and profiled more than 53,000 new arrivals in 2010.
- UNHCR-sponsored community centres addressed IDP needs, such as access to legal information and social and psychosocial support.

#### Security from violence and exploitation

- UNHCR worked to obtain regular access to detention centres to assess the situation of detained refugees and asylum-seekers. UNHCR was generally granted access, and its requests for detainees to be transferred to better facilities or released usually received a positive response.
- All reported cases of sexual and gender-based violence received attention. Refugees, asylum-seekers, UNHCR

Over 10,000 IDPs, displaced by the five-year conflict with the *Al-Houti* rebels, shelter in the IDP camp at Mazrak.



staff and partners participated in trainings on how to address the problem, and safe houses were established as temporary havens for victims. In the context of the IDP operation, some 700 awareness sessions were conducted for approximately 12,000 participants. Procedures for responding to victims of sexual and gender-based violence were drafted and put into practice.

#### Basic needs and services

- Some 500 vulnerable refugee families received food coupons and more than 2,000 families received shelter support. Approximately 4,000 refugees benefited from a supplementary feeding programme, while 14,100 camp-based refugees received life-saving care and social assistance. In Kharaz Camp, where 80 per cent of refugee children are enrolled in primary school, it was necessary to build four additional classrooms.
- UNHCR provided non-food items (NFIs) to 22,500 families in Sana'a, Hajjah, and Amran and Sa'ada governorates. In addition, more than 71,000 individuals were assisted with blankets for the winter.
- The nutritional target of 2,100 kilocalories per person per day was met in all feeding programmes. An average of

three meals per person per day was ensured for all new arrivals.

- UNHCR procured 2,300 agro-nets for the shading of shelters in Hajjah to protect 16,000 vulnerable IDPs from the harsh weather conditions. A rental assistance project linked with self-reliance initiatives was also developed.

### Community participation and self-management

- In Sana'a, UNHCR rented a community centre for refugees and conducted leadership training and community mobilization.
- Ten community day-care centres were established, and self-reliance projects targeted some 500 refugees, training them in vocational skills and assisting with job placement.
- UNHCR manages one refugee and three IDP camps. Particular attention was given to IDP representation in and outside camp settings by establishing gender-balanced leadership and sectoral committees in camps. Outside camps, each ethnic group was represented.

### Durable solutions

- UNHCR submitted over 1,100 cases for resettlement and 405 refugees were resettled in third countries. Another 400 refugees repatriated voluntarily.

### | Constraints |

Access was a major impediment to implementing activities in Sa'ada and Malaheet districts, which are under *Al-Houti* control. The Government often denied the security clearance necessary to enter these areas.

Conducting activities in *Al-Houti*-controlled areas also proved difficult because *Al-Houtis* regularly tried to set their own criteria for the implementation of activities, in particular for the distribution of supplies. Consequently many interventions were delayed until there was an understanding that humanitarian activities had to be implemented with impartiality and neutrality.

Access to Khaiwan camp in Amran Governorate was virtually impossible throughout the year, with tribal issues often impeding activities. UNHCR developed some quick-impact projects in the area to build trust between IDPs and the host community.

The main constraint for the refugees was the delay in the drafting of asylum legislation and the establishment of the administrative framework for the Bureau of Refugees.

Health constraints included the high cost of the referral system and chronic-disease management, coupled with limited awareness of health issues among refugees.

UNHCR does not yet have full access to the detention centres.

### | Financial information |

UNHCR's final budget for the Yemen operation sought some USD 52 million, but only USD 36 million of funding was available. The gap meant that only 5,000 of the planned 10,200 families benefited from returnee packages and only three of the four planned IDP camps could be established. In

addition, only four of the 20 planned quick-impact projects designed to improve relations between IDPs and host communities could be implemented.

### | Organization and implementation |

Of the eight UNHCR offices, there are three located in the north, covering the IDP situation. In the south, there are four offices dealing with refugee issues. These offices are supported by the Country Office in Sana'a.

### | UNHCR's presence in 2010 |

□ Number of offices	<b>8</b>
□ Total staff	<b>150</b>
International	<b>26</b>
National	<b>91</b>
JPOs	<b>0</b>
UNVs	<b>26</b>
Others	<b>7</b>

### | Working with others |

Joint plans of action were signed and updated with WFP, UNICEF and UNFPA. Furthermore, UNHCR played an active role as a member of the UN Country Team, UN Core Group (UNCG), and UNDAF working group, and participated in the 2012 – 2015 development planning process. Partnerships with 16 partners were extended in order to implement the refugee and IDP programme throughout the country. UNHCR led the protection, camp management and emergency shelter clusters.

### | Overall assessment |

The signing by the President of a decree establishing the Department of Refugees reinforced the coordination between UNHCR and the Government. Progress was also made in developing administrative and legislative frameworks related to asylum.

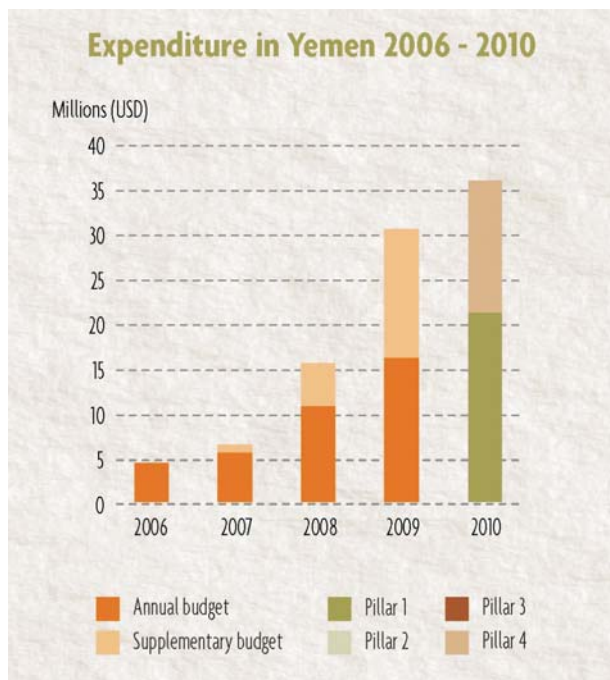
UNHCR and the Government established a joint forum that addresses Best Interest Determination (BID) procedures for unaccompanied and separated children and other child-protection issues.

Although the alarming rates of anaemia in the refugee camps came down during the year, they were still unacceptably high.

Infrastructure and services were improved at the four reception centres, allowing better monitoring and management of new arrivals.

The Government showed its readiness to shoulder some responsibilities with regard to refugees by opening more health and education services for them. However, non-Somalis continue to have difficulty in accessing protection. UNHCR improved its RSD procedures in response to the increase in requests for asylum and monitored detention centres to identify asylum-seekers.

With the support of UNHCR, the Executive Unit—the governmental body dealing with displaced people—had registered most of the IDPs in the country by the end of the year. The findings of a survey of 1,600 IDPs helped in the redesign of a strategy for this caseload.



### Partners

<b>Implementing partners</b>
<b>NGOs:</b> Adventist Development and Relief Agency, Al-Amal Charitable Social Welfare, Care Australia, Charitable Society for Social Welfare, Danish Refugee Council, Interaction Development Foundation, International Relief and Development, INTERSOS, Islamic Relief Yemen, Save the Children, Society for Humanitarian Solidarity, Solidarity Association for Women, Yemen Red Crescent
<b>Others:</b> IOM
<b>Operational partners</b>
<b>Government:</b> National Committee for Refugee Affairs, Executive Unit
<b>Others:</b> UNICEF, UNFPA, WFP, WHO

### Budget, income and expenditure in Yemen | USD

	PILLAR 1 Refugee programme	PILLAR 4 IDP projects	Total
<b>FINAL BUDGET</b>	<b>32,561,771</b>	<b>19,983,105</b>	<b>52,544,876</b>
Income from contributions <sup>1</sup>	17,575,644	13,289,440	30,865,084
Other funds available	3,619,185	1,493,805	5,112,990
<b>TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE</b>	<b>21,194,829</b>	<b>14,783,245</b>	<b>35,978,074</b>

### EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN

#### Favourable protection environment

	PILLAR 1	PILLAR 4	Total
National legal framework	431,056	0	431,056
National administrative framework	18	0	18
Policies towards forced displacement	0	140,031	140,031
Co-operation with partners	0	727,537	727,537
Public attitudes towards persons of concern	416,131	125,148	541,279
Non-refoulement	202,095	0	202,095
Environmental protection	0	50	50
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>1,049,301</b>	<b>992,766</b>	<b>2,042,066</b>

#### Fair protection processes and documentation

	PILLAR 1	PILLAR 4	Total
Reception conditions	424,068	0	424,068
Registration and profiling	1,804,371	693,695	2,498,067
Fair and efficient status determination	975,422	330	975,752
Civil status documentation	0	164,348	164,348
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>3,203,861</b>	<b>858,374</b>	<b>4,062,235</b>

	PILLAR 1 Refugee programme	PILLAR 4 IDP projects	Total
<i>Security from violence and exploitation</i>			
Impact on host communities	122,240	113,273	235,513
Law enforcement	134,169	83,273	217,442
Community security management system	114,251	0	114,251
Gender-based violence	411,870	165,602	577,471
Protection of children	273,089	0	273,089
Freedom of movement	156,792	0	156,792
Access to legal remedies	0	83,273	83,273
Political participation	4,302	0	4,302
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>1,216,713</b>	<b>445,421</b>	<b>1,662,134</b>
<i>Basic needs and essential services</i>			
Food security	153,754	0	153,754
Nutrition	260,020	0	260,020
Water	130,141	0	130,141
Shelter and other infrastructure	486,051	990,144	1,476,195
Basic domestic and hygiene items	1,488,755	5,290,843	6,779,598
Primary health care	1,732,375	0	1,732,375
HIV and AIDS	171,083	0	171,083
Education	1,323,235	0	1,323,235
Sanitation services	215,602	0	215,602
Services for groups with specific needs	329,108	288,154	617,261
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>6,290,123</b>	<b>6,569,141</b>	<b>12,859,264</b>
<i>Community participation and self-management</i>			
Participatory assessment and community mobilisation	202,688	270,731	473,419
Community self-management and equal representation	551,356	0	551,356
Camp management and coordination	477,294	821,494	1,298,789
Self-reliance and livelihoods	624,923	306,050	930,973
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>1,856,261</b>	<b>1,398,276</b>	<b>3,254,537</b>
<i>Durable solutions</i>			
Durable solutions strategy	341,208	0	341,208
Voluntary return	206,397	40	206,437
Resettlement	241,045	0	241,045
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>788,650</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>788,690</b>
<i>External relations</i>			
Partnership	294,346	0	294,346
Public information	411,867	337,930	749,797
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>706,213</b>	<b>337,930</b>	<b>1,044,143</b>
<i>Logistics and operations support</i>			
Supply chain and logistics	620,728	1,310,539	1,931,267
Programme management, coordination and support	1,068,188	814,914	1,883,102
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>1,688,916</b>	<b>2,125,453</b>	<b>3,814,369</b>
Instalments to implementing partners	4,394,791	2,055,692	6,450,483
Other objectives	0	154	153
<b>Total</b>	<b>21,194,829</b>	<b>14,783,245</b>	<b>35,978,074</b>

<sup>1</sup> Income from contributions includes indirect support costs that are recovered from contributions to Pillars 3 and 4, supplementary budgets and the "New or additional activities - mandate-related" (NAM) reserve. Contributions towards all pillars are included under Pillar 1.