

YEMEN SITUATION

UNHCR REGIONAL UPDATE #40

June 2016

KEY FIGURES

2,499,873

People affected by the conflict (in Yemen and adjacent countries), including refugees and internally displaced persons prior to and as a result of the current conflict.

2,053,093

Internally displaced persons prior to and as a result of the current conflict.

178,294

Arrivals to Djibouti, Ethiopia, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, and Sudan mainly by sea or overland since late March 2015.

268,486

Refugees in Yemen assisted with protection assistance and life sustaining interventions and items.

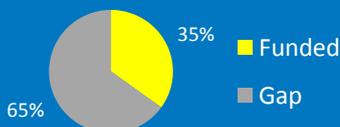
533,554

Internally displaced Yemenis reached in Yemen with emergency relief items since the onset of the crisis by UNHCR and partners.

FUNDING

USD 172.2 Million

Requested by UNHCR for the situation



UNHCR's Supplementary Appeal for the Yemen Situation Emergency Response, January – December 2016, is available [here](#)

HIGHLIGHTS

Yemen:

- On 13 June, the Humanitarian Country Team adopted its strategy on the centrality of protection, underlining that protection of affected populations is the responsibility of all humanitarian actors.

Djibouti:

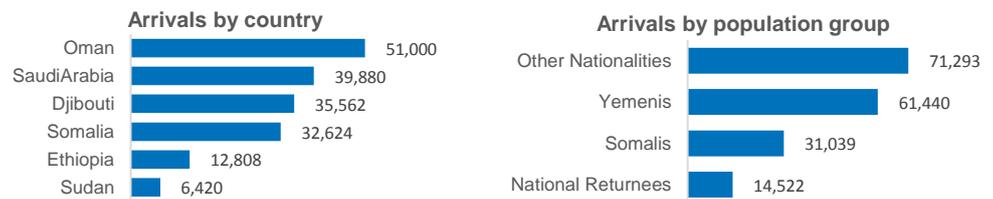
- According to Yemeni refugees in Markazi camp, refugees return to Yemen only to attend urgent family matters. In general, refugees are fully aware that conditions in Yemen are not suitable for sustainable return.

Somalia:

- Arrivals from Yemen to the port of Bossaso, Puntland decreased in June. All new arrivals were registered by UNHCR in collaboration with local authorities and partners in the Reception Centre; and received subsistence allowance for three months.

POPULATION MOVEMENTS

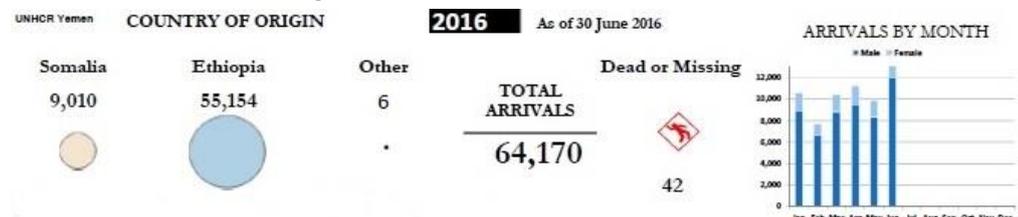
Arrivals from Yemen*



Movements of/to	Djibouti	Somalia	Ethiopia	Sudan	Saudi Arabia	Oman	Total
Yemenis	19,636	4,165	1,364	1,275	30,000	5,000	61,440
Somalis	297	28,183	2,515	44	-	-	31,039
Other nationalities	13,665	276	171	1,301	9,880	46,000	71,293
National returnees	1,964	0	8,758	3,800	-	-	14,522
Total	35,562	32,624	12,808	6,420	39,880	51,000	178,294

New Arrivals to Yemen

In June 2016, some 14,373 people arrived in Yemen (including 12,059 Ethiopians and 2,312 Somalis). This represents a 46 per cent increase in new arrivals compared to the previous month and is the highest monthly level of new arrivals ever recorded since UNHCR started the systematic recording of arrivals on Yemen's Arabian and Red Sea coasts in 2006. The 2016 mid-year total of new arrivals is 64,170 persons (86 per cent Ethiopian). Should this trend continue, 2016 may record the highest yearly total of new arrivals, surpassing 2012 when over 107,000 new arrivals reached Yemen. Three persons died or went missing at sea in June near Mayfa'a (Arabian Sea). So far in 2016, 42 individuals went missing or have died at sea in Yemeni waters.



*Statistics provided by IOM, Government and partners; Saudi Arabia and Oman: Figures provided by the Government, pending verification by UNHCR

UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational Context

The UN-led peace talks in Kuwait which started in April were suspended in June and rescheduled for mid-July. During the UN Secretary General's mission to Kuwait on 26 June, he urged renewal of negotiating efforts while condemning the serious violations of the cessation of hostilities which caused casualties among civilians. A prisoner exchange of 200 individuals took place between the warring parties in Taizz on 18 June. On 19 June, Houthi-affiliated forces announced the release of 276 prisoners who had been held captive for months in Rada (Al Bayda Governorate) and Dhamar Governorate.

In the southern governorates, the security situation is still volatile with incidents involving IEDs and assassination attempts continuing. For example, a series of IS-claimed suicide bombings against Yemeni troops in Mukalla (Hadramaut Governorate) killed at least 42 people, including a woman and child. Furthermore, Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) raided a smugglers den in Mayfa'a, Shabwah Governorate kidnaping around 150 migrants, mostly of Ethiopian origin, who were later released. AQAP also approached the UNHCR and partner run Mayfa'a Reception Centre but UNHCR's partner Society for Humanitarian Solidarity (SHS) managed to convince the militants to leave the premises by informing them about the purely humanitarian character of the centre. UNHCR is currently reviewing mitigating measures to prevent possible AQAP intrusions.

Aden and the surrounding areas experienced a fuel crisis leading to electricity shortage also affecting UNHCR's operations and provision of electricity in Kharaz camp.

Individuals continue to arrive from Yemen to Djibouti, albeit in lower numbers than in previous months. Arrivals from Yemen to the port of Bossaso, Puntland decreased in June.

Refugee Response



Protection

Yemen:

- UNHCR sent a letter to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs seeking its intervention for the release of 133 refugees and asylum-seekers comprising 72 Eritreans, 57 Somali refugees and four Ethiopians detained in Hudaydah. UNHCR also requested access to undocumented migrants who intend to seek asylum. Only 50 recognized Eritrean refugees were subsequently released. However, the Government has not responded to an earlier request made in April.
- Unfortunately UNHCR's Partner INTERSOS permission to conduct detention monitoring activities in the north and centre of Yemen was suspended by the Government in May. INTERSOS is however able to work in Aden and secured the release of 23 refugees. UNHCR is exploring all possible avenues to resolve the situation.
- On the occasion of World Refugee Day which took place during the holy month of Ramadan, UNHCR invited refugee community representatives, partners and government counterparts to a Iftar meal hosted by the Office. Refugees shared personal stories of their journey to Yemen and life as a refugee. The acting Minister of Education announced refugees will be exempt from paying school fees generally paid by foreigners.
- In Sana'a and Aden, UNHCR renewed over 200 refugee and asylum-seeker certificates, registered 30 new-born refugee children and issued about 70 new refugee and asylum-seekers certificates. In Sana'a, UNHCR conducted Best Interest Assessments for ten children and 55 home visits to ascertain living conditions and specific needs of refugee children and their families/legal custodians. In Aden, UNHCR provided counselling to 90 refugees and asylum-seekers including on resettlement and refugee status determination procedures.

Djibouti:

- UNHCR and the *Office national d'assistance aux réfugiés et sinistrés* (ONARS) registered 46 Yemeni individuals (33 families), ten Somalis (four families) and one Eritrean in Obock and Djibouti City. As at 30 June 2016, there were 3,536 refugees in Djibouti (pending forthcoming verification exercises in Obock town and Djibouti city). Markazi camp hosted approximately 1,380 refugees.
- UNHCR provided information to refugees in Obock on the risks and dangers of irregular movements, including information on security conditions in Yemen and risks of relying on irregular routes and smugglers. Refugees explained that reasons for moving are harsh living conditions in the camp and the need for further education opportunities and employment.
- International Humanitarian Law specialist from the UN Panel of Experts on Yemen, Ms. Dakshinie Ruwanthika, met with Yemeni refugees in Markazi camp and Obock to discuss humanitarian and human rights violations they may have witnessed or experienced.
- UNHCR, DRC and IOM met to discuss mixed migration to and from Djibouti and spontaneous returns of Yemeni refugees. According to Yemeni refugees in Markazi camp refugees are fully aware that the conditions in Yemen are not suitable for

sustainable return however, return movements to Yemen do take place but only for urgent family matters. Most rely on social media and links with their families in Yemen for information on the situation in the country. Yemenis felt that over time more people will move to the camp as those in the city are close to exhausting their resources. None of the Yemeni refugees expressed the intention of travelling to any of the Gulf countries or move in mixed flows towards Yemen alongside others from Ethiopia or Somalia.

Ethiopia:

- In June, 27 Yemeni refugees arrived in Ethiopia and were registered in Addis Ababa and will receive assistance. Since the escalation of the conflict in 2015, 1,371 Yemeni refugees have arrived in Ethiopia. UNHCR assists 1,514 Yemenis which includes registered refugees who fled before 2015.
- The planned relocation of 186 registered Somali refugees from Jijiga to Melkadida camps is still pending approval from the government. UNHCR continues to advocate with local authorities for the relocation of the remaining group and for the registration of the additional 1,700 Somalis who arrived since July 2015 fleeing the conflict in Yemen.

Somalia:

- The number of people arriving from Yemen to Somalia continues to remain relatively low. In June, a total of 219 individuals, including 76 Yemeni refugees, 136 Somali returnees and seven third country nationals (four Ethiopians, one Sudanese, one Tanzanian and one Kenyan) arrived on twelve boats from Yemen to Somalia.
- All new arrivals to Bossaso, Puntland, were registered by UNHCR in collaboration with local authorities and partners in the Reception Centre. New arrivals received refreshments provided by DRC, and transport from the port to the Reception Centre provided by IOM. In June, some 17 families (83 individuals) received reinstallation grants after opting to stay in Bossaso.
- UNHCR provides a subsistence allowance to all Yemeni arrivals in Bossaso for three months, following a vulnerability assessment and determination of needs.

Education

Yemen:

- UNHCR and the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) have agreed to work in coordination to implement capacity building programmes for teachers and out-of-school programmes. NRC is scaling up its education programmes for IDPs in Aden, Abyan, Lahj and Al Dhale'e, with a focus on access to education, quality of education and livelihood.

Health

Yemen:

- In Sana'a, Kharaz camp (Lahj) and Basateen (Aden), UNHCR's partners International Medical Corps (IMC) and CSSW provided medical consultations and essential medicines to some 2,600 refugees and 1,915 Yemenis from the host community, mental health and psychological support services to over 330 individuals, reproductive health services to 230 pregnant women, vaccines to 370 children, and life-saving and specialized referral services to 260 individuals. Community outreach counselling and awareness sessions were provided to some 1,145 refugees and 400 Yemenis covering issues such as HIV, family planning and safe motherhood, measles, polio, dengue fever, skin infections, personal hygiene and nutrition. At Mayfa'a Reception Centre (Shabwah governorate), over 11,100 new arrivals were vaccinated.

Djibouti:

- In June, the Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA) outpatient clinic in Markazi camp provided over 900 consultations for refugees, most of them suffering from respiratory tract infections, diarrhoea and skin infections. Three refugees were transferred to Djibouti for tertiary care. AHA also conducted a deworming campaign after symptoms were reported among many children in May and reached 352 children under 15 years.
- Some 24 refugees consulted the mental health clinic, nine women consulted the family planning unit and five women received prenatal consultations. Five babies were born in June, including one caesarean section birth at the *Centre Médical Hospitalier* (CMH) in Obock.

Somalia:

- In Puntland, 42 Yemeni refugees received primary health care, 81 received secondary or tertiary health care and 48 underwent laboratory examinations from UNHCR's partner *Gruppo per le Relazioni Transculturali*.

Sudan

- Some 11 Yemenis received medical assistance through UNHCR's partner Al Manar in June.

Yemen:

- UNHCR distributed 1,000 food baskets, consisting of 10 kilogrammes of rice, 10 kilogrammes of sugar, 25 kilograms of white wheat and 1.8 litres of cooking oil per basket, in Kharaz refugee camp (Lahj governorate) before the Eid holidays. This generous donation was received by from an individual donor through CSSW.

Djibouti:

- In Markazi camp, NGOs Saba and CSSW distributed food items to 450 families in coordination with ONARS. The agencies also distributed medicines to persons with specific needs.
- Some 14 children with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and 38 children with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) received treatment in the nutrition unit in Markazi camp. Blanket feeding continues in the camp through the collaboration of nutrition partners UNHCR, WFP, UNICEF and AHA, with 140 children under five years and 34 pregnant and lactating women benefitting from the supplementary feeding programme.
- Refugees received various food donations in June. Based on separate food donations from a private donor, Qatar Charity and the Al Rahma NGO, UNHCR and ONARS distributed rice, flour, pasta, sugar, wheat flour, canned tomatoes, beans, oil and dates to some 835 refugee families in Markazi camp, Obock town and Boucoul yard in Djibouti city. Moreover, the World Assembly of Muslim Youth (WAMY), an NGO from Saudi Arabia, distributed rations to 500 families. The Yemeni NGO CSSW also distributed food to some 200 urban refugee families. In view of those food donations distributed during the holy month of Ramadan, WFP, in collaboration with ONARS, postponed its monthly distribution.



Water and Sanitation

Djibouti:

- The refugee population in Markazi camp is guaranteed 20 litres of water per person per day through water trucking by NRC. Despite frequent water cuts, NRC collects water from the nearby village of Oulma ensuring water bladders are constantly filled. NRC is constructing a water reservoir for Markazi camp to feed the tanks throughout the camp. It is expected to be installed in July or August 2016.
- NRC distributed dumpsters across the camp for garbage collection and a cleaning campaign was conducted around three water points to maintain a hygienic environment. NRC also repaired latrines damaged by the strong winds in Markazi camp.



Shelter and NFIs

Somalia:

- Some 213 core relief item (CRI) kits were distributed to new arrivals from Yemen.

Djibouti:

- DRC distributed coolers to 33 persons with specific needs in Markazi camp.
- UNHCR Djibouti received a mission from the Regional Senior Technical Coordinator for Site Planning and Shelter to explore ways to upgrade ventilation in Refugee Housing Units (RHUs) to improve living condition of refugees in Markazi camp. Simple but creative solutions were devised and adjustments made to the RHUs to mitigate against the predicted Khamaseen winds.



Durable Solutions

- On 13 June, an Uzbek woman and her son departed Yemen for resettlement to Finland under emergency priority procedures. Five cases comprising ten individuals, including three Ethiopian cases, one Eritrean and one Malian case, were also submitted to Sweden for resettlement.
- UNHCR called for more resettlement places on a dossier basis for Yemen considering that resettlement missions cannot currently be conducted in-country due to the security situation at the Annual Tripartite Consultations on Resettlement (ATCR) in Geneva from 13 to 15 June 2016.

IDP Response in Yemen

- On 13 June, the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) adopted a strategy underlining that protection of affected populations is the responsibility of all humanitarian actors. Prepared by the UNHCR-hosted Protection Standby Capacity Project (ProCap) Advisor, it outlines the protection priorities for the HCT such as the importance of protection mainstreaming, better analysis and use of protection and human rights data, the prioritization of persons with specific needs, improvement of access to services and protection against sexual exploitation and abuse. An action plan is also included presenting implementation of protection and gender objectives in a complementary and mutually reinforcing manner.
- UNHCR and IOM are reviewing the assessment forms used by the Task Force on Population Movement for displacement tracking to ensure further standardization and an ability to conduct in-depth need assessments. A country-wide assessment is scheduled to start in July.

Shelter and NFIs

- By 30 June 2016, UNHCR had provided over 39,000 IDP households (some 245,000 Individuals) with Non-Food Items (NFIs) and over 8,800 households (62,000 Individuals) with full Emergency Shelter Kits in 16 of Yemen's 22 governorates (Abyan, Aden, Al Baydha, Al Hudaydah, Al Jawf, Al Mahwit, Amanat Al Asimah, Amran, Dhamar, Hajjah, Ibb, Lahj, Marib, Sa'ada, Sana'a and Taizz).
- UNHCR is accelerating efforts to rehabilitate collective centres for IDPs throughout the country and has agreed with SFD on a mechanism to share lists of target populations from previous rehabilitation projects in Al Mualla, Attawahi, Khur Maksar and Craiter districts in Aden governorate to avoid any duplication. SFD will repair 5,000 damaged and partially damaged houses in Al Mualla and Khur Maksar districts by August 2016.
- Between 13 and 15 June, UNHCR conducted a mission to Amran governorate where the field unit met with the Executive Unit for IDPs (government body), local authorities and partners, monitored the rehabilitation works of collective centres in Amran city and conducted post distribution monitoring (PDM) for cash assistance and CRI distributions in Amran city and Jabal Yazid district.

Working in partnership

Yemen:

- On 13 June, the Protection Cluster led by UNHCR conducted an introductory session on Protection Mainstreaming to WASH cluster partners, highlighting key principles and how partners should incorporate these elements in their programmes to mitigate any potential risks for people of concern. In the following weeks, follow-up trainings will be provided to WASH partners and similar trainings will be rolled out with other clusters.
- On 20 June, the UNHCR Representative and the Head of the Bureau of Refugee Affairs (BRA) renewed the partnership agreement for registration activities by signing a letter of understanding covering the period of July to December 2016.

Ethiopia:

- The Refugee Protection Working Group (RPWG) is the main coordination forum through which UNHCR Ethiopia shares information and discusses relevant issues with partners, including key concerns related to urban refugees such as the Yemeni population. After reviewing the programmes, services and challenges related to urban refugees, the RPWG will discuss improving refugees access to job opportunities. Through advocacy and collaboration with authorities and partners, the goal is to grant refugees the right to work and identify appropriate markets for their skills.

2016 Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan (RRMRP):

- The RRMRP planning figures anticipated 163,980 new arrivals from Yemen into the Horn of Africa by 31 December 2016. As of June, only 13 per cent of the anticipated new arrivals (88,202 new) arrived to the Horn of Africa. In June, less than 300 arrivals from Yemen were recorded in Ethiopia, Somalia and Sudan. The RRMRP population planning figures require revision to reflect the decrease in arrivals over recent months.
- UNHCR and other agencies requested USD 94,130,731 through the RRMRP for the Yemen situation (Djibouti, Ethiopia, Somalia and Sudan). As of 13 June 2016, USD 18,264,434 were received, only 19 per cent of the total requirements.

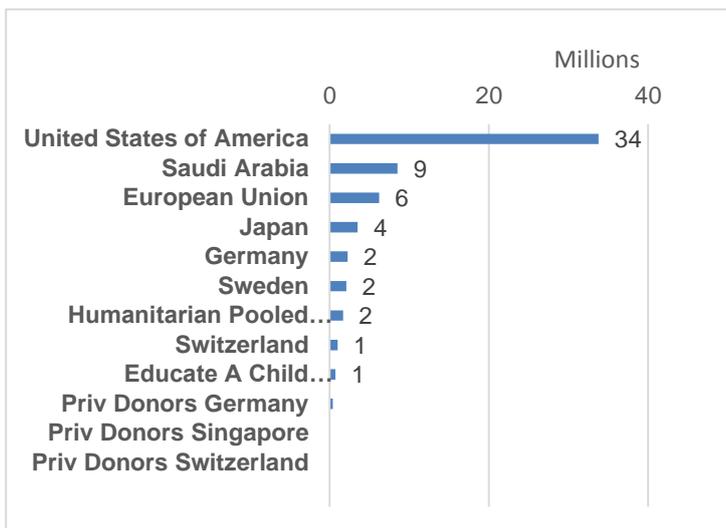
FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Total recorded contributions for the operation as end- *Funding received (in million USD)*

June 2016 amount to some **US \$60.1 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 funds in 2016: Sweden (78 M) | United States of America (78 M) | Netherlands (46 M) | Norway (40 M) | Australia (31 M) | Denmark (24 M) | Private Donors Spain (20 M) | Canada (16 M) | Switzerland (15 M) | Germany (13 M) | Italy (10 M)



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