

Refugees and Asylum-seekers in Yemen

May 2020



Ahmed (37), a Somali refugee, boards a boat in Aden seaport. "I fled Somalia when I was 14, with my parents. Now I am taking my children back home. I hope to be able to offer them a better life there." UNHCR has helped 5,330 Somali refugees to return home from Yemen since 2017. © UNHCR/ Marie-Joelle Jean-Charles.

Yemen hosts some 281,000 refugees and asylum-seekers mostly from Somalia (96 per cent) and Ethiopia (3.6 per cent). Refugees and asylum-seekers' ability to support themselves has diminished drastically over the years given the conflict and the degrading socio-economic situation in the country.

UNHCR supports refugees and asylum-seekers through registration with the relevant authorities, provision of documentation and cash, as well as a wide range of protection, health care and education services. UNHCR extends some of the services provided to refugees, such as health and education, also to IDPs and vulnerable host community members, to promote peaceful co-existence.

In 2020, UNHCR will provide

168,000 refugees and asylum-seekers with **legal and psychosocial care**

100% support to refugees with **primary health care**

14,000 new arrivals with **registration**

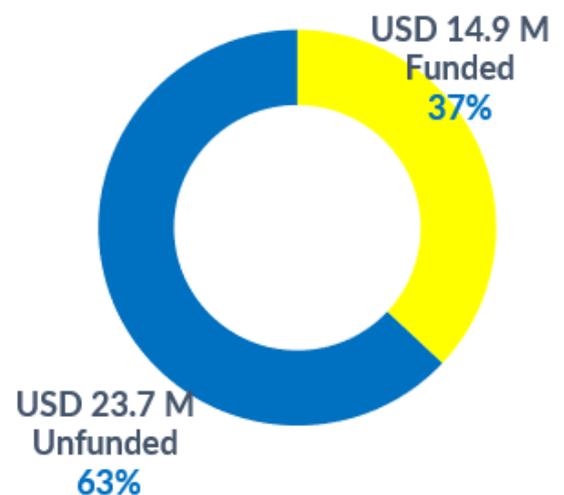
11,000 with **cash for their livelihoods**

4,400 children with **accelerated learning**

1,120 survivors of **GBV with tailored support**

1,000 persons with **disabilities with assistive devices and physiotherapy**

UNHCR's refugee programme relies on a wide network of community outreach leaders and volunteers, health workers and local authorities. They work together to identify and refer refugees and asylum-seekers in need.



HOW DO WE ASSIST?

 **Advocacy** for full realisation of refugees and asylum-seekers' rights to ensure registration with the authorities and access to public services

 **Legal assistance** in the form of registration and issuance of IDs that also facilitates representation in court and resolving domestic disputes

 **Cash assistance** for the socio-economically challenged, micro-loans for entrepreneurs and provision of vocational training including national certification

 **Durable solutions** *more below*



Protection monitoring and assessments to understand the needs and to consult refugees and asylum-seekers on ways to address them



Health services including referrals, provision of medicines and therapy/assistive devices and rehabilitation of health facilities



Age and gender sensitive services for children with or without family and for survivors of GBV



Provision of shelter, basic household items and WASH services



Distribution of food and monitoring of nutrition



Primary, secondary and tertiary education

DURABLE SOLUTIONS

Since 2017, UNHCR has been facilitating the **return of Somali refugees to their country of origin if they freely express their intentions to do so**. UNHCR provides returning families with civil documentation, medical screening and cash grants to reintegrate in Somalia. UNHCR is determined to initiate a similar programme of **Voluntary Return for Ethiopians**.

Local integration programmes aim to support refugees and asylum-seekers who have lived in Yemen for a prolonged period, especially those with business ideas or skills by supporting their entrepreneurship and vocational training.

Refugees with specific needs that cannot be addressed in Yemen are **resettled** as a measure of last resort, although quotas remain extremely low in comparison to the high needs.

WORKING WITH PARTNERS



EXTERNAL / DONORS RELATIONS

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