



KEY FIGURES

 **22.2M**
People in need

 **2M** IDPs

89% of IDPs displaced for more than a year

 **1M**
IDP returnees

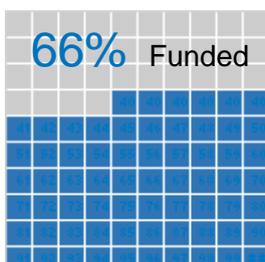
665K IDPs have been assisted in 2018, of whom

104K were reached through the al-Hudaydah response

 **280k**
refugees and asylum seekers

 **\$198.7M**
requested in 2018

\$131.5M received
as of 23 October 2018



Situation Update

On 25 October, Humanitarian Coordinator Lise Grande [spoke](#) about recent attacks killing and injuring dozens of civilians in Al-Hudaydah. She said “civilians are paying a shocking price because of this conflict.” Overland access to Al-Hudaydah is still limited to the northern entrance, as the route via Kilo 16 to the east of the city is inaccessible due to continued fighting. UNHCR’s warehouse in Al-Hudaydah remains temporarily closed due to the prevailing security situation.

On 23 October, Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC), Mark Lowcock, warned the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) of the risk of famine in Yemen. The ERC [briefed](#) the Council, focussing on the link between the war, food insecurity and the risk of starvation, in line with the framework of UNSC Resolution 2417 of May this year. He warned that there is now “a clear and present danger of an imminent and great big famine engulfing Yemen: much bigger than anything any professional in this field has seen during their working lives.” The [statement](#) concluded with a call to support action in five areas (summarised as follows): cessation of hostilities around infrastructure that facilitates humanitarian aid; cancellation of planned and existing restrictions on food imports; larger and faster injection of foreign exchange into the economy; increased humanitarian funding; and belligerents’ full engagement with the UN Special Envoy.

The ongoing economic crisis is impacting multiple sectors, including water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), while [cholera](#) cases are [surging](#). Soaring fuel costs are causing sanitation services to be suspended, including solid waste collection and desludging. The costs of water trucking and bottled water have doubled in the past month, forcing hundreds of thousands of households across the country to use alternative and unsafe water sources. As many as 1.2 million additional Yemenis are likely to require urgent WASH support if current trends continue, bringing the total number of people in need of water and sanitation to more than 12 million people.

Tropical Cyclone “Luban” brought strong winds and heavy rain to the south-eastern coast of Yemen. The cyclone caused flooding and blocked transport routes, with al-Maharah Governorate experiencing the worst effects. The Governorate’s Emergency Operations Room reported that over 3,000 families were affected, while UN assessments found that at least 2,200 families had been displaced by the storm.



UNHCR in Saada Governorate (north-west Yemen) verifying the details of households displaced from Al-Hudaydah.

Photo: UNHCR/ Jamal Al-Bena

IDP Response

Since the onset of the offensive in June, 27,684 families displaced from Al-Hudaydah have been assisted by the UNHCR-led Cluster coordinating Shelter, Core Relief Items (CRI) and Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM). The assistance in the form of CRI and Emergency Shelter Kits has been coordinated through different humanitarian hubs as follows:

Hub	Households newly displaced	Households assisted	Percentage assisted
Al-Hudaydah	28,084	17,615	63
Aden	4,266	4,111	96
Sana'a	32,679	3,374	10
Ibb/Taizz	5,863	2,584	44
Total	70,892	27,684	39

UNHCR has stepped up cash assistance efforts, distributing USD 4.5M in October, to ensure that people affected by displacement can meet their most urgent shelter and protection needs. This month, UNHCR cash-interventions in Yemen are reaching over 150,000 internally displaced people (IDPs) and returnees (more than 22,000 families) across 14 of the worst-affected governorates, both in the north and the south of the country. Some 86,000 individuals (12,000 families) will receive rental subsidies, while 66,000 individuals (9,500 families) are to receive monetary assistance, to cover urgent protection needs.

UNHCR continues to implement Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) to promote self-reliance and social cohesion. On 10 October, 20 female heads of household completed a Sewing Training Course implemented by UNHCR's partner Yemen Al-Khair for Relief and Development (YARD) in Rajuzah district in Al-Jawf Governorate. The course is one of around 80 UNHCR QIPs for displaced persons and affected host communities being implemented in 2018. QIPs are small-scale community-based projects, aimed at building social cohesion between the communities and strengthening resilience. Participants successfully completing the course were awarded certificates, sewing machines and sewing materials.

Distributions of emergency relief kits through the Rapid Response Mechanism began in Al-Maharah Governorate, responding to the emergency needs of people affected by Tropical Cyclone Luban. Rain and flood waters have abated, and although roads have been badly damaged, movement between key cities is now possible. UN assessments identified over 2,000

displaced families across the districts of Al-Masilah, Sayhut, Huswain and Qishn, some of whom have returned home. UNHCR has allocated 500 tents and 250 CRI kits to the response Al-Mukallah City and Al-Maharah Governorate.

Refugee Response

On 18 October, the 20th Assisted Spontaneous Return (ASR) boat departed from the Port of Aden with 125 refugees on board. Since 2017, 2,631 individuals have arrived in Berbera, Somalia as part of the ASR programme, which UNHCR is implementing in coordination with IOM. A total of 5,150 Somalis have been counselled on voluntary return to their country of origin at Return Helpdesks established in Kharaz camp and Basateen. Stormy weather, including tropical cyclones, has hindered the movement of ASR boats. If conditions permit, the UNHCR sub-office in Aden plans to implement weekly ASR boats to facilitate the returns to Somalia.

Since July 2018, there has been a renewed upward trend in cholera cases, with Aden, Amran, Al-Hudaydah and Taizz Governorates representing the biggest increase in suspected cases. In 2018, UNHCR has recorded over 175 suspected cases, mostly in Aden (18 in Kharaz camp and 121 in Basateen) as well as 39 in Sana'a. In UNHCR-supported health centres in Basateen and Kharaz, four deaths have been ascribed to cholera, including the deaths of two refugees. Throughout the cholera outbreak in Yemen, UNHCR has worked to confront the epidemic as part of a system-wide response, focussing on Kharaz Camp, Basateen and areas with a high concentration of refugees in Sana'a. UNHCR's cholera response is implemented in close coordination with communities. It includes hygiene awareness sessions that have reached over 150,000 refugees and Yemenis in 2018, as well as the active case detection/surveillance, referral services, home visits, monitoring and the distribution of information materials.

The Ministry of Education (MoE) in partnership with UNHCR in Aden, conducted a training for school teachers and distributed school kits for vulnerable primary school children. Around 80 teachers in Kharaz Refugee Camp were trained on interactive learning methods and tools, while 2,000 school uniforms and student kits, destined for vulnerable students, were delivered to primary schools in Basateen and Kharaz.