



International Organization for Migration

IOM Yemen Continues Operations Despite Conflict

Posted on Thu, Apr-09-2015



An injured Ethiopian returnee from Yemen arrives in Puntland, Somalia. © Abdikhayr Mohamed 2015

[ZOOM](#)

Yemen - IOM Yemen is continuing its activities on the ground, extending humanitarian aid in southern and northern regions, and arranging for the evacuation of third country nationals from the country.

Despite aerial attacks and protracted armed clashes in different areas of the country, IOM Yemen staff continue to work wherever security conditions permit.

In Sana'a, over 600 migrants are in a holding facility in Sana'a managed by the government. Although their overall physical well-being is good, and there are IOM doctors working inside the facility, the authorities can no longer afford to provide them with basic facilities.

While government facilities are more vulnerable to aerial bombing, no arrangements are currently available for the migrants to return home.

The IOM team is especially concerned with the psychological impact caused by the migrants hearing and seeing aerial bombardment, while they remain unable to leave the holding facility.

In the south, in Aden – the city hardest hit by the conflict – IOM continues to provide one meal per day at the mosque in Basateen to more than 100 migrants, despite the food and fuel shortages throughout Aden.

Also in Aden, IOM teams have procured and installed water tanks at the Médecins Sans Frontières trauma hospital, and at the Gamhoria hospital and the 22 May hospital. Water trucking has also been arranged to supply the Basheeb hospital.

In the north, over 450 migrants have congregated near the Migrant Response Center in Haradh to receive assistance. IOM continues to register these migrants, screening them to identify the most vulnerable and assisting the injured and sick.

Also in Haradh, 450 stranded, vulnerable Ethiopian migrants are staying at the IOM transit center, including 21 women and 38 minors – all undocumented and asking help to return home.

IOM's operations at Al Tuwal and Al Boq – in the north along the Yemeni and Saudi borders – have been on pause since the end of March, when the conflict escalated.

Ethiopians are among the worst affected third country nationals. In Sana'a, IOM is feeding and treating 570 Ethiopians at the immigration holding center, including 60 women and 33 minors. In Aden, another 150 Ethiopian migrants are being assisted with food, temporary shelter and health care.

IOM has also begun monitoring the displacement of conflict affected populations from Aden, Lahj and Abyan to safer areas, whenever access is possible.

Following a preliminary assessment, IOM teams are monitoring internal displacement to and from five schools in Khanfar and one school in Zinjubar. They are among 12 schools in Abyan currently hosting internally displaced people (IDPs).

In order to respond to the most urgent needs of the IDPs, IOM has deployed medical teams, installed temporary 1,000-liter water tanks in "Hamza" and "Ibn Khaldon" schools, and a 2,000-liter capacity in "Al-Tomaisi" school. It is also trucking water to five other schools, serving 173 displaced families. Another 2,000-liter tank will be installed in "Khalma" school in the coming days.

IOM migration health teams have also continued their work in Aden, Abyan, Lahj, Sana'a and Haradh.

In Aden and Lahj, IOM health teams are based in the public health facilities where most of the casualties are being received. Nine IOM physicians and six nurses are based at the "22 May" Hospital, the "Alqatei" Health Center in Aden, and the "Alwihat" Hospital in Lahj. In Aden, IOM is assisting Médecins Sans Frontières teams at their surgical center to address the overwhelming numbers of in-patients requiring surgery urgently.

In Abyan, IOM health staff and midwives continue providing health care to IDPs at Al-Hamza school and obstetric support at Al-Razi Hospital. They have also continued to provide health care to foreign nationals at the Al Basateen clinic in Aden, IPNA clinic in Sana'a, and MRC clinic in Haradh.

The IOM health teams in Sana'a and Haradh have conducted follow-up visits to foreign nationals referred to hospitals by IOM. Other health staff are preparing to provide "fit for travel" checks for other migrants planning to leave Yemen with IOM.

Funding is urgently needed to sustain ongoing IOM humanitarian operations in country, as well as its evacuation of foreign nationals, which is expected to begin later this week.

Number of IOM health staff working in Aden and Lahj

Location	Physicians	Medical assistants/Nurses
22 May Hospital	6	4
Al-Qatei Health Center	1	
MSF Surgical Center		1
Al-Wahat Hospital/Lahj	2	1

Number of IOM health staff working in Abyan

Location	Medical Assistants/Nurses	Midwives
Al-Hamzah School	4	
Al-Razi Hospital/Delivery room		6

IOM health staff providing health care to third country nationals

Location	Physicians	Medical Assistants/Nurses	Translators
Aden/Al-Basateen	1	1	1
Sana'a/IPNA	1	1	
Sana'a/Hospitals	1	1	
Haradh	1	2	1

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