

Kharaz Refugee Camp, Yemen

January 2020

Located in Lahj Governorate, Kharaz camp was opened in 2001 and remains the **only refugee camp in Yemen**.

As of December 2019, **the camp is home to 8,639 refugees and asylum seekers** mostly from Somalia and Ethiopia.

UNHCR and partners provide protection and assistance to refugees and host communities.

KEY INDICATORS

8,639

Number of refugees and asylum seekers in Kharaz Camp as of December 2019

52%

Percent of registered refugees are **women and girls**

3%

Percent of registered refugees in Kharaz Camp **are elderly** (>60 years old)



Students sitting following a lesson during an English language class for girls at the secondary school in Kharaz Refugee Camp. In Kharaz almost 400 secondary school students access education through the UNHCR supported school © UNHCR/ Marie-Joelle Jean-Charles, November 2019.

KEY FACTS:

2001 year of establishment

5.4 km² total surface

71 shelter blocks

17 km² total distance from coast

45% of the population in Kharaz have no occupation i.e. do not attend school nor work

1 field office in Kharaz

9 community committees

10 partners implementing activities



MAP OF KHARAZ CAMP



Working with Partners

- UNHCR, works closely with the authorities of Lahj Governorate, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education, the World Food Programme (WFP), international and local NGOs, and community-based committees to provide protection and basic services for refugees living in Kharaz camp, as well as for members of the Yemeni host community living in the neighbouring villages.
- At the community level, UNHCR partners with the different refugee committees active in Kharaz camp. These include the Somali Grand Council Committee, the Ethiopian Grand Council Committee, and committees for women, youth groups, teachers, tribal leaders and persons living with disabilities.

Main Activities

Protection

- UNHCR with partners carries out protection activities for refugees living in Kharaz camp, including cash assistance for the most vulnerable, legal support, psychosocial services, including child protection, assistance to vulnerable persons, sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) prevention and response activities, psychosocial activities and community building.
- In 2019, UNHCR supported the Immigration Passport Naturalization Authority (IPNA) of the Government of Yemen (GoY) to renew the documentation of all registered refugees living in the camp. In total, 7,863 refugees received a new ID card.
- UNHCR and INTERSOS manages a Return Help Desk (RHD) in Kharaz camp where refugees seeking support to return to Somalia receive counselling. The RHD is part of the Assisted Spontaneous Return (ASR) programme initiated in 2017 in partnership with IOM, the Yemeni authorities, National Commission for Refugee Integration, Somalia (NCRI) and the Somali Embassy to support refugees' voluntary return to Somalia.

Education

- UNHCR partners with the Ministry of Education Officers support two primary schools and a secondary school; including rehabilitation, refurbishing of classrooms, provision of washrooms and shaded outdoor areas. For the 2019-2020 academic school year, 2,500 primary school children and almost 400 secondary school students access education through the UNHCR supported schools in the camp and receive support for school uniforms and kits. Some 155 teachers and administrative support staff received incentives through UNHCR's partnership with the Ministry of Education.

Health

- UNHCR supports a clinic in Kharaz Refugee Camp. The clinic provides access to emergency and primary health care, psychosocial health care services, reproductive health care services, education on infant and child feeding practices, as well as sanitation and hygiene services to refugees and asylum-seekers living in the camp as well as host community members from the neighbouring villages. For special care, patients are referred to the districts or regional/national referral hospitals. Each month, UNHCR offers primary healthcare and health awareness education for over 2,000 refugees and the host community in Kharaz camp. In 2019, over 29,000 refugees accessed health care in Kharaz.
- The clinic also runs a Diarrheal Treatment Centre (DTC) and leads educational activities for community members as well as capacity building activities for medical staff to prevent and control the spread of cholera among refugees and host populations.

Food Security & Nutrition

- In partnership with the UN World Food Programme, UNHCR distributes food to all 8,639 refugees and asylum-seekers registered in the camp to meet their basic needs. Each refugee household receive a monthly food ration composed of cereals, pulse, oil, salt and sugar.
- UNHCR and partners also provide prevention and treatment for acute malnutrition for children aged 6-59 months and pregnant and lactating women. In 2019, 117 malnourished children and 538 pregnant and lactating women received treatment for moderate acute malnutrition through the supplementary feeding programme. Some 71 children were admitted into the outpatient therapeutic programme,

Cash Based Intervention

- In Kharaz Refugee Camp, UNHCR uses cash-based interventions to provide protection, assistances and services to the most vulnerable refugees including survivors of sexual and gender-based violence, foster parents of non-accompanied and other at-risk children, families facing acute needs however not covered by the regular programme. Refugees received from USD80 to USD200 depending their needs and level of vulnerability. In 2019, more than 3,000 refugees benefitted from the cash-based interventions.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

- UNHCR and partners provide access to clean and safe water to refugee and host communities. On average, people in the camp are provided with 22 litres of potable water per person per day (l/p/d), above the 20 l/p/d standard for stable situation. UNHCR also assists about 7,000 Yemenis in surrounding villages with clean water.

Shelter & NFI/Core Relief Items (CRIs)

- UNHCR provides core relief items, including blankets, jerry cans, kitchen sets, foam mattress, mosquito nets and solar lamps to registered refugees and asylum-seekers in the camp.
- UNHCR also distribute soap bars and laundry detergent to all refugees living in Kharaz camp. Women and girls of reproductive age also receive sanitary pads.

Camp coordination camp management

- The Government is primarily responsible for the Camp Management. The camp administrator represents the Government in the camp. The camp administrator is the focal point for all government authorities and services in the camp including Police and Immigration, Passport and Naturalization Authority. The camp administrator monitors the activities and services provided in the camp.
- UNHCR is also monitoring all activities in the camp and services provided by its partners

External / Donors Relations

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