

Yemen

April - June 2023

Years of devastating and unrelenting conflict in Yemen has led to a **protection and displacement crisis**. As of June 2023, 21.6 million Yemenis (two-thirds of the population) are dependent on humanitarian assistance, including 4.5 million IDPs, and 71,000 refugees and asylum-seekers.

Yemen is the only country in the Arabian Peninsula that is **party to the 1951 Refugee Convention** and its 1967 Protocol since 1980 (north) and 1990 (south). While Yemen has generously hosted refugees for decades, it lacks a national legal framework for the protection of refugees.

Confronted with the growing challenge of internal displacement, Yemen adopted its **2013 National Policy for Addressing Internal Displacement** in 2023.

Populations



71.5K

Number of **refugees and asylum-seekers** in Yemen. Women and children make up 60% of the population. The majority are from Somalia (65.6%), Ethiopia (24.5%), Syria (4%), Iraq (1.4%), and Eritrea (2.3%).



4.5 million

Number of **internally displaced persons (IDPs)** in Yemen.



21.6 million

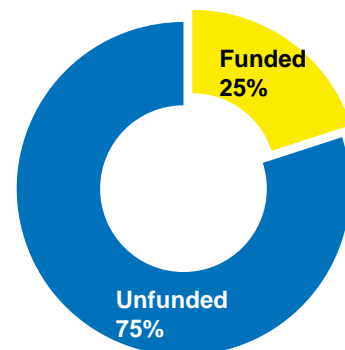
Number of those in need of **humanitarian assistance in Yemen: 17.7 million** are in need of protection; **7.5 million** are in need of shelter and non-food items; **1.9 million** are in need of camp coordination and camp management services.

Funding



\$320 million

Requested for 2023 activities



UNHCR Presence

UNHCR is present in Yemen since 1987, when its first office opened in Sana'a. In 1989, UNHCR also established presence in the south of the country. Today, UNHCR has a well-established presence across the country, covering most of the 22 governorates and 333 districts through its country office (with a reception centre) in Sana'a, a sub-office in Aden, field offices in Al-Hudaydah, Ibb, Marib, Sa'ada, and a field unit in Kharaz refugee camp in Lahj governorate.

Yemen Population Overview



71K
 Refugees and
 asylum-seekers

4.5M
 Internally
 displaced
 persons
 (IDPs)

21.6M
 Yemenis
 in need of
 humanitarian
 assistance

Operation Overview

IDP response

UNHCR plays a key role in inter-agency coordination by ensuring that protection and displacement issues are well reflected in humanitarian and durable solutions programming. UNHCR is the leading UN Agency of the Protection, CCCM and Shelter/NFI Clusters, and the co-lead of the Refugee and Migrant Multi-Sector cluster. Through the inter-agency coordination mechanisms, UNHCR advocates for joint site identification (demining, site planning); policy on civilian character of sites and non-encampment; housing, land, and property (HLP) issues; eviction guidance including joint displacement tracking; support on community engagement and protection considerations, among others.

Refugee response

UNHCR is the only agency addressing the protection and well-being of refugees and asylum-seekers across Yemen. The refugee and asylum-seeker population are mainly from Somalia and Ethiopia. There is only one refugee camp in the country, Kharaz refugee camp, in Lahj governorate, which currently hosts over 9,000 refugees and asylum-seekers. While protecting refugees and assisting them in finding durable solutions, UNHCR and partners are the only providers of services, such as education, healthcare, water, and sanitation. Host communities also benefit from the same services.



Mariam, a refugee from Somalia, participated in a UNHCR livelihood training. She continues to use the skills she learned to make a living and take care of her elderly mother.
 Photo: @UNHCR/Abdullah Babrek

Key 2023 Refugee Response Key Achievements

Protection

Registration¹:

- 2,520 asylum-seekers registered.
- 8,383 refugees and asylum-seekers' identification documents issued or renewed.
- 361 refugees and asylum-seeker children registered and issued birth certificates.

Legal Assistance:

- 1,255 refugees received legal assistance or counseling.
- 139 legal awareness sessions conducted for refugees and asylum-seekers.

Services for people with specific needs:

- 2,591 individuals received.
- psychological first aid and psychosocial support
- 2,354 individuals received targeted support.

Child Protection:

- 102 refugee children received legal assistance.
- 474 refugee children received psychological first aid/psychosocial support.
- 585 refugee children participated in recreational activities.

Durable Solutions:

- 405 refugees expressed their intention to return to their countries of origin.

Education

- 8,983 refugee and host and asylum-seeker children enrolled in primary education.
- 16 refugee and asylum-seeking children receiving support to access secondary education.
- 238 school management members supported through incentives.
- 8 schools rehabilitated or provided with educational material.
- 239 out-of-school children to restart school following UNHCR and partners' assistance.
- 693 refugee and asylum-seeking children enrolled in language, literacy, and numeracy classes.

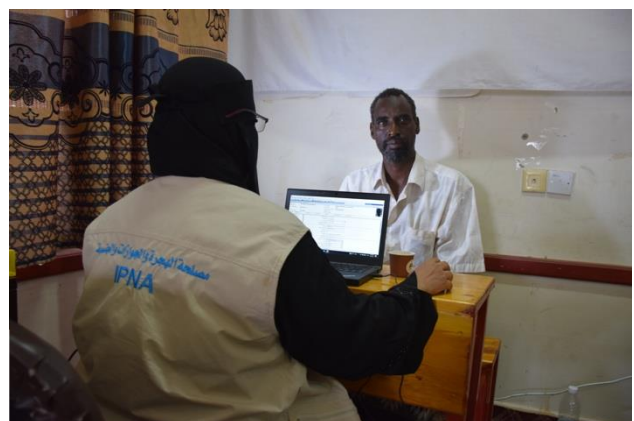
Multipurpose Cash Assistance

- 8,400 refugees and asylum-seekers received multipurpose cash to support their most urgent needs.
- \$ 1.3 million distributed in cash assistance for refugees and asylum-seekers.

Health

- 51,000 refugees and asylum-seekers accessed one of the five health facilities supported by UNHCR.
- 746 children under-5 and pregnant and lactating mothers admitted into a nutrition programme

"Today I feel safe, my ID card expired six months ago, and now it is renewed, so I can freely move and access humanitarian assistance and public services," says a Somali refugee. @UNHCR/Abdullah Babrek



¹ For registration activities, UNHCR works with Bureau of Refugee Affairs (BRA) and Immigration, Passport & Nationality Authorities (IPNA) in the north. In the South, UNHCR works with Immigration, Passport & Nationality Authorities (IPNA)

Key 2023 IDP Response Key Achievements

Protection

Documentation:

- **2,137** national identification documents issued by the Civil Registry Authority (CRA) with UNHCR support.

Legal Assistance:

- **4,037** IDPs and IDP returnees received individual legal assistance.
- **879** legal awareness sessions conducted for IDPs and IDP returnees.

Community-Based Protection:

- **497** awareness-raising activities conducted or supported by community-based protection networks.

Services to people with specific needs:

- **8,000** IDPs and returnees received psychological first aid and psychosocial support.

Child protection:

- **932** children received psychological first aid and psychosocial support.
- **3,600** children participated in recreational activities.

Shelter and Non-food Items

- **134** displaced families provided with emergency shelters.
- **8,013** IDPs and returnees received core relief items, including blankets, sleeping mats, soap, buckets, mosquito nets, and a kitchen set.
- **28** individuals received cash grants for rental accommodation.
- **1,119** households assisted with house rehabilitation and reconstruction.
- **4,200** shelters maintained and upgraded.

Camp Coordination & Management

- **379,900** IDP households living in one of the 500 IDP sites monitored by UNHCR.
- **31** IDP sites receiving infrastructural improvement projects to mitigate flooding, fire communicable diseases, and natural hazards.
- **19,600** people benefited from the provision of light systems.

Multipurpose Cash Assistance

- **173,900** IDPs, IDP returnees, and host community members received multipurpose cash to support their most urgent needs.
- **10,300** IDPs, IDP returnees, and host community members received emergency cash.
- **\$9.5 million** distributed for cash assistance for IDPs, IDP returnees, and members of host communities.



With a solar lamp that was distributed by UNHCR, nine-year-old Mazin is able to *continue* studying after returning from school. His family were forced to leave their homes and now live in an IDP site in Hudaydah. @UNHCR

Partnerships

Al-Awn Foundation for Development; Al-Dar Al-Arabia for Development and Advocacy; Al-MAGD Charitable Humanitarian Relief & Development; Bureau for Refugee Affairs; Deem for Development organization; Executive Unit for IDPs Camp Management; Field Medical Foundation; Human Access for Partnership and Development, Human Access for Partnership & Development; Immigration, Passports and Naturalization Authority; INTERSOS; Jeel Albena Association for Humanitarian Development; Migration, Refugees, and IDPs Studies Centre ; Nahda Makers Organization; NAMA Small and Microfinance Foundation; Qatar Red Crescent Society; Rawabi Al-Nahdah Developmental Foundation; Safe Road for Peace and Development; Society For Humanitarian Solidarity; Sustainable Development Foundation; Tamdeen Youth Foundation; The National Committee for Refugee Affairs; The Supreme Council for Management and Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and International Cooperation; Yemen Al-Khair for Relief & Development Foundation; Yemen Development Foundation; Yemen General Union of Sociologists, Social Workers and Psychologists; Yemen Red Crescent Society; Yemen Women Union.

Coordination

UNHCR leads the Protection, Camp Management & Camp Coordination (CCCM), and Shelter/Non-food Item (NFI) clusters. And co-leads the Refugee & Migration Multisector with IOM. As part of the UN Country Team, UNHCR co-chairs the prevention to sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) network. UNHCR is an active participant in several inter-agency working groups, including the Durable Solutions Working Group, the Humanitarian Access Working Group, the Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Working Group, and other specialized task forces.

UNHCR in Yemen is grateful for the support of

United States of America 33.8 | Saudi Arabia 5.8M | CERF 5.4M | Sweden 3.8M | Qatar Red Crescent Society 3.6M | Germany 2.9M | Japan 1.8M | France 1M | Switzerland 1M | Qatar Charity 1M | Canada 784K | Fondation de Luxembourg 596K | Private donors Germany 456K | Private donors Canada 277K | Iceland 211K | Private donors MENA 165K | Private donors UAE 110k | Spain 87K | Other private donors 187K

With additional support received from

Sweden 69 million | Norway 63.1 million | Netherlands 36.3 million | Denmark 35.6 million | Private donors Spain 30.4 million | United Kingdom 28.9 million | France 26.7 million | Germany 23.1 million | Private donors Japan 21.2 million | Switzerland 18.9 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 15.5 million | Belgium 11.9 million | Ireland 11.9 million

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