

Aden Sub- Office

September 2020

Yemen remains the world's worst humanitarian crisis, with more than 19 million people requiring urgent protection and assistance to access food, water, shelter and health.

Renewed fighting in parts of the country, torrential rains, deadly flash floods and the pandemic push many displaced and Yemenis on the edge of survival.

UNHCR and partners provide protection and assistance to displaced families, refugees, asylum-seekers and their host communities.

KEY INDICATORS

1,082,430

Number of internally displaced persons in the south DTM March 2019

752,670

Number of returnees in the south DTM March 2019

163,000

Number of refugees and asylum seekers in the south UNHCR August 2020



A staff member from UNHCR partner organisation NMO shows a Yemeni man how to properly wash his hand at a non-food items distribution site for families displaced by recent conflict © UNHCR/ NMO- Amer Abdulkareem, August 2020

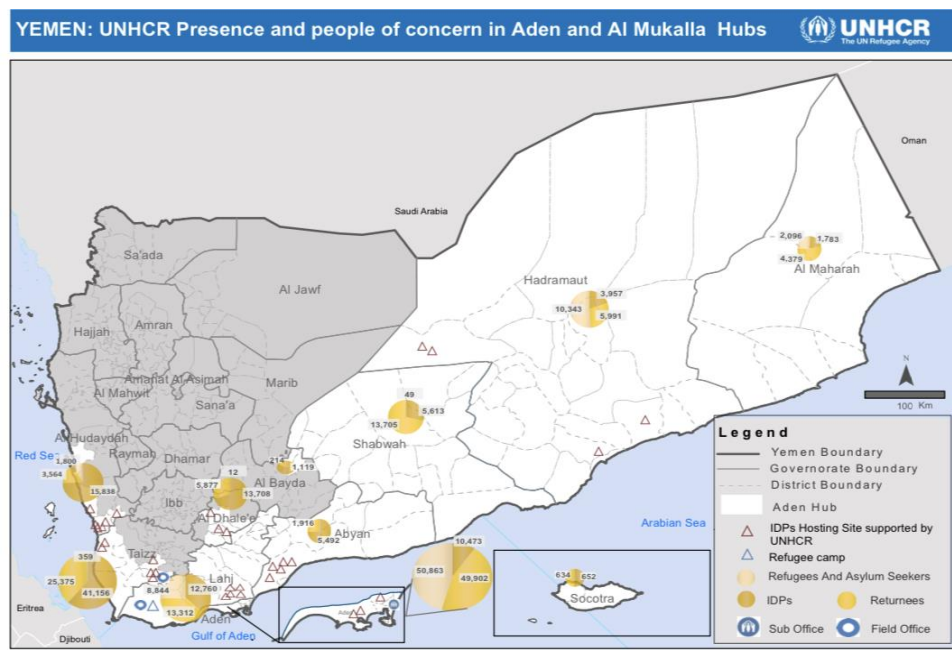
UNHCR PRESENCE

Staff:

- 89 National Staff
- 11 International Staff

Offices:

- 1 Sub Office in Aden
- 1 Field Office in Kharaz
- 2 Field Units in Al Mukalla and Turbah



Conflict and torrential rains causing flash floods and landslide, ravaging shelters and infrastructures, including electricity grids and roads, forced massive displacement and increased needs. Close to 21,000 families, in the south, had to flee yet again to safety. Newly displaced families require assistance with protection, food, shelter, health. The coronavirus outbreak disrupting lives and livelihoods raises fear of a looming catastrophe.

Protection

INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS

Protection Cluster

- The Protection Cluster led by UNHCR and co-led by Intersos coordinates the delivery of specialised assistance to people with specific protection needs, including victims of violence and support to community centres, programmes, and protection networks.
- At the Sub-National level, the Protection Cluster includes more than 40 partners.

- UNHCR seeks to widen the protection space through **protection monitoring** (at community and household levels) and **provision of protection services including legal, psychosocial support, child protection, as well as, prevention and response to sexual and gender-based violence.**
- **Since the beginning of the year, over 15,000 families received cash to help pay for their rent, clothes or medicines.** UNHCR uses cash to help vulnerable families, including displaced, returnees and vulnerable host community families, address their protection needs.
- UNHCR conducts follow up visits to assess the community needs and **advocate for coordinated action among multi-sectoral actors through the cluster approach.**
- UNHCR also supports community-based protection mechanisms, including Community-Based Protection Networks (CBPNs). **CBPNs serve as a bridge between UNHCR and the community and help to monitor protection needs and issues, identify, assess, and refer people to receive assistance.** CBPNs also lead awareness-raising sessions on legal aid and other critical protection issues. CBPNs are also instrumental in supporting physically-distanced community outreach activities on prevention and information around COVID-19.

REFUGEES

- UNHCR with partners carries out protection activities for refugees living in Kharaz camp and urban areas of Aden and Mukalla, including 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.
- UNHCR supports the Immigration Passport Naturalization Authority (IPNA) of the Government of Yemen (GoY) to renew the documentation of all registered refugees living in the camp. **So far this year, IPNA and UNHCR processed close to 8,200 ID cards**
- UNHCR continued to assist Somali nationals arriving from the areas under the de facto authorities in the north. **Since March, UNHCR assisted about 500 new arrivals from the north with registration and cash to pay for food and or accommodation.** Close to 170 of them also received hygiene kits and mosquito nets. All new arrivals also underwent a thorough protection assessment to help determine their needs and how to best address them.
- UNHCR also uses Cash-Based interventions to provide protection and services to the most vulnerable refugees. These include survivors of sexual and gender-based violence, foster parents of non-accompanied and other at-risk children, families facing acute needs, e.g., loss of income, death. **Since the beginning of the year, over 3,500 vulnerable refugees and their families received from USD 80 to USD 200 depending on their needs and level of vulnerability.**
- **The coronavirus outbreak pushes many refugees and asylum seekers to the edge of survival** at higher risks of discrimination and harassment. **UNHCR expanded its cash intervention to reach close to 8,200 refugee and asylum seeker families** to help them cope with the impact of COVID-19. This is the second round of distribution organised since March.

**EDUCATION
REFUGEES**

- All schools have been closed upon recommendation of the Ministry of Education of the Government of Yemen, since March as a prevention measure to COVID-19.
- **Universities resumed at the end of August.** UNHCR and Intersos assisted the recipients of DAFI (UNHCR's higher education scholarship Programme supported by the German Government) with appropriate support to ensure they resume with their studies.
- **Primary and secondary schools will start on 6 September, as announced by the Ministry of education of the Government of Yemen. UNHCR is working with its partners to prepare for the new 2020-2021 academic year.** Thanks to two generous contributions received from the United Kingdom (DFID) and Educate a Child, UNHCR will help close to 11,300 refugees, and Yemeni children and adolescents go to school, for the new academic year. UNHCR will also support refugee children with school kits and uniforms. UNHCR will support six kindergartens, primary and secondary schools, in Aden and Lahj governorates, with teaching materials, stationery, and maintenance. UNHCR will also cover the payment of over 240 teachers, education and service staff.

**HEALTH****REFUGEES**

- **UNHCR currently supports three health facilities in Aden (Basateen) and Kharaz Refugee Camp (Lahj), including a government-run clinic in Aden.** The clinic provides primary health care to refugees and host community members, including displaced persons and returnee families. For specialised care, patients are referred to advanced health facilities in Aden and Al Hota (Lahj). The clinics also provide reproductive health services to women and physiotherapy services to people living with disabilities.
- **UNHCR and partners continued to support the prevention and response to cholera through two Oral Rehydration Centres (ORCs) in Aden and Kharaz Refugee camp.** UNHCR supported- clinics continued to report decreasing numbers of cholera cases. The clinics in Basateen treated 165 cholera cases since the beginning of the year. The clinic in Kharaz reported no new case since July 2019.
- **UNHCR collaborates with the National AIDS Programme (NAP) and Tuberculosis Programme to support both refugees and Yemenis.** UNHCR and partners provide voluntary counselling and testing (VCT), support counselling for prevention of mother-to-child transmission, provide free treatment, as well as, support to peer-education programme to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS amongst youth. UNHCR also coordinates with the national tuberculosis programme, providing free treatment to refugees and Yemenis patients who consult in UNHCR-supported clinics. **Since March and the coronavirus outbreak, UNHCR and partners distributed soap, detergents, water containers, to patients of both programmes, to provide them with extra support to help them cope with COVID-19.**
- The health facilities also lead educational activities on nutrition, sanitation, and hygiene best practices. **Close to 55,000 refugees, asylum seekers and Yemenis participated in educational activities, since the beginning of the year.**
- **UNHCR leads health awareness and sensitisation campaigns on COVID-19** through health personnel, partners, and community outreach volunteers reaching close to **32,000 refugees, asylum seekers and Yemenis.**
- **UNHCR supports the clinics in Basateen and Kharaz refugee camp with isolation rooms to accommodate mild cases.** The rooms are equipped with including beds and material including oxygen cylinders, nebulisers, drip stands, electrical suction, oxygen monitors and dedicated staff.
- **UNHCR also assists the clinics with medication and personal protection equipment for their staff members.**



FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

REFUGEES

- In Kharaz Refugee Camp, in Lahj, UNHCR partners with the **UN World Food Programme to lead monthly food distributions to close to 8,780 refugees, ensuring that they have enough food to meet their basic needs.**
- UNHCR, UNICEF, and WFP support treatment and prevention of malnutrition amongst children and pregnant and nursing women. **Since the beginning of the year, close to 1,500 malnourished and highly at-risk children below five years old and pregnant and nursing women with treatment for acute malnutrition** through the supplementary feeding programmes supported by WFP and UNICEF. **Over 520 highly at-risk children aged below two years also received prevention for acute malnutrition.** Women and parents of children enrolled in the programme receive specialised nutritional supplement together with education on nutrition and hygiene best practices to build their resilience to cope with malnutrition.
- **UNHCR also supports 35 community health workers** to conduct bi-monthly malnutrition screening, referrals of cases and tracing of defaulters at the community level. Community health workers also act as **hygiene promoters** and lead educational activities, support vaccination campaigns, and distributions of hygiene kits.



WATER AND SANITATION

REFUGEE RESPONSE

- UNHCR and partners **provide access to clean and safe water to refugees and host communities.** On average, refugees in Kharaz Refugee Camp, in Lahj, receive 22 litres of potable water, per person, per day (l/p/d); above the UNHCR's standard of 20 l/p/d for stable situations. The service is also extended to over 7,000 host community members in the surrounding villages through three motorised boreholes.
- UNHCR also lead efforts to **upgrade the water resources, rehabilitate the water networks and sanitation networks in Aden (Basateen).**

INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS & REFUGEES

- UNHCR supports efforts to reduce outbreaks of cholera and infectious diseases by working to **improve access to sanitation and hygiene services and promote best practices** in the communities. In Aden (Basateen), UNHCR **supports the cleaning fund to help improve sustainable waste management, promote a clean and healthy environment, and prevent the outbreak of disease.**
- UNHCR also works with 300 people from the community, including most vulnerable refugees, IDPs and host community members to **run clean up campaigns in the neighbourhoods through a cash- for- work project.** Participants receive a monthly cash payment of USD 220 to collect garbage in blocks, markets, and main roads, and lead community outreach activities that promote good hygiene practices. **The teams now receive dedicated training to help them lead COVID-19 awareness-raising activities in their communities.**



SHELTER AND NON FOOD ITEMS (NFIS)

INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS

Shelter/ NIFs Cluster

- The Shelter/NFI Cluster led by UNHCR coordinates the delivery of emergency assistance to newly displaced families and help ensure that displaced families have access to adequate shelter and core relief items through rental subsidies and winterisation support where appropriate. The cluster also coordinates assistance to displaced families with protection needs for construction and rehabilitation of their transitional shelters.
- At the Sub-National level, the Shelter/NFI Cluster includes 26 partners.

- The cluster coordinated the emergency response to over 5,000 families affected by torrential rains and deadly floods in March and April. The cluster also coordinated response to over 100 families whose shelter burnt in accidental fires, since the beginning of the year.
- **UNHCR assists families displaced by conflict with** tools wooden poles and plastic sheets to help them build shelters. UNHCR also helps them with sleeping mats, blankets, mosquito nets, basins, jerry cans, soap, kitchen sets, and solar lanterns. **Since March, UNHCR also assisted families affected by heavy rains and floods with core relief items to help them repair their shelter, sleep, wash and clean.**

REFUGEES

- Kharaz Refugees camps, families live in brick and timber shelters.
- UNHCR provides **core relief items**, including blankets, jerry cans, kitchen sets, foam mattresses, mosquito nets, and solar lamps to replace old ones.
- UNHCR also distributes **soap bars and laundry detergent** to all refugees living in Kharaz camp. **Women and girls of reproductive age also receive sanitary pads.**



CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT

INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS

Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster

- The CCCM sub-national cluster led by UNHCR coordinates the delivery of a Minimum Service Package (MSP) in IDPs hosting sites. It leads effort to expand coverage on Site Management and Coordination.
- At the Sub-National level, the CCCM cluster includes nine partners and covers 119 out of the 414 sites registered in the south
- The cluster has been instrumental in supporting the COVID-19 preparedness and response activities at the camp level; developing educational material for displaced families, training partners, leading awareness-raising activities, and supporting the distribution of material including hygiene kits and handwashing stations.

- **UNHCR partners with the Executive Unit to strengthen the national capacities in site administration and IDP registration,.**
- The Executive Unit, under the Prime Minister Office, is the government entity responsible for coordinating IDP camps and humanitarian assistance.

REFUGEES

- The Government of Yemen is primarily responsible for the Camp Management. 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 partners' services, focusing on the protection issues.



COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE

- UNHCR supports displaced people and host communities to build and strengthen their livelihood and reduce their dependence on aid. In Aden (Basateen), UNHCR also partners with the Government of Yemen and community members **to support the Recycling project, an innovative livelihood initiative.** UNHCR supports hundreds of waste collectors from both the displaced and the host communities. Waste collectors pick up recycling items and sell them to

wholesalers and other private industries that use them to produce raw materials. Each recycling waste collector receives safety kits, including protective clothing, gloves, and shoes, in addition to tricycles, and garbage bags. Thanks to the support received from UNHCR, participants can double the money they make from selling the recycling items they collected from an average of 15,000 to 30,000 a week or 60,000 to 120,000 a month.

- **UNHCR partners with six refugee committees, in Aden and Hadramaut governorates as well as Kharaz refugee camp, in Lahj.** Refugee committees are elected by refugees to represent them in coordination with local authorities, UNHCR, and its partners. Members of the committees receive a small payment from UNHCR. Refugee committees play a key role in supporting people with specific needs, including unaccompanied minors. They provide an essential link between UNHCR, partners, and the community, referring cases to UNHCR and partners for assistance. The committees assist in leading community outreach activities, including awareness campaigns and events. **Since April, the committees led tens of awareness sessions to help protect displaced communities and Yemenis from malaria, chikungunya, waterborne diseases, and coronavirus. The sessions reached over 200 people in Basateen, including older people and women.**
- Over the summer, **UNHCR conducted a survey to assess the quality and impact of its engagement with communities and identify areas for improvement.** UNHCR interviewed over 3,000 displaced Yemenis, refugees, asylum seekers, and host community members across the country. [Findings of the survey](#) are used to inform UNHCR engagement strategy.



DURABLE SOLUTIONS

- UNHCR is shifting its programming to pursue an area-based approach, which "advocates for assistance that considers the whole population affected by a crisis, living in a specific geographic area in need of multi-sectoral support" in coordination with all stakeholders. **The area-based approach supports a holistic response to communities affected by displacement, internally displaced persons, returnees, refugees, asylum seekers, and host communities alike. UNHCR is developing an out of camp policy**

REFUGEES

- In line with the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) and the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF), **UNHCR supports initiatives that promote programming to improve the capacity of national institutions and promote advocacy for inclusion of refugees in public services, National Development Plan and strengthening livelihoods.**
- Since 2017, UNHCR supports the **Assisted Spontaneous Return (ASR) programme** for Somali refugees. The programme is run in coordination with IOM, the Somali Embassy, the National Commission for Refugees and IDPs (NCRI) and Immigration, Passport and Naturalization Authority (IPNA). Somali refugees who wish to return home are supported with documentation, transportation, and financial support in Yemen to facilitate the journey, as well as return and reintegration assistance in Somalia. **With the gradual reopening of borders, a task force comprising of representatives from UNHCR and IOM in Yemen, Somalia and Nairobi has been formed to explore ways of safely resuming movements, suspended since mid-March.**
- UNHCR continues to explore opportunities to implement a **separate voluntary repatriation program for Ethiopians** wishing to return home, within the framework of a regional voluntary repatriation initiative for Ethiopians spearheaded by the Regional Bureau for Africa.
- UNHCR supports **resettlement in a third country for refugees facing heightened protection risks** in Yemen.

Working with partners

UNHCR partners in the south include: Charitable Society for Social Welfare (CSSW), Al-hikma Al-yamania Association for Charity (HYAC), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), INTERSOS, Al-Magd Charitable & Humanitarian Relief & Development (MCHR), Nahdha Makers Organisation (NMO), Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Society for Humanitarian Solidarity (SHS), UNICEF and the UN World Food Programme (WFP).



A displaced women identify herself to receive assistance a non-food items distribution to families displaced by recent conflict in Al Hudaydah
 © UNHCR/ NMO- Amer Abdulkareem, July 2020

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