

KEY FIGURES

1,792,608

People affected by the conflict (in Yemen and surrounding countries), including refugees and persons internally displaced prior to and as a result of the current conflict.

1,439,118

Persons internally displaced prior to and as a result of the current conflict.

103,490

Arrivals to Djibouti, Ethiopia, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, and Sudan mainly by sea or overland.

250,000

Refugees in Yemen to be assisted with protection assistance and life sustaining items.

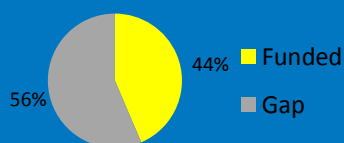
105,240

Individuals reached in Yemen with emergency relief items since the onset of the crisis.

FUNDING

USD 134 Million

Requested by UNHCR for the situation



UNHCR's Supplementary Appeal for the Yemen Situation Emergency Response, April – September 2015 (12 June 2015), is available [here](#)

YEMEN SITUATION

UNHCR REGIONAL UPDATE #24

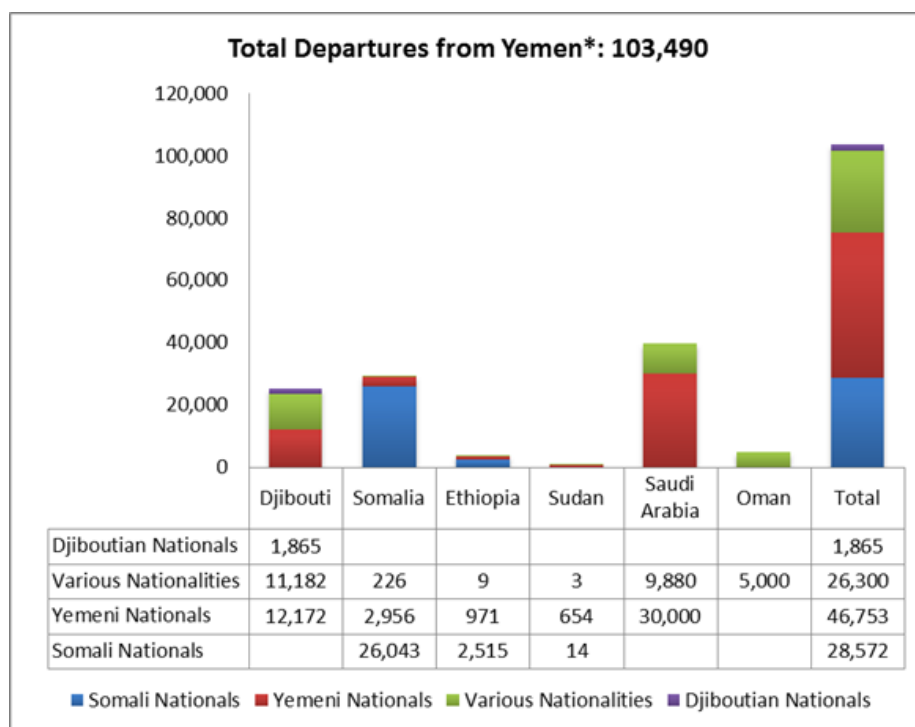
16 - 23 September 2015

HIGHLIGHT

Regional Refugee Coordinator (RRC) Office:

- On 17 September, the Regional Refugee Coordinator (RRC) Office issued the very first inter-agency regional map developed jointly by UNHCR and IOM showing populations movements outside of Yemen, the "Who is doing What Where" (3W) map, and the inter-agency factsheet, which were disseminated to partners. The Yemen Situation web portal was launched and the link <http://data.unhcr.org/yemen/regional.php> was shared with partners.

POPULATION MOVEMENTS



*From statistics by UNHCR, IOM, governments, and NGOs, 27 March until present.

New Arrivals to Yemen

From January to 31 August, 48,348 individuals arrived along Yemen's coast (19,030 since the end of March). In August, over 7,000 individuals arrived on 85 boats. UNHCR's partners have limited access to monitor the area along the Red Sea coast, due to intensified conflict in Taizz. Between 10 and 19 September, Mayfa Reception Centre identified 2,990 new arrivals (279 Somalis and 2,711 non-Somalis) arrived in over 32 boats. In Sana'a, UNHCR interviewed 98 new arrival asylum-seekers – among them five were unaccompanied minors. UNHCR's Community Services staff referred them to partners for financial assistance.

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

The Yemen humanitarian crisis is worsening as fighting, insecurity and blockades further restrict humanitarian aid and access to people of concern. In Sana'a, airstrikes continue to affect civilian-populated residential areas as basic services and supplies like electricity and fuel further dwindle.

The situation is particularly dire in Taizz. Ongoing fighting severely impacts access and provision of supplies by humanitarian organisations. The situation in Aden remains fluid with a marked deterioration of security across the governorate. Reports of progress in rebuilding and normalising the city are often undermined by political competition, criminality, outbreaks of violence and growing unrest. There are reports of unpaid salaries for public sector employees and private sector workers resulting in demonstrations and strikes. Humanitarian organisations and NGOs operating in the city or planning to scale-up their presence have to negotiate with numerous different types of actors to operate and gain access, which further complicates activities. The need for rehabilitation of schools for the resumption of classes on 1 October is placing pressure on IDP families to vacate schools where they are sheltered.

The impact of the conflict and blockade devastated the country's agricultural sector, which before the crisis employed 50 per cent of the workforce in Yemen and provided 25 per cent of crop-based food needs. Airstrikes and shelling damaged agricultural infrastructure and facilities in Abyan, Hajjah, Lahj and Sa'ada and Taizz, which have all reached food insecurity levels ranging from high to critical and are expected to deteriorate as damages by airstrikes continue.

UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS AND GAPS

Protection

Yemen:

- **Refugees:** Despite the challenging operational environment and security situation, UNHCR continues to carry out its protection activities such as registration, assessment and assistance to vulnerable cases. In Sana'a, UNHCR renewed certificates for 257 asylum-seekers and registered 35 newborns. Due to the insecurity and damage to infrastructure, access to livelihoods opportunities is scarcely possible. According to refugee community leaders 90 per cent of the refugees in Sana'a lost their source of income leading to growing needs for financial assistance to cater to basic facilities such as food and water. UNHCR's partner, International Relief for Development (IRD), assessed 86 cases and reassessed seven cases, while IRD disbursed financial assistance to 415 vulnerable cases. In occasion of Eid al-Adha, on 21 and 22 September, UNHCR's partner, InterSos, distributed clothing to 100 refugees in Aden, mainly elderly, persons with disabilities and mental illness who are strongly affected by the conflict and lack of services.
- **IDPs:** In collaboration with UNHCR and the local NGO, Generation Without Qat, InterSos published the findings of an in-depth protection assessment conducted in three districts in Taizz governorate. Some 242 families (174 heads of IDP households and 68 host community households) were interviewed. The average family consisted of five members (around 1,210 individuals), of whom 49 per cent were children. In the assessment, areas with a high concentration of IDPs were prioritized, mainly where IDPs live in tents and temporary shelters, often close to public buildings and/or schools also housing IDPs. They lack basic support. Immediate relief is being delivered through local associations, spot distributions, and remote management until security improvements allow international agencies to scale up presence and activities. Priority needs are clean water, food, NFIs such as mosquito nets, and medical supplies. A number of protection issues including advocacy should be carried out on the rights and dignity of the whole population. Further interventions will look at access to education, psycho-social and recreational services (particularly for children, women and persons with special needs), community awareness and capacity building.

Djibouti:

- From 15 to 21 September, the UNHCR/ Office National d'Assistance de Réfugié et Sinistré (ONARS) team registered 23 Yemeni families (34 individuals) among those who arrived in the reporting period or were already residing in Djibouti-City and Obock.
- With the support of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and as part of its family reunification activities, the Djibouti Red Crescent (CRD) offered phone call services to refugees at the ports of Djibouti and Obock and at Markazi camp to 580 persons (213 women, 347 men and 8 minors). The service helps refugees connect with families and friends abroad.

Ethiopia:

- To date, Ethiopia received 3,495 refugees from Yemen, out of which 971 are Yemenis, 2,515 are Somalis, four are Eritreans, and five are Iraqis. As of 21 September, UNHCR and the Government Administration for Refugees and Returnees Affairs (ARRA) registered 1,763 refugees and asylum-seekers: 932 are Yemeni nationals, 822 are Somali nationals, four are Eritrean nationals, and five are Iraqi nationals. The latter three nationalities were earlier registered as refugees in Yemen and arrived in Ethiopia further to the conflict. Among the new arrivals, 67 per cent are children and 56 per cent are women.
- Up to date, 132 individuals (66 cases) were recognized as refugees. Apart from the 932 Yemenis who registered their claims since the outbreak of the conflict, the registration of 39 Yemenis that arrived in Jijiga is pending transportation to Addis Ababa for registration under the Urban Programme. An additional 151 Yemenis (70 cases) were already registered with ARRA and UNHCR prior to the outbreak of the conflict in March, leading to a total caseload of 1,122 Yemeni refugees in Ethiopia. Earlier in June, ARRA decided to grant *prima facie* status to Yemeni refugees, after completion of registration and nationality screening interviews. However, since all Yemenis arriving in Ethiopia have valid passports, ARRA recently decided to waive the nationality screening interview and authorized Yemenis holding valid passport to be immediately registered as refugees. Those who arrived before ARRA's decision will have their status converted in UNHCR and the Government databases, as well as provided with Refugee ID cards.
- Some 15 Somali nationals (four cases) have arrived in Dollo Ado after fleeing the conflict in Yemen. A protection monitoring mission carried out in the field found that almost all of the families descend from minority clans in Somalia (Ormale, Madibane, Sheghal, and Ashraf). Nearly all the families reported to have left Yemen in July 2015, because of the current crisis. They claimed to have left Yemen through Mokha Port and arrived by boat at Berbera Port (Somaliland). They all chose to come to Ethiopia to seek safe haven because of the insecurity situation in Somalia. The families have been allowed to reside in the reception centre following UNHCR's intervention.

Somalia:

- In Bossaso (Puntland), UNHCR registered 44 Yemeni individuals as refugees into its registration system proGres. The total of Yemeni refugees registered by UNHCR in Bossaso is 1,710 individuals since late March 2015.
- The Somaliland Ministry of Resettlement, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction (MRRR) registered 35 Yemeni refugees (eight families). A total of 1,630 Yemeni refugees have been registered by MRRR in Hargeisa since 28 March 2015. *Prima facie* refugee certificates with MRRR and UNHCR logos will be distributed shortly.
- The Somali Red Crescent Society (SRCS) assisted 47 Somali returnees with free phone calls for family restoring links (RFL).
- UNICEF, through its local partner Tadamun Social Society (TASS), continued to assess children for protection concerns at Bossaso port. They were supported with psychosocial support and given access to essential services.

- Due to the low number of new arrivals in the past weeks, UNHCR is currently operating in only one reception centre in Berbera (Somaliland). UNHCR completed the new registration room, so that biometric registration equipment can be installed.
- On 14 September, UNHCR met with the Yemeni Refugee Committee and members of an ECHO delegation in Hargeisa. The Yemeni Refugee Committee reiterated their concerns that new arrivals were struggling in Somaliland. They need increased support in terms of securing shelter, food assistance and language training. Planning is underway by UNHCR and partners to address the shelter and emergency needs of Yemeni new arrivals in Hargeisa.

Education

Yemen:

- Access to education is severely hampered by ongoing conflict. UNHCR and partners provide opportunities for recreation and education. From 13 to 17 September UNHCR's partner, Attadhamon, registered 50 children and renewed registration for 60 children for kindergarten in Basateen. The Ministry of Education announced that schools in Basateen are being rehabilitated, which will delay the start of the school year by about two weeks (to mid-October). The start of the new school year impacts on refugee and IDPs, heavily concentrated in Basateen as some are accommodated in collective centres and schools. UNHCR and partners are collaborating to identify solutions.

Health

Yemen:

- The inability to import goods, such as fuel and medicines, negatively affected the functioning of national health facilities, limiting refugees and nationals' access public health systems. UNHCR and partners aim to provide medical assistance to refugee and displaced populations to keep health conditions stable, and the under-5 mortality rate within acceptable thresholds. In Sana'a, UNHCR partner International Medical Corps (IMC) provided 210 consultations (100 for host community members), and 27 cases with medication and psychological counselling. In Aden and Kharaz refugee camp, UNHCR partner Charitable Society for Social Welfare (CSSW) provided medical consultation and essential medicine to 1,092 refugees and routine immunization to 145 children. CSSW provided therapeutic food through its nutrition programme for 18 children with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and severe acute malnutrition (SAM). They provided antenatal care services for 97 pregnant women, postnatal care for 15 women and delivery care for 12 cases. There was also follow up and dispensing of medication for 22 cases requiring mental healthcare.



On 9 September, UNHCR started conducting assessments in the Basateen area (Aden), where thousands of urban refugees were living before the start of the conflict in March. UNHCR met this displaced refugee living in a school with her family as her house was destroyed. ©UNHCR/D.Ali 2015

Djibouti:

- From 15 to 20 September, UNHCR partner CRD, offered first aid services to 25 persons at the port of Djibouti. CRD also conducted hygiene promotion sessions at the ports and in Markazi camp. From 1 to 16 September, some 430 hygiene kits were distributed to new arrivals at the port of Djibouti.

Somalia:

- At Bossaso reception centre, SRCS provided first aid to 10 individuals and psycho-social support to three individuals. IOM attended 45 patients through the Puntland Ministry of Health: 30 individuals above 5 years old (10 males and 20 females) and 15 under 5 years old (10 females and five males).
- Save the Children International (SCI) provided psychosocial counseling to 39 children and six emergency medical referrals (two children, four adults) in Bossaso. TASS, with UNICEF support, provided emergency medical support to two children at Bossaso port.



Food Security and Nutrition

Djibouti:

- By 20 September, WFP distributed food rations to 804 refugees out of whom 427 refugees (85 families) are in Markazi camp and 377 refugees (75 families) in Obock.
- The monthly malnutrition screening and nutrition sensitization of children under 5, pregnant women and lactating mothers was conducted from 14 to 16 September in Markazi and in 10 areas of Obock town. Over 70 mothers were sensitized and the results of the screening will be shared at the end of September.

Somalia:

- WFP provides three meals a day (82 metric tons) through its implementing partner Puntland Youth and Social Development Association (PSA) to all new arrivals at Bossaso reception centre (100 persons in the reporting period). WFP registered 43 individuals into their database SCOPE in order to provide them with food assistance through WFP retailers.
- SCI screened and diagnosed 16 children with acute malnutrition who were provided with Plumpy'Doz, a ready-to-use supplementary food, at Bossaso reception centre.



Water and Sanitation

Djibouti:

- In Markazi camp, the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) completed the water truck cleaning operation. NRC also organised a mass cleaning campaign of jerrycans at household level on 21 September with the participation of UNHCR, ONARS, Johanniter and the Danish Refugee Council (DRC). This was key to improving the quality of water consumed by the refugee population. The quality of water was satisfactory after this campaign.
- To enhance the waste management process, Johanniter funded the construction of an incinerator. A second incinerator is expected to be in place by 8 October.



Johanniter overseeing the construction of first waste management incinerator at Markazi Camp. @Johanniter/V. Andriambelosoa. Sept. 2015.

Somalia:

- At Berbera reception centre, UNHCR, through its partner the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), completed the construction of six additional latrines, four showers, four hand wash basins, one water kiosk and two laundry basins.

Shelter and NFIs

Yemen:

- While security in Aden governorate remains volatile, access to Kharaz refugee camp improved compared to earlier months, when urgently needed items could not be delivered. From 15 to 18 September, UNHCR's partner Society for Humanitarian Solidarity Adventist (SHS) distributed a two-month supply of hygiene items to 11,213 refugees in the camp. The number of internally displaced persons considerably increased since the onset of the conflict, requiring the distribution of more shelter kits and sleeping equipment, security permitting. On 14 September, UNHCR received nine trucks with 7,000 mattresses for IDPs.

Djibouti:

- A master map has been developed further to a technical mission led by UNHCR expert and will enable the demarcation of the plots to be allocated to refugees as well as the space which is reserved for construction of the communal infrastructures (kitchens, showers, latrines, schools, and so on). Some 314 plots were marked on the map, pending the installation of 300 Refugee Housing Units (RHUs) which arrived in Djibouti on 21 September and are awaiting to be transported and set-up in Obock.
- Markazi camp will be able to shelter only 1,570 refugees, while the Government expects to host more than 5,000 refugees. The size of the family plot is estimated to be 225 square meters according to the initial design of the master plan.
- A request has been submitted to the Government of Djibouti regarding a new proposal of the King Salman Humanitarian Centre (KSRHC) for the donation of 300 additional RHUs equipped with air-conditioning in addition to a mosque, a school and two health centres. If the Government of Djibouti accepts, UNHCR will request additional space for the camp.

Logistics

Somalia:

- Following registration and vulnerability assessments UNHCR, through its partner IOM, provided onward transportation assistance to 85 Somali returnees who arrived in Bossaso (Puntland) on 14, 16 and 19 September, to support them in reaching their areas of origin or location of choice. Some 60 of them travelled to Mogadishu, nine to Abudwak, three to Baidoa, five to Dinsoor, seven to Kismayo and one to Hargeisa.
- From the 17 September's arrivals in Berbera, onward transport assistance was given to two Ethiopians to travel to Hargeisa, where IOM offers further assistance to the onward transportation to Ethiopia.

Coordination of the Yemen Response

Regional Refugee Coordinator (RRC) Activities:

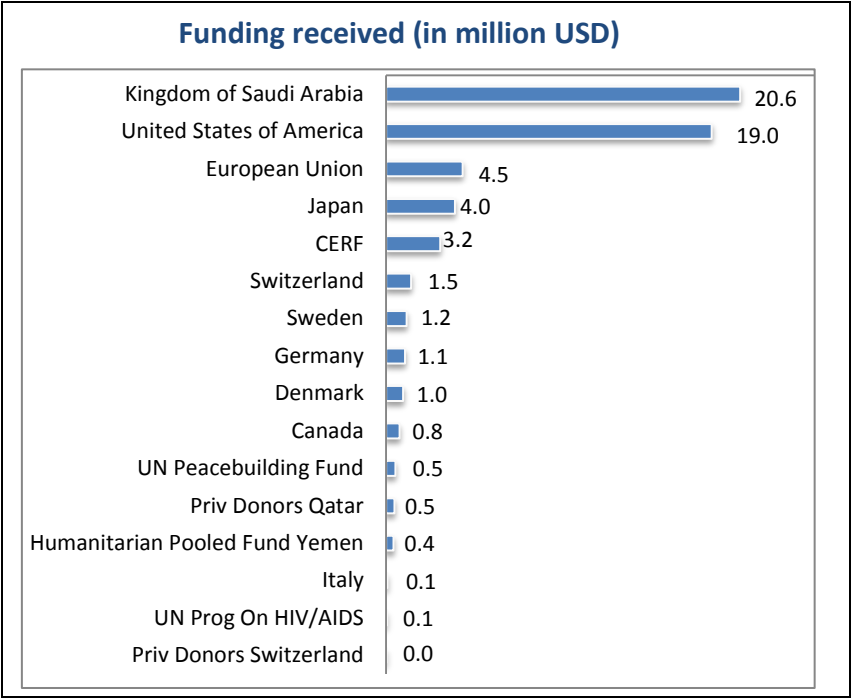
From 15 to 17 September, the RRC attended the fifth meeting of the Regional Committee on Mixed Migration (RCMM) in Djibouti led by IOM and attended by representatives from the Government of Sudan, Ethiopia, Somalia, Djibouti, Yemen and Kenya to move forward in the fight against human trafficking and irregular migration. The RRC briefed on the current situation of population movements from Yemen, the trends in each country, and the importance of looking at displacement and migration in conjunction with development and child protection. The RRC recalled UNHCR's non-return advisory to Yemen and underlined the voluntariness of return, noting however, that due to the current situation in Yemen, UNHCR is not encouraging returns to Yemen.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Total recorded contributions for the operation as at 21 September amount to some **US\$ 58.4 million**.

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to this operation as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with un-earmarked and broadly earmarked funds.

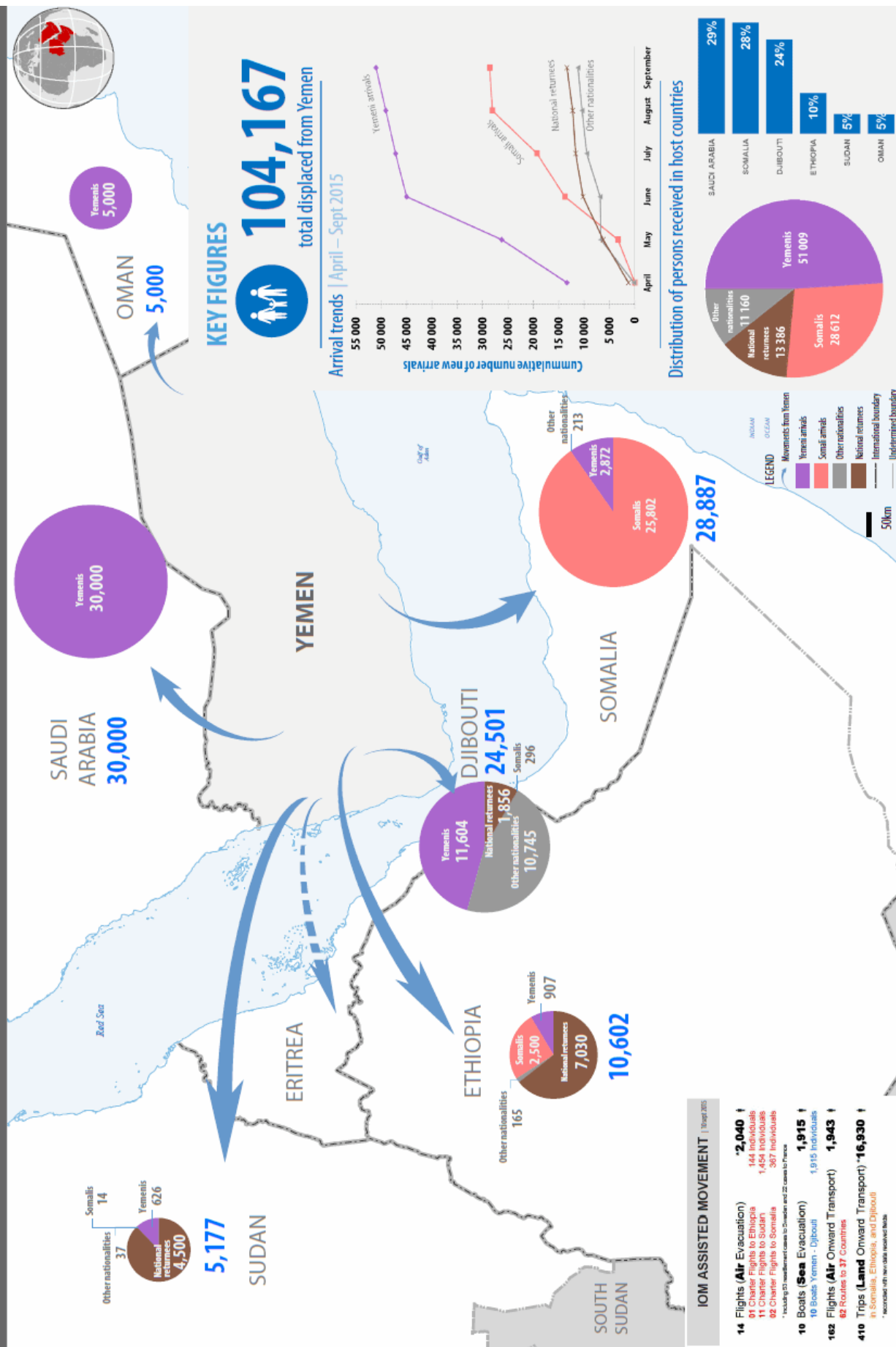
Major donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2015: United States of America (160 M) | Sweden (80 M) | United Kingdom (53 M) | Netherlands (45 M) | Norway (44 M) | Denmark (28 M) | Priv Donors Spain (25 M) | Australia (24 M) | Japan (18 M) | Switzerland (16 M) | France (14 M) | Canada (11 M) | Priv Donors Italy (11 M)



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