

Al-Basateen, Yemen

August 2018

Al-Basateen is a suburban neighbourhood located in Dar Sa'ad district, on the outskirts of the city of Aden, and is hosting **some of the most vulnerable displaced and returning families, and a host community.**

Families are living in dire conditions, including makeshift shelters lacking in privacy. **Water and sanitation services are weak**, placing the population at serious risk of disease, including cholera.

Basateen also has one of the largest concentrations of urban refugees in Yemen, many of whom hold expired documentation. UNHCR is supporting authorities in conducting an urban verification exercise for Somali refugees.

POPULATIONS OF CONCERN

Refugees **50,483**

IDPs **9,174**

IDP Returnees **57,720**

Sources: UNHCR refugee statistics as of 30 September 2017, Task Force on Population Movement (TFPM) 15th report

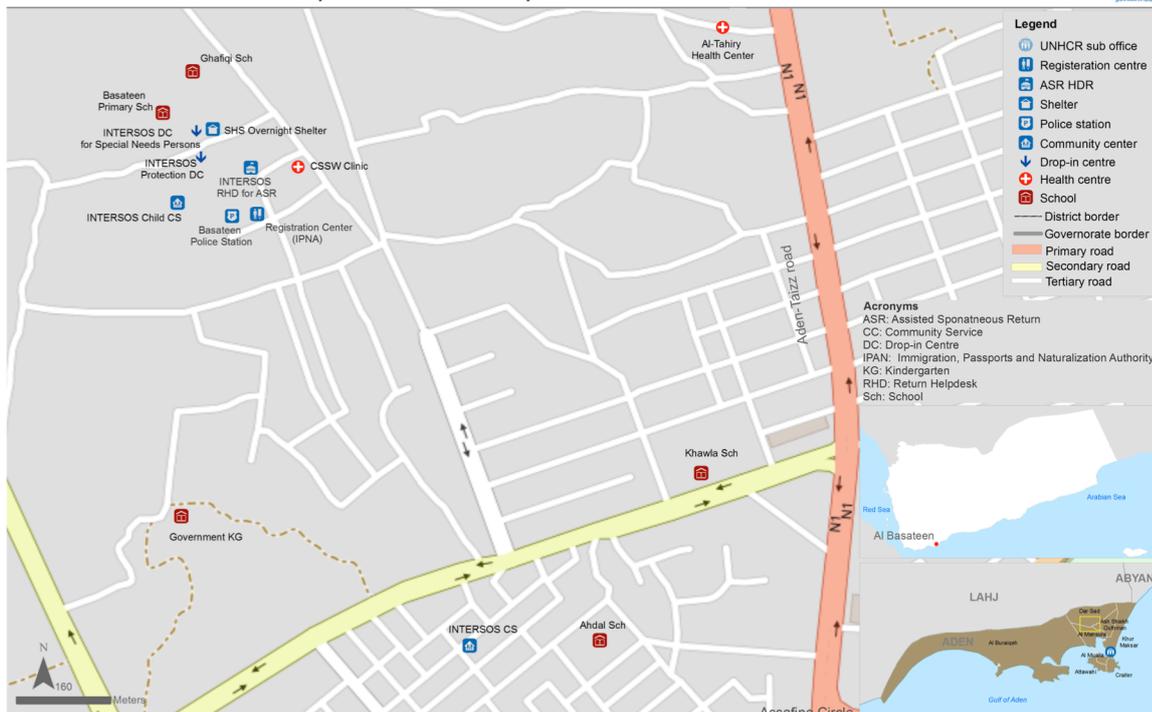
PARTNERS

Sector	Organisation
Protection	IPNA, INTERSOS, UNHCR
Education	Ministry of Education, INTERSOS
Health	Ministry of Health, CSSW, UNHCR
Cash assistance	INTEROS
WASH	Al-Hikma (HYAC)
Shelter/NFI	SHS, Al-Nahda Makers

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND FACILITIES

YEMEN

Aden Governorate: Basateen - Community Service Facilities as of July 2018



Main Activities

- UNHCR has been present in Yemen for the past three decades, with a mandate to provide international protection for persons of concern. Somali refugees have been settling in Al-Basateen for many years and are integrated in the local host community. As a source of income, they rely on basic jobs, including washing cars, labour on construction sites and cleaning.
- Al-Basateen was severely affected by the conflict that started in 2015, which has increased the vulnerability of impoverished Yemenis and refugee families. Serious protection concerns such as early marriage, sexual gender based violence (SGBV), child labour and dangerous onward movement are increasing, all adding to the urgent need to increase support, mitigate risks and find durable solutions for these persons.

Protection

- UNHCR is supporting the Immigration, Passport and Naturalization Authority (IPNA) to organize a verification exercise for Somali refugees in the Aden urban area. Some 50,000 refugees are registered in Aden, the vast majority in Basateen, however, only 7,000 hold valid refugee ID cards. The large-scale verification of the urban Somali refugee population will start in September and will support refugees to obtain valid documentation, thereby improving their access to protection and assistance.
- UNHCR works actively to raise awareness, to prevent and to respond to SGBV in Al-Basateen. Survivors receive medical care, legal support and access to socio-economic support.
- The refugee youth committee is actively engaged in advocating for issues relevant to refugees. They are also using social media to raise awareness and spread information on issues such as SGBV, cholera, water, sanitation and hygiene and security.
- Refugees with specific needs have access to mobility and assistive devices, such as wheelchairs. UNHCR further supports an early intervention centre in Al-Basateen, which is attended by 215 children living with special needs.
- Vulnerable women and children in Al-Basateen have access to specialised counselling, legal support and financial assistance.
- This year, 161 unaccompanied and separated children were provided with care, counselling and financial assistance. UNHCR also supports a kindergarten in Al-Basateen, which is attended by 233 children at risk.

Education

- UNHCR works with the Ministry of Education in Aden to ensure that refugees have access to public schools and quality education. UNHCR supports three governmental schools in Al-Basateen, providing primary and secondary education for 7,202 local and 1,420 refugee children.
- Schools are provided with teaching material and training for teachers, social counsellors and management staff. Some 39 teachers and administrative support staff, as well as 19 service workers are provided with an incentive through UNHCR's partnership with the Ministry of Education.
- UNHCR has supported the construction of four additional class rooms in Al-Ghafiqi School and three playgrounds at the Al-Basateen School.
- To further encourage school attendance, at the beginning of the new school year 500 vulnerable refugee students received uniforms, shoes and stationary items.
- At the end of the 2017/18 school year, 446 children sat their final primary school exams and 118 children took their final secondary school exams.

Food Security

- In partnership with the Emirates Red Crescent (ERC), UNHCR organized a food distribution for vulnerable refugee, asylum-seeker and host community families in Basateen. The distribution to 2,600 refugee and 2,400 host community families was implemented in August.

Health

- UNHCR works to ensure that all refugees and asylum seekers have access to primary health care services, including essential medicines. To this end, UNHCR supports the integration of refugee

health into the national healthcare system, and ensures a standard of healthcare services for refugees and Yemeni host population through provision of medicines, medical supplies, fuel and basic equipment to the Al-Basateen Government clinic.

- UNHCR complements Government health services by providing psycho-social support services, medical consultation for chronic diseases, SGBV and HIV services, epidemiological prevention and response, community health, ambulance and pharmaceutical services, as well as medical referrals for further treatment.
- Al-Basateen is the most affected area in Aden Governorate during the ongoing Cholera outbreak. UNHCR in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and partner CSSW are establishing a new Diarrheal Treatment Unit (DTU) in Al-Basateen, which will be offering treatment for both refugees and Yemenis. Community health workers conduct regular home visits for early detection, referral of cases and follow-up. Hygiene promoters work to enhance personal hygiene to prevent the spread of cholera.

Shelter

- The Al-Basateen neighbourhood hosts a large number of IDPs and IDP returnees, for whom shelter remains a major concern. After years of displacement, many families have depleted whatever meagre resources they might have had. UNHCR therefore supports vulnerable families with monthly rental subsidies that help them to secure a roof over their heads and avoid eviction.

Durable Solutions

- UNHCR supports the search for durable solutions for refugees. To this end, the office is working with the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Yemeni authorities and the Somali Embassy to support the voluntary return of Somali refugees to their country of origin through the Assisted Spontaneous Return (ASR) programme. UNHCR and partner INTERSOS established a Return Help Desk (RHD) in Al-Basateen, where refugees seeking support to return to Somalia receive advice and counselling. Al-Basateen hosts a Transit Shelter for ASR applicants from other Governorates, where they are accommodated while completing their application procedures or awaiting the next boat departure. Since September 2017, 2,019 refugees have voluntarily returned to Somalia through the ASR programme.
- In July 2018, eight Eritrean refugees departed from Al-Basateen to Sweden under the emergency resettlement quota, many of whom had been in a situation of protracted displacement in Yemen.

External / Donor Relations

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by: Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, United States of America, United Kingdom, Japan, CERF, Sweden, Finland, Canada, Switzerland, France, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Educate a Child Programme, Private donors Germany, Slovakia and miscellaneous private donors **who have specifically contributed to UNHCR programmes in Yemen in 2018 as well as other donors who have contributed through broadly unearmarked and broadly earmarked funding, including:** Private donors in Australia, Spain, Republic of Korea, Japan and Italy, Germany, Sweden, Norway, Netherlands, United Kingdom, Denmark, Switzerland, France, Germany and Italy.

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