

YEMEN UPDATE 27 October – 09 November 2018



KEY FIGURES





89% of IDPs displaced for more than a year

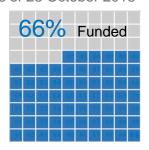


236K IDPs were assisted through the Al-Hudaydah response





\$131.5M received as of 23 October 2018



Situation Update

Since 4 November, there has been an escalation in hostilities in Al-Hudaydah Governorate. Reportedly, during the past week, dozens of people were killed while thousands of civilians are caught between frontlines. Humanitarian partners report that people living between the airport and the university are unable to flee the conflict as fighting has intensified in the area. The Al-Hudaydah port remains open, however, access to and from the only functioning hospital in the area is at risk.

On 4 November, UNHCR Special Envoy Angelina Jolie <u>called</u> for the urgent establishment of a ceasefire in Yemen and a lasting settlement to the conflict. She welcomed recent discussions of a halt to hostilities, and called on the United Nations Security Council, working with countries in the region, to find a negotiated end to the conflict and to uphold international laws on the protection of civilians. The Special Envoy appealed for greater understanding of refugee protection laws, and for all countries to play their part in alleviating the human suffering in Yemen.

On 2 November, United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres <u>appealed</u> for the parties to the conflict to engage in talks with his Special Envoy, Martin Griffiths, in order to end the war in Yemen. Speaking in the wake of international calls for peace, and shortly before the most recent escalation of hostilities, Guterres referred to an opportunity for peace in Yemen. He warned of the risk of famine, and called for an immediate cessation of hostilities, especially around critical infrastructure and densely populated areas. The Secretary-General also called for increased humanitarian funding and for support to the Yemeni economy.

From 1 June to 23 October, 88,000 households (an estimated 530,000 individuals) were displaced by conflict in Yemen. According to IOM's Emergency Displacement Tracking Matrix, conflict in AI-Hudaydah accounts for the displacement of 74,468 households (446,808 individuals) since June. In addition, 13,348 households (80,088 individuals) were displaced by conflict in other governorates – primarily Hajjah. In mid-October, 989 households were displaced by Tropical Storm Luban.



United Nations Humanitarian Coordinator, Lise Grande, visiting Khalid Bin Waleed collective centre in Aden Governorate. Photo: UNHCR

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IDP Response

Ahead of the winter season, UNHCR is leading the coordination of winter assistance through the Shelter/Non-food Items (NFI)/Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) cluster. In coordination with partners and local authorities, UNHCR aims to assist some 20,000 households (140,000 individuals), including host communities and displaced families that fled fighting in Al-Hudaydah. The main locations targeted are those in high altitude districts including in Amran, Sana'a, Amanat Al-Asimah, Dhamar, Al-Baydah, Hajjah, Ibb and Taizz. Persons of concern will receive financial support, worth USD 240.

In Aden, as lead agency of the Shelter/NFI/CCCM cluster, UNHCR is improving living conditions for IDPs in collective centres. In addition to providing CCCM technical guidance, UNHCR is coordinating and implementing repair works; leading site planning; constructing transitional shelters; providing water; and repairing sanitation infrastructure. Among others, the following collective centres in Aden are being supported: Khalid Bin Waleed School in Dar Saad, the Vocational Training Building and the Fishermen's Association in Fogum, and the IDP site in Al-Shaab.

On 21 October, in Aden, UNHCR delivered CCCM and site planning training to local authorities and staff from the King Salman Relief Centre (KSRC). The training, with over 30 participants, covered the core principles of camp coordination and provided assessment tools to local authorities managing IDP sites in Sana'a, Sada'a, Mareb and Al-Hudaydah Governorates. Staff from KSRC's partners also participated.

UNHCR's partner Jeel Al-Bana assessed the needs of 3,280 families who were displaced to Bajil district in Al-Hudaydah, having fled conflict in Al-Hudaydah city and Al-Durayhimi. UNHCR is coordinating the response of the Shelter/NFI/CCCM cluster. IOM will distribute core-relief items (CRI) and emergency shelter kits (ESK), while UNHCR will provide further assistance if needed.

UNHCR partners undertook CRI and ESK distributions in Razih (Sa'ada Governorate) and in Abs (Hajjah Governorate). On 3 November, in Razih, the Yemen Development Foundation distributed 2,000 CRI kits and 500 ESKs to newly displaced families based on its recent needs assessment. On 28 October, in Abs, Jeel Al-Bana completed the distribution of ESK to 1,447 IDP households and of CRI kits to 1,841 IDP households.

Following heavy rains in Hamdan and Al-Hayma districts in Sanaa, UNHCR distributed CRI kits to 74 IDP families whose tents were affected by the weather.

IDP community centres that are supported by UNHCR continue to assist displaced and vulnerable families in Yemen's northern Sa'ada and Al-Jawf Governorates. As many as 700 households were reached in late October, comprising both IDPs and vulnerable host-community members. The centres provide emergency cash, legal and psychosocial support, information sessions, and referrals to other humanitarian services.

Refugee Response

On 29 October, the 21st boat departed from the Port of Aden with 132 refugees on board, as part of UNHCR's Assisted Spontaneous Return (ASR) programme. UNHCR is working to expand activities to Mukalla where, so far, 43 Somalis have expressed interest in ASR. Since 2017, 2,763 individuals have arrived in Berbera, Somalia, as part of the ASR programme, including 1,922 in 2018.

On 27 October, the Bureau of Refugee Affairs (BRA) in Sana'a began the process of registration and document renewal for refugees and asylumseekers, which had been suspended since August 2016. UNHCR has signed a Letter of Agreement with BRA, and completed its first round of training for BRA staff. Further UNHCR support will include developing tools for BRA to track and record steps in the registration process.

UNHCR held consultations with local authorities provide support in the Basateen to neighbourhood, in Aden, where a large number of refugees are living. Support will include assistance to vulnerable refugees and host communities through increasing cash-for-work programming and rehabilitating rented homes. Public areas will be improved through street cleaning and through rehabilitating infrastructure, including sewage and the market. UNHCR's partners have provided the community with 300 recycling and waste collection tricycles and 300 safety kits. UNHCR is also providing the Public Cleaning Fund with garbage trucks and bins.

Since the start of the year, the Basateen kindergarten, in Aden, which is supported by UNHCR, has enrolled 213 children. UNHCR provides furniture, stationery, cleaning materials and support to staff. The majority of children enrolled are refugees (120) while 93 are Yemeni.