

YEMEN

27 February 2020

Key figures:

24.1 M

people in need

3.65 M displaced since March 2015¹

Over **80 per cent** have been displaced for more than a year

66,499 families newly displaced since beginning of 2019²

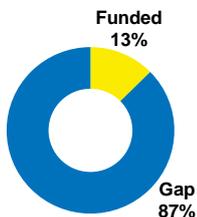
1.28 million IDP returnees¹

269,388 refugees

10,811 asylum-seekers

Funding

USD **211.9 M** required for 2020 operations



USD **26.6 M** received as of 19 February 2020

¹ IOM-DTM March 2019

² IOM-DTM 21 December 2019

IDP Response

The first distribution of cash assistance for IDP families has begun in northern Yemen to address basic needs such as rent and protection services. A total of 24,903 families (90 per cent) out of the initial 27,639 targeted have collected their cash after receiving an SMS notification. The highest number of families were in the central governorates of Sana'a, Dhamar, Amran and Ibb. The first cash distribution for IDPs in the south is scheduled to take place in March. In 2019, UNHCR directly disbursed some USD 48 million to IDPs, refugees, asylum-seekers and the vulnerable host community members, including 167,831 families (or 1.2 million IDPs) to address prioritised needs such as rent, protection services and winter clothing.

Ongoing hostilities across multiple frontlines continue to displace families in Al Jawf, Marib and Sana'a governorates. UNHCR will distribute basic household items for some 187 newly displaced IDP families across Al Jawf, while UNHCR partner YARD continues to conduct needs assessments for new IDPs hosted in Az Zahir and Al Matammah district in Al Jawf governorate.

During the reporting period, a significant increase in clashes and artillery shelling was observed in the central coast district of Ad Durayhimi, Hudaydah governorate, displacing some 65 families to neighbouring districts. UNHCR is currently waiting for restrictions to be lifted by authorities before launching response activities. For the 86 families identified in Al Garrahi and Bajil districts, UNHCR is completing distributions of tents and plastic sheeting to protect against the elements.

The Sub-National Protection cluster is following up on airstrikes that took place in Al Maslub district in Al Jawf governorate on 15 February, killing some 35 persons and injuring 18 others, including women and children. Cluster partner DRC will respond with medical support to the affected persons, while partner YRC will target all victims with cash assistance.

Refugee Response

On 23 February, the 40th boat departed as part of the Assisted Spontaneous Return (ASR) programme, carrying 134 Somali returnees. This marks the first boat trip for 2020. The journey from Aden to Berbera, Somalia takes up to 12 hours. Upon arrival, returnees are hosted at a temporary transit shelter managed by UNHCR and IOM, where they receive a return and re-integration package, as well as assistance with transportation to their place of origin. As of 27 February, 5,221 Somali refugees have benefited from the voluntary ASR programme since the programme started in 2017. Yemen currently hosts the second largest Somali refugee population in the world.



Amal (10) has lived in Sana'a with her parents and five siblings for the last five years. She and her family recently chose to return home to Somalia as part of UNHCR's Assisted Spontaneous Return programme.
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In Basateen neighborhood, Aden, UNHCR and partner ADRA launched a campaign to raise awareness for sexual and gender-based violence. The campaign aims to reach 200 single female households in Basateen through visual material and discussions. The campaign will run for a week and will end with the distribution of personal protection items such as flashlights and whistles. This activity is supported by "Safe from the Start", a partnership between UNHCR and the Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration.

Special thanks to our major donors: Sweden | Denmark | Norway | Netherlands | United Kingdom | Germany | Switzerland | Canada.