

YEMEN SITUATION

UNHCR REGIONAL UPDATE #9

12 June, 2015

KEY FIGURES

1,309,162

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

1,019,762

People displaced in Yemen as a result of the conflict (since 27 March).

39,400

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.

35,058

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

HIGHLIGHTS

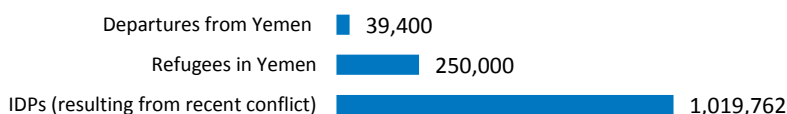
- The UNHCR Supplementary Appeal was published on 12 June requesting a total of USD 134.1 million in financial requirements for the Yemen Situation
- The vessel from Dubai carrying emergency relief items as part of the effort to reach 50,000 households has arrived to Hodeida port in Yemen; the items are being offloaded onto over 50 trucks to urgently reach vulnerable families in various locations across Yemen - access pending.
- UNHCR registration and renewal of identification documents for refugees and asylum seekers resumed in Sana'a.
- During the month of May, UNHCR's partners along the Red Sea and Arabian coasts encountered 1,994 new arrivals.
- According to the latest available statistics from IOM and the government of Djibouti, 17,929 persons of various nationalities have arrived as of 9 June (since 27 March). Of those, 8,921 persons are Yemeni nationals, 7,275 are third country nationals, and 1,733 persons are Djiboutian returnees.
- As of 10 June, UNHCR and ONARS (the government refugee entity) registered 1,985 refugees. According to the provisional statistics, 1,498 refugees are registered in Obock and are sheltered in Markazi camp.
- The total number of arrivals to Somalia, up to 9 June (since 27 March), is 14,457 individuals, comprising 13,299 Somali nationals, 1,060 Yemeni nationals, and 98 third country nationals.
- From 5 to 9 June 2015, two boats arrived in Bossaso, Puntland (Somalia) from Mukalla Port, Yemen. On 4 June, a boat arrived in Bossaso carrying 171 individuals, while a second boat arrived on 6 June, carrying 1,679 individuals. One boat arrived in Berbera, Somaliland, on 5 June 2015, carrying 163 new arrivals (52 households).



Registration activities at the UNHCR office in Sana'a resumed this week. ©UNHCR/O.Hadie

Population of concern

A total of **1,309,162** people of concern*



UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational Context

The security situation in Yemen remains precarious as coalition airstrikes continue to target a number of locations in Sa'ada, Jawf, Marib, Hajjah, Sana'a, Ibb, Taiz, Aden, and Lahj governorates. Armed clashes took place in Jawf, Al-Dhale, Aden, Taiz, and Marib governorates while mortar attacks continued on locations within Saudi Arabia, including Najran, Jizan and Dhahran Al-Janoub with armed clashes being reported along the border.

Refugees and IDPs are among the most impacted communities by the ongoing fighting. On 8 June, two refugees were injured from bombings in Al Safia, Sana'a. On 6 June, an unofficial IDP community in Hajjah was hit by airstrikes. In the same airstrike, four civilians were killed while 20 were injured from the IDP and host community.

The International Committee of the Red Cross confirmed the fourth death of a Yemeni Red Crescent (YRC) aid worker in Yemen since April 2015. The YRC volunteer was killed in an explosion on 29 May in the north-western city of Hajjah.

According to UNICEF, 87 per cent of the 884 schools in the five southern governorates (Aden, Taiz, Lahj, Al-Dhale and Abyan) are not functioning; 66 schools are damaged, 171 schools are hosting IDPs and 51 schools have been occupied by parties to the conflict. WHO reported that between 19 March and 31 May, some 2,288 persons were killed as a result of the conflict. An additional 9,755 persons were injured. OHCHR reports that over half of those killed (1,160 persons) and over 2,800 of those injured were civilians. According to WHO more than 15 million people have no access to basic healthcare. More than 12.5 million persons are food insecure. Of these persons, six million are severely food insecure, a rise of 17 per cent in two months.

Only two per cent of pre-crisis fuel imports have entered Yemen since late March. Nationwide fuel shortages have contributed to the quadrupling of the cost of fuel and doubling of food prices in some areas. Fuel prices have risen by nearly 700 per cent in Raymah governorate since March. Diesel is not available in seven of the 22 governorates, putting 10 million people at risk of losing access to water. High fuel costs and insecurity on the road from Aden to Kharaz refugee camp has severely impeded UNHCR and partners ability to bring stocks of essential items including medicine to the camp.

A UNOSAT analysis, released on 4 June, compares satellite imagery taken on 15 May with imagery before the escalation of the conflict (31 December 2014). In Aden, approximately 327 structures were destroyed, 153 severely damaged and 162 moderately damaged. Similar analysis conducted for Sa'ada city showed that as of 17 May, 272 structures had been destroyed, 271 severely damaged and 627 moderately damaged. 92 infrastructures in Sana'a city and the area surrounding the airport have been destroyed, 138 severely damaged, and 280 moderately damaged in the city.

In his 6 June statement, the UN Secretary-General welcomed the readiness of President Hadi to send a delegation to participate in UN-facilitated consultations in Geneva, scheduled to start on 14 June. He also reiterated his call for a renewed humanitarian pause to allow humanitarian assistance to reach all Yemenis in need.¹

¹ See: <http://www.un.org/sg/statements/index.asp?nid=8703>.



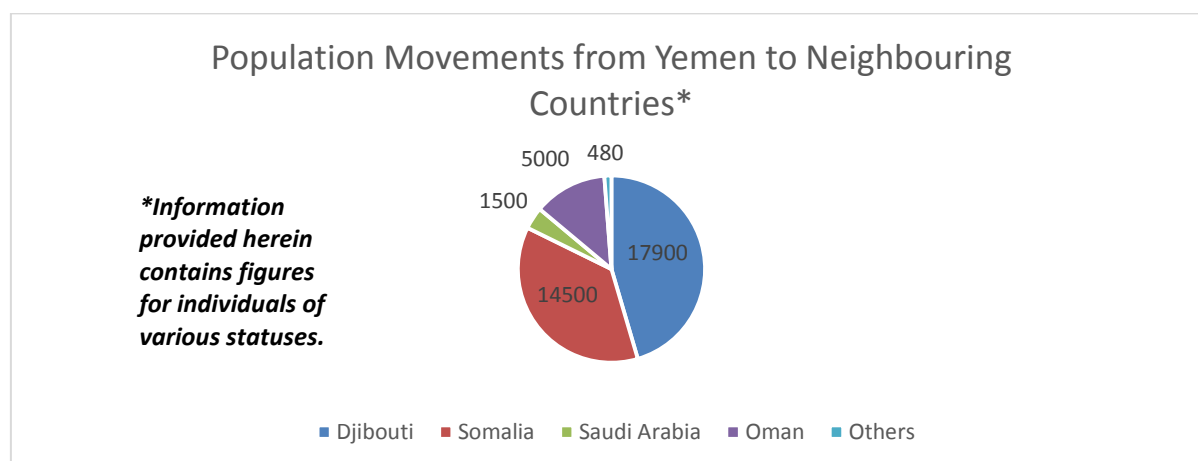
UNHCR Community Services Staff provide counselling to families on the registration process in Sana'a @UNHCR/O.Hadie

Departures from Yemen

Djibouti: According to IOM and the Djiboutian government, 17,929 persons arrived as of 9 June since 27 March; 8,921 (49.8%) are Yemeni nationals. As of 10 June, UNHCR has registered 1,985 refugees of which 1,906 are Yemeni nationals.

Saudi Arabia: A correction has been made to the previously reported 7,000 Syrian nationals that arrived from Yemen to the Kingdom. The General Passport Department confirms that the figure is 700 as reflected in the graph below.

Somalia: The total number of arrivals to Somalia, up to 9 June (since 27 March), is 14,457 individuals, comprising 13,299 Somali nationals, 1,060 Yemeni nationals, and 98 third country nationals.



Arrivals to Yemen

In May, UNHCR's partners along the Red Sea and Arabian Coasts encountered 1,994 new arrivals: 1,908 Ethiopians and 86 Somalis, of which 188 Ethiopians and 24 Somalis were female. No arrivals from other countries were reported. On 9 June, the Society for Humanitarian Solidarity (SHS) encountered 68 new arrivals; 46 Ethiopians (37 males, 9 females) and 22 Somalis (19 males, 3 females) along the Arabian Coast.

Compared to the 4,060 new arrivals to Yemen in April, the number of new arrivals in May decreased.

Arabian Coast: This week SHS encountered 268 new arrivals; 246 Ethiopians (218 males, 28 females) and 22 Somalis (19 males, 3 females) along the Arabian Coast. At the Mayfa'a reception centre, the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) screened all new arrivals and identified 19 male and two female asylum seekers and seven unaccompanied minors.

Red Sea Coast: The Yemeni Red Crescent (YRC) received 113 Ethiopian new arrivals (male) along the Red Sea coast and four Ethiopian new arrivals in Taizz (male). They were screened for vulnerabilities at the Bab-Al-Mandab transit centre.

Achievements



Protection

Achievements and Impact

Yemen:

- The UNHCR reception centre in the Haddah area of Sana'a was reopened for renewal of asylum-seekers/refugee certificates, registration of asylum-seekers, as well as individual protection and assistance counselling. The activities have recommenced through appointments only to prevent congestion at the centre. Thus far, 55 individuals have had their documents processed. However, the office was forced to close early the first day of reopening due to shelling in the area.

- Vulnerable refugee families who were unable to leave Basateen in Aden during heavy fighting last month were provided with financial assistance by UNHCR's partner InterSos; 466 individuals were able to purchase basic needs to survive. Since 26 March, UNHCR partners have reached 3,342 individuals with financial assistance in Sana'a and Aden. In total, nearly 650 families have benefited from cash assistance since the beginning of the airstrikes.

Djibouti:

- Registration in Markazi camp is ongoing and newly arrived refugees are provided with NFIs. During the last week, 30 family attestations and 37 identification cards have been distributed to the respective holders.
- On 6 June a boat with 345 Yemeni nationals arrived in Obock. They originated from Sana'a and Aden and left from the port in Mukha. UNHCR advocated with the authorities to apply the right of family unity and facilitated the transit to Djibouti for 275 individuals (holders of American passports, residence permits and/or air tickets and visas to third countries), and their close family members holding Yemeni passports. High protein biscuits and water have been distributed by WFP, UNHCR, and ONARS. The Djiboutian Red Crescent provided first aid and free phone calls.
- The results of the Child Protection Rapid Assessment conducted in Obock by UNICEF, UNHCR and DRC are being compiled in a report which will be released soon, and serve as a basis to guide the response of Protection partners.



After a 14 hour journey on 2 June, Yemenis arrived at the port in Obock, Djibouti, where they were provided with water, food, medical assistance and legal counseling from ONARS, UNHCR, WFP and the Red Crescent. ©UNHCR

Saudi Arabia:

- Movements from Yemen to Saudi Arabia have reportedly reduced. The General Passport Department (GDP) indicated that the "Twal" border point has been closed while Al-Wadiah (near Sharoureh city) and Al- Khadra crossing points continue to receive arrivals, mainly third country nationals, from Yemen. The GDP confirmed that they continue to grant emergency transit visas to arrivals from Yemen that are valid for two weeks and extendable for three months for Syrians and Palestinians. Authorities make special case by case arrangements for persons who cannot return back to their home countries upon expiry of their emergency visas.
- Approximately 116,211 Yemeni have had their status regularized by the Saudi authorities and are granted six month visas that may be extended. It is uncertain if any of the 116,211 individuals arrived after 27 March. Yemenis will be granted the right to work in accordance with the labour laws of the Kingdom.

Somalia:

- In Bossaso, Puntland, Save the Children International (SCI) conducted a Child Protection and Child Rights training for staff at the reception centre. Four cases of protection concerns were identified and followed up.
- On 4, 5 and 7 June, UNHCR staff registered 68 individuals. The total number of Yemenis registered and recognized as refugees on a prima facie basis is currently 235 individuals. UNHCR Bossaso continues to provide information on asylum to all Yemenis and other new arrivals at the Port of Bossaso, and will register those wishing to claim asylum.
- In Somaliland, 100 Yemeni new arrivals were registered by the Somaliland Ministry of Resettlement Rehabilitation and Reconstruction (MRR&R) through the registration centre in Hargeisa, with the support of UNHCR.
- In Berbera, Somaliland, vulnerability assessments were conducted. So far, 185 new arrivals with special needs were supported through UNHCR's partner Comprehensive Community Based Rehabilitation in Somaliland (CCBRs).

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

Yemen:

- For over a month, InterSos has been unable to transfer funds to the Kharaz refugee camp to provide financial assistance to families. UNHCR staff has been informed that refugees are removing wooden pieces of their shelters in the camp to sell in the market.
- IRD is encountering challenges in transfer of funds in Sana'a. The number of individuals requesting financial assistance is growing as basic living costs are increasing. The communication network in Bab-Al-Mantab remains inaccessible and YRC reported that the Bab-Al-Mantab fuel station was destroyed on 6 June. Fuel is no longer accessible near the transit centre and patrolling the Red Sea coast will become increasingly difficult.

Somalia:

- Registration of new Yemeni asylum-seekers as well as Somali arrivals and third country nationals is currently ongoing but requires scaling up. Efforts to enhance registration capacity are ongoing as well, including a training of trainers for registration/protection staff scheduled for 16 June and equipment for biometric registration has been procured.

Education

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**Yemen:**

- All schools in Yemen remain closed, including the school in the Kharaz refugee camp.

Djibouti:

- Education partners are pitching two emergency tents in Markazi. These tents provided by UNICEF will be used as child-friendly spaces and learning spaces. UNICEF has also prepositioned two Early Childhood Development Kits and 10 School-in-a-Box Kits.

Health

Achievements and Impact**Yemen:**

- Following an assessment of the Basateen area, the Basateen clinic resumed obstetric and emergency referral activities. The security situation in the area remains fragile with empty streets mounted with trash and gunfire and shelling heard throughout the city.
- Kharaz refugee camp is in dire need of medical supplies. UNHCR's partner the Charitable Society of Social Welfare (CSSW) will travel by boat from Aden to the coastal point nearest Kharaz with three months medical supplies for the camp clinic, consisting of oral/injectable medicine, infusion fluids and therapeutic foods (Plumpy Nut).

Djibouti:

- UNHCR's partner AHA provides medical consultation at the camp level. On average 30 patients per day are seeking medical assistance. Nutrition and immunization activities are implemented by the regional health clinic in Obock.
- Check-up of immunisation status is ongoing for all under-5 refugee children upon arrival, with vaccinations being provided as needed. First aid is provided by the Red Crescent at Obock port.
- Thirty community health workers from the Obock region were trained on awareness raising of key family practices. Following the training (8-12 June) they will raise awareness with mothers, fathers, traditional leaders and local associations on exclusive breastfeeding, sanitation, hand washing with soap and prevention of HIV/AIDS among others.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**Djibouti:**

- Access for Yemenis to health facilities in Djibouti city is a gap requiring further advocacy efforts.

- This week eight medical cases were identified in Markazi camp and Djibouti city, whose care cannot be provided within the country due to a lack of specialized doctors and equipment.



Food Security and Nutrition

Achievements and Impact

Yemen:

- Each year during Ramadan, the Emirates Red Crescent (ERC) distributes food to families in need in Aden. UNHCR coordinated with the ERC for the distribution of food (rice, wheat flour, sugar, oil, tuna and beans) to 300 highly vulnerable refugee families (200 Somali, 100 Ethiopian), who despite the insecurity, cannot leave Basateen.

Djibouti:

- The Nutrition Sub-Working Group will conduct a census in the refugee camp to gain a comprehensive idea of the number and profile of those in need of nutritional support. To that end, AHA and Johanniter teams will work with the National Nutrition Programme from 8 June.
- The establishment of the "Nutrition Space" within Markazi camp is ongoing. ACF provided the tent and Johanniter is purchasing the necessary equipment to operationalize the space. All nutrition activities will be concentrated there, including screening, distribution of ready-to-use therapeutic food for cases without complications.
- The latest malnutrition screening (4 June) found four new cases of malnourished children among new arrivals. There are currently 10 cases of severe acute malnutrition (SAM), nine under-5 children and one pregnant woman, and 23 cases of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM), 22 under-5 children and one lactating woman. All of them are receiving adequate treatment and care at the Obock Regional Medical Centre.
- All children aged 6 to 23 months in Markazi are provided with micronutrients and all pregnant women with iron and folic acid. Vitamin A supplementation is ongoing for all new arrivals of children aged 6-59 months.

Saudi Arabia:

- The International Islamic Relief Organization in Saudi Arabia (IIROSA) continues to provide water and food baskets at the border points with Yemen; they will distribute food baskets to persons crossing the border during Ramadan.

Somalia:

- In Bossaso, Puntland, IOM and DRC are providing water and biscuits/dates to new arrivals at the port. WFP, through its partner Puntland Youth and Social Development Association (PSA), provides meals at the reception centre. SCI provides milk and high-nutrition biscuits for all new arrivals to the centre on the first day of arrival.
- In Berbera, Somaliland, new arrivals are provided with food assistance at the reception centre.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

Yemen:

- The food planned for distribution in Kharaz camp, which was on the WFP vessel diverted to Hodeida last week, is still in Hodeida. A plan for two WFP vessels to bring food aid to Aden is being developed; however, it is unclear when these will reach Aden and subsequently Kharaz camp. Once it is transported to Aden, transporting the food to Kharaz camp remains a significant challenge due to insecurity on the road.

Djibouti:



On 6 June, UNHCR's partner DRC and IOM provided water to new arrivals at Bossaso Port, Puntland, Somalia. @UNHCR

- The prevalence of global acute malnutrition (GAM) among Yemen refugee children continues to largely surpass WHO emergency threshold of 15 per cent. The Nutrition sub-working Group established in Obock is fully alert and mobilising all efforts to ensure an adequate response to this situation.
- The lack of adequate and sustained provision of milk for young children needs to be addressed.

Water and Sanitation

Achievements and Impact

Djibouti:

- Adding to the two 15m³ bladders already established in Markazi camp, ACF and UNICEF have installed a third bladder with a capacity of 5m³, thus covering the needs for safe water of all refugees hosted in the site.

Shelter and NFIs

Achievements and Impact

Yemen:

- Since early June, UNHCR distributed emergency relief items to 1,007 families (6,042 individuals) in Hajjah, Amran and Aden governorates through its partners Al-Amal, the Yemen Red Crescent (YRC) and the Society for Humanitarian Solidarity (SHS). Since the beginning of the conflict, UNHCR has reached 5,843 families (35,058 individuals) with emergency relief items.
- UNHCR currently has a stockpile in country to assist roughly 50,000 families (350,000 individuals) in Yemen. Distributions are ongoing despite constraints in security and difficulties accessing various locations for UNHCR and partners.



UNHCR's partner Al-Amal Charitable Community for Social Welfare distributed lifesaving relief items to families in Aslam, Hajjah Governorate. 1,016 individuals benefited from the distribution on 2 June. ©Alamal/J.Jaber

Somalia:

- UNHCR Somalia is working closely with DRC and the Puntland Ministry of Interior in the establishment of the new reception centre at the allocated site in Bossaso. The centre design and bill of quantities (BOQ) has been completed.
- A second reception centre in Berbera, Somaliland is now fully functional while discussions with local authorities are ongoing for the identification of a third reception centre.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

Somalia:

- Security at the reception centre in Bossaso, Puntland remains a key concern. Puntland Ministry of Interior, along with the Puntland Task Force members is developing standard operating procedure (SOPs) for security to tighten practices already in place. A token system was introduced to better monitor those arriving from the Port as well as movements to and from the reception centre, which has proven to be successful.

Logistics

Achievements and Impact

Yemen:

- The UNHCR vessel from Dubai, arrived to Hodeida port on 5 June. The vessel contains 129,580 medium thermal blankets, 19,413 kitchen sets, 9,527 plastic sheeting, 30,460 high thermal blankets, 69,350 sleeping mats and 50,000 buckets. 52 trucks are on standby to send the emergency aid to UNHCR warehouses in Sana'a for distribution. Unloading of the vessel began on 11 June.

- The two trucks from Sana'a to Aden with emergency relief items are at the Al Rebat checkpoint in Lahj, outside Aden. The trucks contain 5,500 sleeping mats and around 500 mattresses. Negotiations for safe passage have been ongoing for several days and are highly challenging; the issue has been raised at the Sana'a level for passage.

Somalia:

- From 4 to 8 June, UNHCR Bosaso provided onward travel assistance to 337 Somali arrivals (115 households). In total, UNHCR has supported 1,154 individuals with onward transportation assistance. Cumulatively, the Puntland New Arrivals Task Force has assisted 1,749 individuals to return to their areas of origin, primarily to South Central Somalia regions. The Puntland local community has been instrumental in providing support to Somali returnees.
- In Berbera, Somaliland, up to 9 June, 693 individuals were supported with onward transport to their areas of origin in South Central Somalia regions, as well as 431 within Somaliland. From the latest boat arrival on 5 June, 73 new arrivals were supported with onward transportation assistance to South Central regions and 20 to Somaliland.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- **Yemen:** As the Hodeida port is now beyond its regular capacity with several vessels arriving simultaneously, there are some delays in berthing and unloading of cargo.

Working in partnership

Yemen:

- The UNHCR Supplementary Appeal was published on 12 June requesting a total of USD 134.1 million in financial requirements for the Yemen Situation, including USD 77.6 million in additional requirements for the period April - September 2015: (USD 10.4 million for Djibouti, USD 13.9 million for Somalia, USD 105.6 million for Yemen, USD 4.2 million for Regional and global activities).
- A draft plan for a second potential humanitarian pause has been developed in close coordination with all clusters. The plan is still evolving as all UN agencies and INGOs prepare to reach people in need across Yemen. Another pause would expand humanitarian actor's ability to preposition supplies and address emergency needs such as food, nutrition, shelter, non-food items, water and sanitation, protection and health.
- A first draft of the Humanitarian Response Plan, the principle planning document for IDP and conflict affected communities, with a separate chapter on refugees and migrants, was submitted; publication is set for 16 June.

Djibouti:

- On 3 June, UNHCR met with a delegation of the Government of Djibouti headed by the Minister of Interior in Obock. He was accompanied by the Ambassador of Yemen in Djibouti, the Yemeni Minister of Social Affairs and two private donors (from Saudi Arabia and Qatar). The delegation visited Markazi camp.
- On 4 June, UNHCR Obock met with the Minister of Health who conducted a field visit to Markazi camp. Minister stressed the readiness of Government to deploy specialists to Obock to ensure better response to the needs.
- On 10 June, the Yemeni Prime Minister and a delegation of Yemeni officials met with UN agencies in Djibouti city. The Prime Minister explained that his visit was to recognize the support provided by the Government of Djibouti and explore to assist Yemeni nationals in Djibouti.

Somalia:

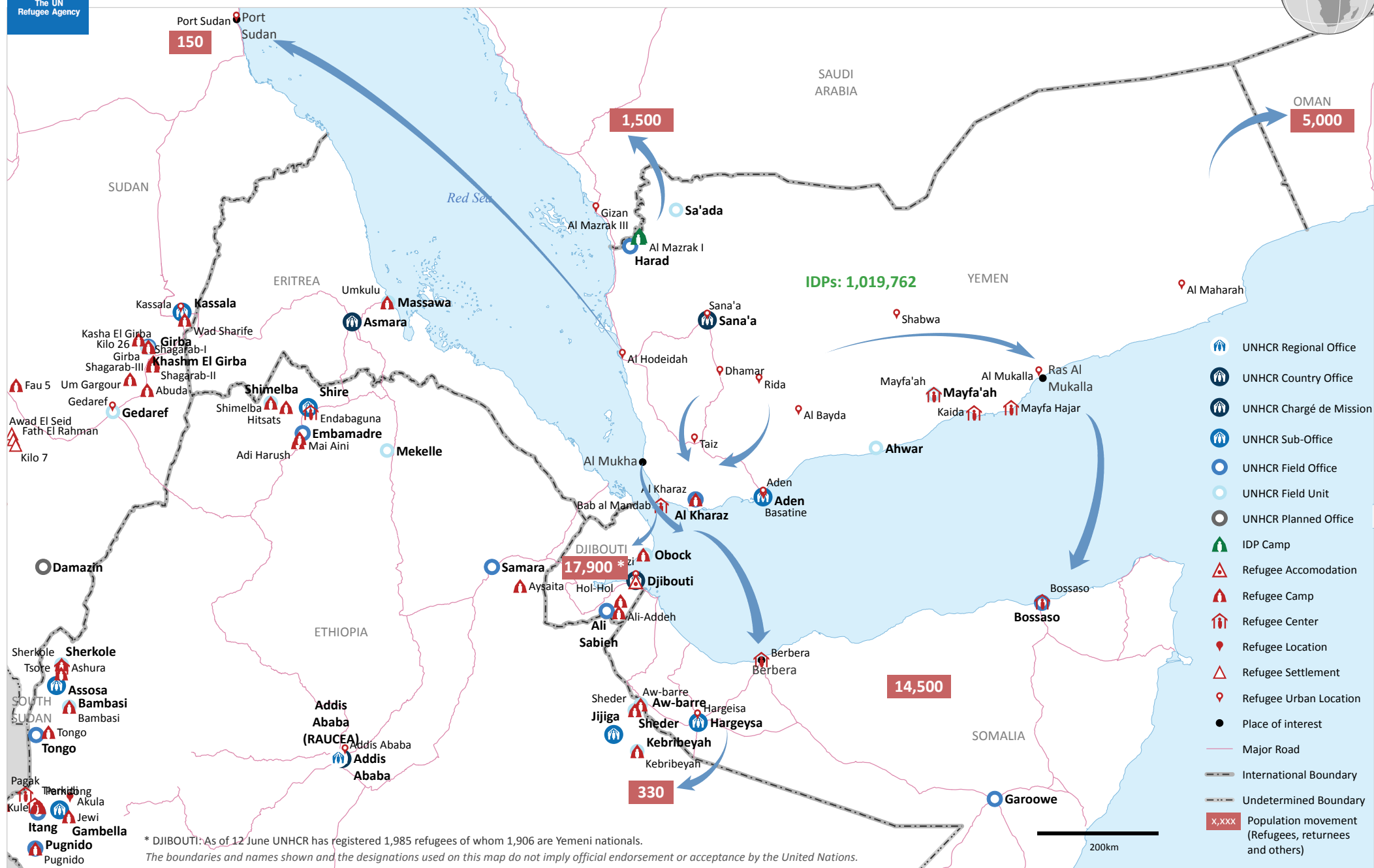
- On 7 June, UNHCR had a meeting in Mogadishu with the National Commission for Refugees and IDPs, under the Ministry of Interior and Federal Affairs, and developed draft Terms of Reference for the Joint Technical Task Force comprising technical focal points of the Federal Government of Somalia's Emergency Task Force and the UN/NGO inter-agency Task Force on Yemen situation. The draft TORs will be reviewed next week.
- UNHCR has invited the business community in Puntland to join the field level Puntland Task Force. The community designated an individual to take part in Task Force meetings and provide figures on those they have assisted.

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Yemen Situation: Regional Map (total population movement out of Yemen: 39,380)

12 Jun 2015



* DJIBOUTI: As of 12 June UNHCR has registered 1,985 refugees of whom 1,906 are Yemeni nationals.

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.